



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

THE PRIME MINISTER

13 November 2023

Dear Thérèse

Thank you for your letter. I want to express my gratitude to you for your years of dedicated ministerial service and your friendship to me personally.

As Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs you have worked hard to deliver for our rural communities. The Farm to Fork summit, which I was delighted that we could host together in Downing Street, did a great job of promoting the wonderful food and drink produced by our farmers.

You have driven work across Government to support the rural economy and taken measures to protect food production here at home. You have been a consistent champion of better rural broadband.

Our international leadership on nature is a source of pride to us as a country and you have taken that forward. Your support for a moratorium on deep sea mining is a powerful example of UK leadership in this field.

I am also grateful to you for all your work as Health Secretary and Deputy Prime Minister which helped prepare the health service for the winter. In a difficult time for our party - your teamwork and positivity helped bring everyone together.

During the pandemic, your leadership of the Department for Work and Pensions ensured that the welfare system kept working and supported people at a time of exceptional stress. I am pleased that our work together on Kickstart helped young people to get skills and jobs following the pandemic.

Your record is one of dedicated service.

With thanks for your service and friendship.

Yours sincerely

The Right Honourable Thérèse Coffey MP