

CALUM MILLER MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Emma Hardy MP
Minister for Water and Flooding
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Seacole Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

4 September 2025

Dear Emma,

Section 19 Flooding Investigations

At this week's Oral Questions, I had hoped to use my substantive question to raise with you the issue of flooding in my constituency, specifically in relation to the legislation governing Section 19 Flood Investigations. Although I was not called to speak, I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter with you further.

At a recent flood forum in Kidlington, residents described how repeated flooding has disrupted their lives and caused devastating damage to their homes. They are deeply concerned that Oxfordshire County Council, as the Lead Local Flood Authority, has no power to require that the recommendations set out in Section 19 reports are acted upon. In the absence of such powers, water companies and other agencies can ignore these findings, leaving communities exposed to further risk.

During the Westminster Hall Debate in June, you committed to reviewing the Section 19 process. I would be grateful if you could confirm whether this work is now under way and whether Members of Parliament will be able to contribute. I would also appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to share the experience of my constituents and explore how the system might be strengthened, so that agencies such as Thames Water can be held accountable for implementing the measures necessary to protect residents' homes and livelihoods.

Yours sincerely,



Calum Miller MP