



**BUCKINGHAM PALACE**

**Private and Confidential**

3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2026

*Dear Mr Berriman and Ms Kidd,*

Thank you for your letter to The King in which you kindly introduced the Marches Forward Partnership between Shropshire Council, Powys County Council, Herefordshire Council and Monmouthshire County Council.

His Majesty has worked for over fifty years to protect and restore Nature through many practical projects and is delighted to hear from others who share in his passion. It was greatly encouraging to learn of the collaboration between English and Welsh councils through shared Nature-based solutions with the united aim of both protecting the natural world and benefitting the people of the Marches region. In his speech to the Joint Meeting of Congress in Washington, D.C., The King too stressed that natural systems provide the foundation for a country's prosperity and national security.

It was also very interesting to learn of your ambition to set an example and replicate this approach across other rural areas of the United Kingdom. I would therefore be most grateful if you could write to provide an update on the progress of the Partnership next year so that His Majesty may know of any important developments and, hopefully, any successes.

Thank you, once again, for writing to The King, who deeply appreciates your efforts towards a more sustainable future. His Majesty has asked me to share his good wishes for your endeavours.

*Yours sincerely,*  
*Joshua Puls*

Joshua Puls M.V.O.  
Assistant Private Secretary to The King

Mr. Jake Berriman and Ms Heather Kidd



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