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Minister for Business  
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Your ref:

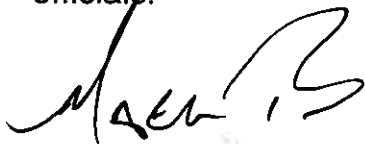
28 February 2011

*Dear Cllr. Box*

Thank you for your letter of 28 January.

Firstly, let me reassure you again, I am confident that the principles we are following, laid out in the Local Growth White Paper and also in the public statement Simon Edmonds sent to Paul Raynes on 10 February (for onward transmission to LGA members), ensure that RDAs give due consideration to the impact on the local area, now and in future, that different routes for disposal will create. As you know the RDA's submitted their plans to Government at the end of January, I understand that the RDAs consultation included LAs as well as other interested parties. The RDA plans are being scrutinised by officials, the next steps are for them to be approved by the RDA National Transition Board the plans will then be signed off by the RDA boards and implemented.

You will appreciate that as Minister, overseeing this process, it would be inappropriate for me to be drawn into discussions about specific asset disposals. However, as Simon Edmonds said in his email to Paul Raynes, if there are individual instances where tensions between local benefits and national priorities including deficit reduction are proving to be quite challenging, the LGA may wish to bring them to the attention of BIS and CLG officials.



**MARK PRISK MP**

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