

Briefing for Labour MPs – Amendments 94 and 130 to the Planning and Infrastructure Bill

7 November 2025

Overview

CIEEM supports the ambition of the Planning and Infrastructure Bill to speed up development and infrastructure delivery while restoring nature. Amendments 94 and 130 are key to achieving this in practice – ensuring a planning system that is fast, fair, and nature-positive.

Amendment 130 – Strategic use of Environmental Delivery Plans (EDPs)

What it does

- Ensures that EDPs are used only to address strategic, landscape-scale environmental challenges – such as nutrient neutrality, water management, or air quality – that individual developers cannot solve alone.
- Excludes protected species and habitats from the EDP framework, keeping them within existing systems that are well-understood, proportionate and working effectively.

Why it matters

- **Supports development:** EDPs will be focused on the right scale, reducing delays, uncertainty, and unnecessary bureaucracy for developers.
- **Protects nature:** Avoids untested or inappropriate changes to established safeguards for wildlife and habitats.
- **Builds public trust:** Communities can be confident that local greenspaces and wildlife will still be protected, reducing local opposition to new projects.
- **Cross-party support:** The amendment passed the Lords by 258–139, showing consensus that this is a sensible, science-based refinement that helps both nature and growth.

CIEEM view

EDPs are a promising new mechanism, but inappropriate use could undermine both development and nature recovery. Amendment 130 ensures they remain targeted, proportionate and effective – delivering real solutions to system-wide challenges while retaining tried-and-tested protections elsewhere.

Amendment 94 – Protecting Chalk Streams

What it does

- Requires that spatial development strategies explicitly identify chalk streams within their area.
- Obliges strategic planning authorities to include measures to protect and enhance these habitats from environmental harm.

Why it matters

- **Chalk streams are globally rare:** Around 85% of the world's chalk streams are in England. They are vital for biodiversity, supporting species such as brown trout, water voles and kingfishers.
- **They provide essential ecosystem services:** Supplying drinking water, supporting fisheries, and regulating floods.
- **Under severe pressure:** Many are degraded by pollution, abstraction and unsustainable development.
- **Protecting them is achievable:** Clear planning guidance and strategic oversight will help restore these ecosystems, aligning with Labour's commitment to nature recovery and clean water.

CIEEM view

Amendment 94 offers a simple, targeted and highly popular measure to protect an irreplaceable natural asset. It embeds nature-positive principles within spatial planning, ensuring that future growth respects and restores one of England's most iconic habitats.

Summary

Supporting Amendments 94 and 130 will:

- Strengthen the Bill's credibility and effectiveness.
- Deliver practical solutions for developers and planners.
- Protect cherished natural assets while enabling sustainable growth.
- Show that Labour can deliver a planning system for people, prosperity and the planet.

CIEEM therefore urges all MPs to vote to retain Amendments 94 and 130 when the Bill returns to the Commons on 13 November.

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