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<b>RDA ACTION NOTE</b>	
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Dear Alan

### **Publication in Parliament of the Public Bodies Bill**

This letter is to inform you that the Public Bodies Bill was published in Parliament on Friday 29 October, and will start its progress in the House of Lords. The Cabinet Office press notice can be found here

[http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/newsroom/news\\_releases/2010/101029-quango.aspx](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/newsroom/news_releases/2010/101029-quango.aspx)

and I attach a copy of the Bill and its explanatory notes. The Public Bodies Bill will confer the power to abolish the eight RDAs outside London. Since CLG's Localism Bill, which has not yet been published, will be making wider changes to the governance of London, the London Development Agency will be abolished through that Bill. In both cases, it is intended that the RDAs will effectively cease to be active by 31 March 2012, with actual abolition following as soon as is sensible after this.

As the notes for editors to the press notice explain, the Bill sets the framework for the abolition, merger or alteration of a wide range of public bodies, but this will be achieved for specific bodies through Statutory Instruments, to be taken through Parliament by sponsor departments. The Bill also provides for the establishment of transfer schemes covering property, rights and liabilities (clause 23). As drafted, the Bill allows us to abolish the RDAs all together through a single statutory instrument; individually or in groups. The Bill does not provide for the establishment of a residuary body or bodies, and we are looking at

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potential options for doing this should it be necessary in order to deal with assets and liabilities which have not previously been disposed of.

We intend to start drafting the Statutory Instruments and transfer schemes as the Bill goes through Parliament, and we will need to rely on your co-operation and support to inform our work. As it was not possible to share the Bill with you in draft and it has now been published, we are not looking for comments on the drafting but, if you have any queries regarding the Bill, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

I am available to talk you and your colleagues through the Bill and associated Parliamentary processes and to answer any questions you have. The Bill was introduced in the House of Lords and second reading takes place on 9 November. We do not yet have a detailed timetable of the Bill's further parliamentary stages, but I will share more information on this when I can. I will also send details of the process for the abolition of the LDA to them as soon as I can.

Yours sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area of the letter.