

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

31st October 2017

*Dear Constituent,*

**RE: PLEASE TAKE ACTION ON PIP.**

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of Personal Independence Payment (PIP) assessments.

Let me first say that I am proud that every year around £50 billion is spent to support people with disabilities and health conditions; over £3 billion more than in 2010. I passionately believe we should focus support on those who need it the most. PIP is designed to ensure support is focused on those with the greatest barrier to independence. I am glad that since its introduction, 27 percent of claimants are now on the highest level of support, up from 15 percent previously.

I appreciate your concerns about the assessment process. The Department for Work and Pensions is continually reviewing and refining the PIP process in order to improve its efficiency, effectiveness and the claimant experience. New claims are now being cleared in under a third of the time they were in July 2014, at a current average of 13 weeks from registration to decision. I understand that the Government is committed to further improving this process. Assessments are independently audited to ensure that they are accurate and fair. There is a legislative requirement that two independent reviews of PIP are carried out - the Government has formally responded to the first's recommendations and is currently considering the second's.

A public consultation has just closed which asked how the assessment process could be made easier and quicker, with particular focus on how information can be shared between decision makers, lessening the amount of paperwork for claimants. I am encouraged also that a new feedback system will be introduced for claimants to talk about their experience of claiming PIP, which will help focus reforms where they matter to claimants.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

*With best wishes,*  
*Tom*

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**  
**CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

LISTENING TO YOU - CAMPAIGNING FOR YOU  
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