

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

28th June 2018

Jaw Constant

RE: ABORTION LAW & MISOPROSTOL.

Thank you for contacting me recently about abortion law in the UK, particularly in relation to misoprostol; your comments upon which I read with great interest.

I understand what an important issue this is for many people. As I am sure you appreciate, this is an incredibly delicate area of law and, regardless of the views of individual MPs, one which is treated with the utmost rigour.

The approach to abortion in the UK is set out in the *Abortion Act 1967* and this remains unchanged. Abortion legislation can only be changed by Parliament. It is accepted Parliamentary practice that proposals for changes in the law on abortion come from backbench members and decisions are made on the basis of free votes.

Misoprostol is used to induce an early-stage medical abortion. As things stand under the *1967 Act*, homes are not classified as an appropriate setting for an abortion, and medical abortions must take place in an approved clinical setting. While my ministerial colleagues are not currently in a position to approve homes as an appropriate place for the use of misoprostol, I understand that they are keeping this matter under review, and will consider all relevant evidence and legal developments as they arise.

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