

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

21st June 2018

Dear Constituent,

RE: UPSKIRTING.

Thank you for contacting me recently about upskirting; your comments upon which I read with great interest.

Upskirting is an absolutely unacceptable practice and I am determined to ensure that such an intrusive act is tackled robustly. Like you, I was disappointed when the Private Member's Bill you refer to did not make progress. Upskirting is a hideous invasion of privacy which leaves victims feeling degraded and distressed. There should be no doubt that such acts are illegal and will not be tolerated.

Although there are existing offences that can be used to punish upskirting in some circumstances, there is a gap in the law. The offences of outraging public decency or voyeurism may be used to capture upskirting, but there may be activities that are not caught by either provision. This law will close that loophole, and ensure there is no doubt that this activity is criminal and will not be tolerated. For the most serious sexual offences, this law will ensure that the offender is also placed on the sex offenders register.

I therefore welcome that the Government is bringing legislation before the House in Government time to ensure that this practice becomes an offence – arguably the most effective means of achieving this - and I look forward to making upskirting an offence as soon as possible.

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