

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018

*New Constituent,*

**RE: MODERN SLAVERY.**

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

As I am sure you are aware, the *Modern Slavery Act* has played a key role in transforming the UK's response to modern slavery on a national and international level. The *Act* provides police and law enforcement agencies with the necessary powers to bring perpetrators to justice and enhance protections given to victims. You may be interested to know that the *Act* has resulted in a significant uplift in law enforcement activity against the criminals behind this abhorrent crime. I understand that more than 600 live investigations are currently taking place.

The Government has established this country as a world leader in the fight against modern slavery. However, criminal networks are constantly evolving to find new ways to exploit and control victims. I was alarmed by recent Home Office research which highlighted the devastating economic and social costs of modern slavery. It is estimated that modern slavery costs the UK up to £4.3 billion a year, and each modern slavery crime is second only to homicide in terms of harm to its victims and society.


I welcome the fact that the Government has announced plans to launch a cross-party independent review of the *Modern Slavery Act 2015*. This will not only enhance the *Act* where necessary, but also aims to strengthen and accelerate progress from Government and business alike, in eradicating this terrible crime.

You may be pleased to know that the Rt. Hon Frank Field MP, the sponsor of this Private Member's Bill, has been asked to be part of the team which will lead the independent review into the working of the *Modern Slavery Act 2015*.

I look forward to seeing the independent review established, which will see vital work undertaken to ensure the UK keeps in step with this ever-evolving exploitative crime.

This is such an important issue due to the abhorrent effects it has on the lives of victims, who's plight is often invisible to the wider public, and one I have raised on previous occasions in the House of Commons, and which I know remains a key issue of concern for the Prime Minister, who has led the way on this internationally since she was Home Secretary.

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