

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

15th February 2019

Dear Constituent,

RE: MODERN SLAVERY ACT.

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of the *Modern Slavery Act* and your concerns about independent, legal guardianship for unaccompanied and trafficked children in the UK; your comments upon which I read with great interest.

The Government is committed to tackling every form of modern slavery, including human trafficking. The Government has secured commitment from other governments and institutions, including the UN, the Commonwealth and the EU, to tackle modern slavery, and has successfully lobbied for the establishment of the first ever UN Sustainable Development Goal to end modern slavery. It is also working bilaterally with priority countries to deepen law enforcement cooperation.

The Prime Minister has announced a new taskforce to accelerate progress on tackling human trafficking and modern slavery. At the same time, £33.5 million of development assistance funding was also pledged to tackle slavery in countries from where we know victims are regularly trafficked to the UK.

In July 2018, the Home Office announced a review of the *Modern Slavery Act*, which will incorporate the section on Independent Child Trafficking Advocates (ICTAs), as you have outlined. This review will be published in spring 2019 and will inform the adoption of any additional methods to protect and support trafficked children.

The independent review team has consulted with expert advisers in child trafficking, including Professor Ravi Kohli, a professor of child welfare and a qualified social worker. Professor Kohli is responsible for gathering evidence from child trafficking interest groups. If you would like more information on this process you can contact the secretariat by emailing info@modernslaveryactreview.independent.gov.uk.

I will monitor the progress of this independent review closely. I look forward to the publication of the report in spring 2019.

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