4th June 2019

Dear Constituent,

RE: FOOD STANDARDS.

Thank you for contacting me recently about food standards and the UK’s trade policy; your comments upon which I read with great interest.

It is absolutely vital that people across the UK have confidence in the food that they eat, which is why I welcome the Government’s very clear commitment that future trade agreements must uphold our country’s high food standards. Ministers have made clear these standards will not be watered down in pursuit of any trade deal.

Public consultations will be run ahead of any negotiations for new trade agreements, while any final agreement will be scrutinised and ratified by Parliament. These measures will ensure that both Parliament and the public can have their say on the content of any potential new trade agreements, including in the area of food standards.

To provide continuity in our country’s existing trade relationships, the Government will transition existing EU trade agreements, to which our country is party, into UK law. As these trade agreements will be transitioned on the closest possible terms as each original agreement, this process will not have an impact on food standards.

I support the Food Standards Agency (FSA)’s “Regulating Our Future” programme, which seeks to modernise the way that food businesses are regulated, by creating a system that is modern, risk-based, proportionate, robust, and resilient. One example of the work which the FSA is currently doing to tackle poor food standards, is its campaign against campylobacter, the most common cause of food poisoning in the UK.

I am encouraged by the Government’s commitment to upholding our high food standards that will ensure that people across the UK will continue to have confidence in the food that they eat.

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

LISTENING TO YOU - CAMPAIGNING FOR YOU
Email: pursglove@parliament.uk - Telephone: 0207 219 8043