

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

13<sup>th</sup> June 2019

*Dear Constituent,*

**RE: FIRST PAST THE POST.**

Thank you for contacting me recently about the UK's voting system for General Elections; your comments upon which I read with great interest.

I was interested to read your views about reform of the voting system, including the possibility of some form of proportional representation.

The previous Government's manifesto committed to respecting the will of the British people as expressed in the 2011 referendum by keeping the 'First Past the Post' system for elections to the House of Commons.

The 'First Past the Post' voting system for electing MPs is well established and understood by voters and the ballot paper is easy to complete, with voters putting a cross (X) by a single candidate. In each constituency, the candidate for whom more people voted than for any of the alternatives is elected.

'First Past the Post' provides a clear link between constituents and their representatives in Parliament. More often than not, it results in a Government with a working majority in Parliament making decisive government possible. It allows the formation of a clear opposition that can provide an alternative to, and a check on, the government of the day.

Whilst I appreciate that this is not the response you were seeking, there are no plans to change the voting system for elections to the House of Commons.

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**