



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

18th February 2020

Dear Constance,

RE: PREVENTABLE CHILD DEATHS.

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of preventable child deaths, with specific reference to Unicef UK's recent report; your comments upon which I have read with great interest.

As you may know, the UK is a proud signatory to the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* (UNCRC), which is an international human rights treaty that ensures the rights of children aged 17 or under. I believe the UNCRC is an extremely important treaty. It covers a range of areas, including children's civil, political, economic, cultural and social rights.

I also welcome the fact that Ministers have introduced a range of further measures to promote children's rights and to help them lead happy and fulfilling lives. Indeed, the *Children and Social Work Act 2017* has strengthened the quality and range of support available for society's most vulnerable children. Moreover, the Government has updated the "Working Together to Safeguard Children" guidance in order to better safeguard and promote the welfare of children, and has invested in improving mental health support in schools and in the National Health Service.

Furthermore, Ministers have launched a comprehensive children's rights training package across Government, which I am pleased has been developed alongside children's rights experts. I am pleased that ministers are working with experts to promote this training and ensure that children's rights are further embedded in policy and law making.

I hope this response has reassured you of my ongoing commitment, and the Government's ongoing commitment, to protecting and enhancing children's rights.

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