

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

3rd June 2020

Dear Constance,

RE: MENTAL HEALTH POLICY

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of mental health policy; your comments upon which I have read with great interest.

I agree with the Secretary of State for Health & Social Care that while it is hugely welcome that we are on the road to parity of esteem, there is still more to do. I am extremely encouraged by the news that, as part of the five-year funding offer that will see the annual NHS budget grow by over £33.9 billion - the biggest increase ever, under any government of any party - mental health services will receive a budget growth of £2.3 billion over the five-year funding settlement, which is the fastest uplift in funding. This will enable further service expansion and faster access to community and crisis mental health services for both adults, but also particularly children and young people.

I am pleased that a new mental health crisis service, with comprehensive mental health support, will be available in every major A&E, alongside new children and young peoples' crisis teams across the country. The additional funding will also deliver more mental health ambulances, "safe havens" in the community, and a 24-hour mental health crisis hotline when people are in urgent need of help.

I hope these new services will help end the stigma surrounding mental health, offering crucial support to people suffering from crisis and those who have suffered in silence for too long.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom'.

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE