

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

6th November 2020

Dear Constance,

RE: IMPACT OF CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS ON PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of the impact of the Coronavirus restrictions on people with dementia; your comments upon which I have read with great interest and compassion.

Like you, I completely understand the severe impact the pandemic has had on people who are affected by dementia, and whilst I thank you for your invitation to attend the debate on the issue on the 12th November 2020 in Westminster Hall, I'm afraid I shall be unable to do so because of longstanding parliamentary commitments.

However, I imagine how challenging it must be for families caring for loved ones during this difficult time, particularly those who have needed to take on extra responsibilities. I know that the Government is working closely with system partners, stakeholders, local authorities and the care sector to monitor the impact of COVID-19 on people with dementia and to identify what additional actions may be required to ensure safety, and access to the right support and care.

In addition, research through the National Institute for Health Research was commissioned on how to manage or mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on people with dementia and their carers living in the community. The research has considered the best ways to support people to stay well during the outbreak, including help to manage the psychological and social impacts of social distancing, self-isolation, and lockdown. You can find more information, including summary leaflets, here:

<http://www.idealproject.org.uk/covid>.

I agree that we should do everything we can to offer support to people with long-term health conditions, as well as those who support them, throughout this difficult time and I will certainly continue to monitor this issue closely.

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