

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

16th August 2022

Dear Constituent,

RE: CHILDREN'S SOCIAL SERVICES

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of children's social services. I have read your comments on this matter with interest.

Like you, I care deeply about the services our children receive and want to ensure that they have a future in which they can grow and thrive.

I appreciate your concerns about funding for these services. It is welcome that over the past two years, £300 million of new grant funding has been provided for adult and children's social care. Further, I was encouraged that a new funding package of £104 million will be provided by 2024-25 to help reform unregulated provision in children's social care, which will improve safeguarding standards for vulnerable children and young people. I understand that £259 million was also made available during the 2021-22 financial year to maintain capacity and expand provision in secure and open residential children's homes.

Further, I welcomed the publication of the Government's response to the independent review into children's social care. Proposals include setting up a new National Implementation Board of sector experts and people with experience of leading transformational change and the care system; boosting efforts to recruit more foster carers; increased support for social workers, including on leadership, recruitment and retention; and the implementation of a new evidence-based framework for all the professionals working in children's social care. The support social workers receive in the early part of their careers will be refocused, to enhance their skills and knowledge of child protection.

I hope this has provided a measure of reassurance. I will continue to closely monitor funding levels for children's social services and ensure that the Government delivers on its promises for reform.

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