

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

23rd January 2023

Dear Constance,

RE: LEVELLING UP AND REGENERATION BILL (CHILDCARE AS INFRASTRUCTURE)

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of the *Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill*; I have read your comments on this issue with interest.

I completely agree with you that new homes should be accompanied by the infrastructure that development creates the need for. I am glad that it is already the case that developer contributions can be used to provide funding for schools and educational facilities.

The *Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill* will introduce a new Infrastructure Levy which is designed to be simpler and more transparent to communities than the current system of developer contributions. I share your view that this levy represents an important opportunity for communities to have their voices heard on the types of infrastructure they would like to see in their areas.

The *Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill* includes provision for 'schools and other educational facilities' to be funded within scope of the levy. This means that proceeds could be spent on childcare facilities such as nurseries and pre-schools. This includes childcare facilities that are not attached to schools.

The *Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill* would also allow for a specified amount of levy proceeds to be applied towards projects which fall outside of the Bill's definition of infrastructure. The Housing Minister has explicitly said that this could cover the funding of services, such as childcare, if providing them was considered a local priority.

I understand that the Government will consult on the Infrastructure Levy, and I would encourage you to share your views when the consultation launches.

It is critical that children get the support, care and education they deserve. I am confident that the new Infrastructure Levy will help to do just that.

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