



**HOUSE OF COMMONS**

LONDON SW1A 0AA

30<sup>th</sup> April 2023

*Dear Gentlemen,*

**RE: FORMER PRIME MINISTERS' RESIGNATION HONOURS LISTS**

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of your concerns about nominations for honours that former Prime Ministers can make. I have read your comments with interest.

It is a long-standing convention that individuals can be nominated for an honour or peerage in recognition of their public and political service, and that Prime Ministers can draw up a 'Dissolution' or 'Resignation' Honours List. This originated in the 19th Century and has been the case under successive governments from across the political spectrum throughout the 20th Century.

The honours system recognises longstanding contributions and they are routinely awarded to employees across the public sector, in post, and on leaving. Political honours make up a tiny proportion of the over two thousand people recognised each year for their public service, and individuals are nominated in recognition of their contribution to society and their public and political service.

Finally, it is a long-established process to nominate Peers to the House of Lords - they are appointed by the King on the advice of the Prime Minister. Any nominations by the former Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon Liz Truss MP, in her Resignation Honours List, would have to be vetted by the House of Lords Appointments Commission, to ensure the highest standards of propriety.

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 be 'Tom Pursglove'.

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**  
**CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**