



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

8th December 2023

Dear Constance,

RE: FUTURE FREE FROM HOMELESSNESS (CRISIS CAMPAIGN)

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of tackling homelessness. I have read your comments with interest.

I welcome your passion for ending homelessness once and for all, and I want to assure you that this is something shared by myself and my ministerial colleagues. I recognise the very real costs of homelessness highlighted in Crisis's recent report, both to individuals and to society.

I wholeheartedly agree that everyone deserves a safe and stable place to call home. Through the *Renters (Reform) Bill*, the Government will abolish Section 21 evictions which will give tenants greater security without the threat of a 'no fault' eviction. There is also a firm commitment to delivering more social and genuinely affordable homes, underpinned by the £11.5 billion Affordable Homes Programme (2021-26) which will deliver tens of thousands of new homes. I note that Crisis's research draws on the particular importance of social rent; indeed, the Government has proposed amending national planning guidance to make clear that local planning authorities should place greater importance on social rent.


The Government is investing £2 billion between 2022 and 2025 to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping, targeted to areas where it is needed most. The Government's 'Ending Rough Sleeping for Good' strategy puts prevention at the heart of its plans to end rough sleeping once and for all. I was encouraged to see the strategy set an ambition for no one to leave a public institution – whether that's a prison, hospital, or care – to the streets. The Government is committed to reducing the need for temporary accommodation by preventing homelessness before it occurs. I understand that, since 2018, over 640,000 households have been prevented from becoming homeless, or supported into settled accommodation, through the *Homelessness Reduction Act*.

Rightly, Government funding for accommodation for people facing homelessness reflects the fact that there is no one-size-fits-all approach. There is, for example, a £10 million Night Shelter Transformation Fund to increase the availability of quality single-room provision within the night shelter sector. Meanwhile, investment in longer-term housing solutions includes a new £200 million Single Homelessness Accommodation Programme to deliver up to 2,400 homes and wrap-around support.

One person without a roof over their head is one too many. While there is much more to do, I hope that this response has assured you that the Government is committed to working towards a future without homelessness.



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**