

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

4th April 2024

Dear Constance,

RE: HOUSEHOLD SUPPORT FUND

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of your concerns about the future of the Household Support Fund. I have read your comments with interest.

As set out at the Spring Budget, the Government is providing an additional £500 million of funding to enable the extension of the Household Support Fund in England to September 2024, bringing the total funding to £3 billion since October 2021. This extension allows local authorities to continue to provide discretionary support to those most in need - in our case, through North Northamptonshire Council.

In April, all working-age benefits, including Universal Credit, will be uprated in line with September 2023 Consumer Price Index inflation – 6.7 percent. Moreover, the basic State Pension, new State Pension, and Pension Credit standard minimum guarantee will be uprated in line with average earnings growth of 8.5 percent.

Further, to support those on low incomes, the Government have raised the National Living Wage (NLW) by 9.8 percent from £10.42 to £11.44 an hour. This pay boost, worth over £1,800 a year for a full-time worker, is the biggest cash increase in the NLW in more than a decade.

Additionally, to support low-income households with increasing rent costs, the Government will raise Local Housing Allowance rates to the 30th percentile of local market rents in April 2024. This will benefit 1.6 million low-income households, who will be around £800 a year better off on average in 2024-25 and give families the peace of mind to focus on their futures.

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