



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

February 2018

Dear Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about supported housing and homelessness.

I understand your concerns regarding the new funding model for supported housing. As a lifeline for many vulnerable people, including the homeless, I am committed to protecting these homes and the people who live in them. I believe that the new funding model will do just that, by putting the supported housing sector on a sustainable and stable footing.

Funding for short-term supported housing will be provided through locally administered ring-fenced grants, underpinned by a new, comprehensive local planning and oversight regime that will be continuously reviewed. I am confident that this will enable a more localised approach to providing accommodation for some of the most vulnerable people in this country.

Furthermore, I welcome that Local Housing Allowance rates will not be applied to tenants in supported housing, nor to the wider social rented sector. This means that long-term supported housing costs will continue to be covered fully through the welfare system.

On the wider issue of homelessness, I obviously support the Government's aim of halving rough sleeping by 2022 and eliminate it altogether by 2027. I am more confident than ever that the Homelessness Reduction Act, which will come into effect from April, will help to achieve this aim.

I would also like to pay tribute to the excellent work that St Mungo's do and the importance of their campaigns in highlighting the issues around homelessness. I am pleased that the Housing Secretary, Sajid Javid, has decided to include the CEO of St Mungo's, Howard Sinclair, on his new Rough Sleeping Advisory Panel.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY