



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

November 2018

Dear Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about an independent Leaders' Debate Commission.

I am aware that Sky News has called for the establishment of an independent Leaders' Debate Commission. I understand that such a commission, funded by broadcasters, would determine the format of party leader debates on television and who would take part.

Participation in debates is a matter for political parties and the Government has no plans to change electoral law to make such debates mandatory. There are many issues that would need to be considered, such as who would appoint the members of such a body and what would happen if any parties disagreed with the suggested format. I expect any proposals for debates will be considered in due course, closer to any general election in 2022.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris'.

**CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY**