



HOUSE OF COMMONS

5th March 2020

Dear local residents,

Thank you to those who have contacted me about World Homeless Day and supporting older renters.

Even one person without a roof over their head is too many, and it is vitally important that the most vulnerable people in society receive the help they need. That is why I am pleased over £1.2 billion has been allocated to tackle homelessness and rough sleeping through to the end of this year.

I recognise that older people can be especially at risk of losing their home, which is why people with ill health, a disability or old age are given priority status when being provided accommodation by local councils. Although the number of older people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless remains low, more still needs to be done to ensure we drive this figure down even further by improving local services, building more homes, protecting pensioner's benefits and providing targeted support to those who need it.

As you may be aware, the Conservative Party Manifesto committed to renewing the Affordable Homes Programme, which supports the building of thousands of low-cost homes across England to ensure that everyone can afford a home. This will help reach the target of delivering 300,000 new homes each year by 2025. You will be encouraged to know that, in 2018-19, over 240,000 homes were delivered in England – more than in any one year during the last 30 years.

The Government has also committed to ending rough sleeping by the end of this Parliament and progress is already being made through a Rough Sleeping Initiative which has reduced rough sleeping by a third in trial areas. You can read an update on the initiative here: www.gov.uk/government/news/boost-to-successful-government-rough-sleeping-programme

I hope that this information is helpful. If you have any further concerns about this, or any other issues, please do get back in touch.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane'.

Jane Hunt MP