

Sir Christopher Chope MP Housed of Commons London SW1A 0AA

## **Eddie Hughes MP**

Parliamentary Under-Secretary for Rough Sleeping and Housing

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

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25 February 2022

Dear Sir Christopher,

It was a pleasure to meet members of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Park Homes and discuss some of the important issues affecting the sector. During the meeting, we discussed the proposals in your Mobile Homes Act 1983 (Amendment) Bill, to change the pitch fee review inflationary index from the Retail Price Index (RPI) to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). I'm writing to you on the Government's current position on the proposals in your Bill.

I understand ongoing concerns, particularly by residents, about the continued use of the RPI in pitch fee reviews. We remain committed to introducing the required primary legislation to change the RPI to CPI, when the parliamentary timetable allows.

We welcome your efforts to help achieve our shared objectives on this issue. It is important however that when drafted the legislation will be effective and have no unintended consequences. This includes ensuring the changes proposed apply to all existing agreements. Though as currently drafted, the provisions in your Bill may seem to apply to existing pitch agreements, further detailed policy and legal work is required to make sure that is the case. That work cannot be completed before the Bill's Second Reading on 25 February. I can assure you and the members of the APPG, that we remain committed and focussed on introducing the required legislation at the earliest opportunity. We will update you on this in due course.

Another important issue for residents that we discussed at the meeting was the 10% commission research. I can confirm that I have received the report from Liverpool University and will publish it as soon as all the necessary checks and procedures are complete.

Thank you again for your continued interest in helping bring about change to the sector.

Yours ever,

**EDDIE HUGHES MP** 

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