

Cllr Neil Clarke Leader – Rushcliffe Borough Council

By email:

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Baroness Taylor of Stevenage

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of Housing and Local Government 2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF

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State for

Dear New

Thank you for your letter of 12 March regarding the management of new housing estates. It was good to see you at Portcullis House at the end of last year.

I appreciate the efforts being taken by Rushcliffe Borough Council regarding new housing estates. We are aware that in many cases the current arrangements are not in the best interests of homeowners. That is why the Government has committed to bringing the injustice of 'fleecehold' private estates and unfair costs to an end. The Government will consult on the best way to achieve this.

I note your comments on management companies. There is a strong case for greater regulation of managing agents. As part of our response to the final Grenfell Inquiry report, the Government will strengthen regulation of managing agents to drive up the standard of their service. As a minimum, this will include mandatory professional qualifications which set a new basic standard that managing agents will be required to meet. The Government will consult on this matter later this year.

Thank you for the offer to meet. I hope you will appreciate that my diary is constrained, however, officials from the Freehold Estates Reform team would welcome a meeting with officials from the council to discuss the Good Practice Guide and work the council have been doing in respect of managing open spaces, and will be in touch.

Thank you again for your letter.

Yours sincerely,

BARONESS TAYLOR OF STEVENAGE

Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Housing and Local Government