

PETER GIBSON MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

August 2021

Dear Convent

Thank you for your email about council tax and the proposal to impose a new house price tax on homes.

Council tax is a local charge for the use of local services. The current banding system reflects that larger homes make slightly greater use of local services. I am glad that for the past decade, the Government has ensured that local taxpayers are able to veto excessive council tax increases in a local referendum. The 2019 manifesto, upon which I stood, re-affirmed support for this democratic check and balance, which has helped ensure that council tax remains lower in real terms than in 2010.

It is my understanding that currently, the Government does not have any plans to introduce a new proportional property tax, but keeps all taxes under review. Residential properties will continue to be taxed through Stamp Duty Land Tax (SDLT) and Council Tax for the time being.

While the Government has stated in the past that it does not support a proportional property tax and criticised proposals in a recent Parliamentary debate, I want to assure you that I keep an open mind to reform of our tax systems in the future.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to contact me and if I can ever be any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

*Yours sincerely
Peter Gibson*

PETER GIBSON MP

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