

Jim McMahon OBE MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Dr Carolyn Wilkins
Level 3
Civic Centre
West Street
OL1 1UG

Our Ref: SM/WILK01005/01170486

19 October 2017

Dear Dr Wilkins

Re: Oldham Council Resolutions concerning Homelessness

Thank you for contacting me regarding your recent resolutions concerning homelessness, though please accept my apologies for the delayed response.

Further to your letter, the Labour frontbench has taken a very strong stance on homelessness and I am wholly supportive of the pressure they are bringing to bear on the current Conservative Government. Furthermore, I would like to assure Council that I will be raising in Parliament issues around homelessness at the next opportune moment.

I have previously raised my concerns with the Mayor for Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, in my efforts to highlight the notable salience of tackling homelessness in the UK. I fully support the work Andy is doing in trying to eradicate rough sleeping in Greater Manchester, and I will continue to press these issues with the Government.

It must remain noted that the statutory powers delegated to tackle homelessness in the UK fall largely with the Conservative Government. With cuts to housing budgets, as well as the problems associated with Universal Credit, I and my Labour colleagues will continue to remind the Government that supportive resources are pivotal for ensuring the decline in homelessness.

I hope this reply illustrates that I am supportive of and share Full Council's concerns.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim McMahon".

Jim McMahon OBE MP
Member of Parliament
Oldham West & Royton

Serving the Communities of Chadderton, Royton and Oldham

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