



**Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities**

Mr Clive Betts MP
Chair
Levelling Up, Housing and Communities
Committee

Lee Rowley MP
*Parliamentary Under-
Secretary of State for Local
Government and Building
Safety*

***Department for Levelling
Up, Housing and
Communities***
Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

27 June 2023

Dear Mr Betts,

Recruitment Campaign: Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman

I am writing to notify you of a delay to the recruitment timetable for a new permanent Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman / Chair of the Commission for Local Administration in England. Following careful consideration of the Advisory Assessment Panel's recommendations for interview and amongst a strong field of candidates for this campaign, interviews have been rescheduled for a later date, to end on 28 June. We will therefore not meet our indicative timeline for appointment prior to Summer Recess.

Please accept my apologies for the short notice cancellation of the pre-appointment scrutiny hearing which was provisionally scheduled for 10 July. I would be grateful for a new hearing date on 18 September, or as soon as possible thereafter, in order to complete the pre-appointment process promptly. My officials are already in touch with your clerks to arrange this. Further interim arrangements will be necessary to ensure continuity until this appointment has been made. I will write to you with details of these arrangements in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Lee Rowley MP
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Local Government and Building Safety