

19 March 2024

Rt Hon Clive Betts MP  
Houses of Parliament  
London  
SW1A 0AA

By email: [clive.betts.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:clive.betts.mp@parliament.uk)

Dear Clive

Thank you for meeting with me last Wednesday, I found it extremely helpful and hope you did too. I look forward to our regular catch ups where we will continue to discuss the challenges facing the LGSCO and the sectors within our jurisdiction.

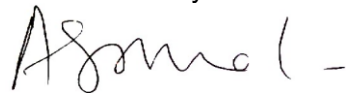
In the meeting we talked briefly about the gaps in our legislation and our policy asks, I thought it would be helpful to follow up with a brief overview of what these are. In short, we currently believe the following are needed as a minimum to improve access to our service and the quality of the services with our jurisdiction:

1. Mandatory signposting for all adult social care providers to our service.
2. Extending our jurisdiction so that we can consider the actions of a school fulfilling an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan and complaints about Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) provision within a school for children and young people without an EHC plan.
3. Give parents, pupils, and carers the right to an independent LGSCO investigation of complaints that have not been adequately resolved by their school.
4. Update the LGSCO's jurisdiction to ensure it accurately reflects all relevant local government arrangements and access to redress is ensured for all that need it.

These, alongside other recommendations, are set out in our Triennial Review, which as we discussed, we have still not received a response from DLUCH to. In the meeting you mentioned that you would be happy to write again to the Secretary of State to impress on him the need for a formal response to this review. We would be very grateful for this and would be happy to provide any information you may need.

As we discussed in the meeting, we will seek to publish a revised Triennial Review before the end of the year. We will engage with you on this before publication.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amerdeep Somal', followed by a horizontal line.

Amerdeep Somal

**Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman for England**  
**Chair, Commission for Local Administration in England**