



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Jim McMahon OBE MP

*Minister of State for Local Government and
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2 Marsham Street
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Florence Eshalomi MP
Chair of the Select Committee
By email

19 June 2025

Dear Florence,

I am writing to inform you that I have today updated Parliament on the intervention in Thurrock Council and published the fifth report from Commissioners with my response.

It is clear the Council is on a journey towards meeting its Best Value Duty, and while there has been positive progress since the intervention began in September 2022, there is still significant work to be done.

Having carefully considered the findings and evidence presented in the Report, the Secretary of State and I are satisfied that Thurrock Council is not yet meeting its Best Value Duty. I am minded to use my powers from the Local Government Act 1999 to issue new Directions that set a new end date for the intervention of 30 April 2028 and appoint Commissioners to assist the Council to design, implement and embed the necessary changes and improvements.

I am now inviting the Council and any other interested parties to make such representations as it wishes about the Report and my proposal to issue Directions under section 15(5) and (6) of the 1999 Act. I will carefully consider representations before taking a final decision.

This government is committed to resetting the relationship with local and regional government and establishing partnerships built on mutual respect, genuine collaboration, and meaningful engagement. I trust that I can continue to rely on your engagement and continued support.

Yours sincerely,

JIM MCMAHON OBE MP

Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution