



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

Sir Peter Bottomley MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Kris Hopkins MP
Minister for Housing

**Department for Communities and Local
Government**
Eland House
Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5DU

Tel: 0303 444 3460
Fax: 020 7828 4903
E-Mail: kris.hopkins@communities.gsi.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/dclg

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Dear Sir Peter,

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Thank you for your letter of 5 November to both the Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP and me, enclosing a letter from the Leasehold Knowledge Partnership (LKP) about Recognised Tenants' Associations. I am replying as the Minister for Housing.

I welcome constructive suggestions about how residential leasehold can be improved. It is therefore useful to see the ideas of the group brought together by the Leasehold Knowledge Partnership to consider the topic of Recognised Tenants Associations. I note the suggested improvements to the guidance used by tribunals when considering the recognition of tenants associations under section 29 of the *Landlord and Tenant Act 1985*. The proposals are detailed and raise a number of issues which would require substantial further consideration.

Given widespread concern about the quality of service provided by some managing agents, my priority in residential leasehold remains the implementation of mandatory access to redress under the *Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013*. Therefore, while I appreciate the offer of assistance, we have no plans at present to review the guidance on Recognised Tenants Associations. Should any future review take place, we will of course bear the group's suggestions in mind, but I do not believe that a meeting on the topic at this stage would be worthwhile.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Baroness Gardner of Parkes AM; The Rt Hon. Edward Davey MP; Jim Fitzpatrick MP; Steve O'Connell AM, Deputy Chair London Assembly Planning Committee; Ian Wingfield, Deputy Leader of Southwark Council; and to Martin Boyd of the Leasehold Knowledge Partnership and other signatories of that organisation's letter, to let them know my position and to thank them for their contribution.

KRIS HOPKINS MP