

HENRY SMITH MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Cllr Peter Lamb  
Leader, Crawley Borough Council  
Town Hall, The Boulevard  
Crawley  
West Sussex RH10 1UZ

14<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Peter

I understand that you have withdrawn Crawley Borough Council from the West Sussex Leaders' Board of district, borough and county councils, which I am deeply concerned to learn of as I believe Crawley should be leading in West Sussex.

Additionally I am told you have stopped the Council's officers from attending joint local authority meetings to tackle homelessness, which was led by Crawley Borough's Chief Executive, so muting our town's voice on this important issue too.

While I quite appreciate that you are, as am I, concerned at the County Council's proposals to reduce homeless support budgets, I believe it best to engage constructively and collegially to find solutions, even when there may be policy differences. This is particularly the case as Crawley Borough Council is, of course, the local housing authority.

To remove Crawley from the joint effort to better serve people seems like personal petulance and political narrow-mindedness – it is certainly not active representation.

On behalf of local residents I would be grateful if you would reconsider, and work together so we can ensure the most vulnerable in society are protected.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Henry Smith".

**Henry Smith**  
**Member of Parliament**  
**Crawley Constituency**

Copy to: Natalie Brahma-Pearl, Chief Executive, Crawley Borough Council  
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