



HOUSE OF COMMONS

Mr Chris Burgin
Director of Housing Services
City Council's Housing Service
City Hall
115 Charles Street
Leicester
LE1 1FZ

Please reply to:
Jonathan Ashworth MP
10th Floor, 60 Charles Street
Leicester
LE1 1FB

12 February 2021
Our Ref: SJ/JA38206

Dear Mr Burgin

Re: Private Rented Sector Student Tenants

I have been contacted by the University of Leicester's Students' Union in regard to private sector accommodation in the City.

This issue of the City Council licensing and/or introducing a landlord accreditation scheme that supports student tenants was also discussed at a recent meeting with the Chief Executive of the University of Leicester Students' Union and the Students' Union President.

I understand that the City Council are planning to introduce a licensing scheme in Castle ward. I would be grateful if you can provide details of this scheme, when it will be implemented and whether it may be extended to other wards in the City where students rent property.

The Students' Union have asked me to emphasise that licensing schemes are not the only lever available to the City Council to support student tenants. I am told that Councils which have not been able to cover all student-facing wards have introduced separate landlord accreditation schemes (such as Derby, via the DASH scheme). I would be grateful if such an accreditation scheme can be considered by the City Council in addition to any licensing schemes.

I would be grateful if you can look into this issue and specifically when the Castle ward licensing scheme will go live and if the City Council will consider a wider landlord accreditation scheme.

I look forward to receiving a reply on this important matter that I may share with the University of Leicester's Students' Union.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Ashworth
Member of Parliament for Leicester South