



Department
of Health &
Social Care

From Baroness Merron
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU

Sir Peter Fraser
Chair of the Law Commission of England & Wales
1st Floor, Tower
52 Anne's Gate
London SW1H 9AG

Dear Sir Peter Fraser

Review of Surrogacy: Government Position

I am writing in respect of the England & Wales and Scotland Law Commissions' joint report, *Building Families Through Surrogacy: A New Law*.

Firstly, I wish to thank the commissioners of the Surrogacy Reform Project for meeting with me on the 5th November. They provided a very helpful briefing and presentation explaining your recommendations and proposals for a new pathway. I would like to express my gratitude to you and your team for the significant effort that has gone into such a thorough report and draft Bill on a complex and sensitive topic.

I met with the Secretary of State to consider progressing reform in this area. As you will know, the Government has several key priorities that it wishes to progress which will put a significant demand on parliamentary time and resources.

This means that the Government is unable to prioritise surrogacy reform and do not intend to put forward these legislative proposals at the current time. However, we will publish a government response as time allows and will look to consider this issue in the future.

All good wishes,

Baroness Merron

Cc: Jeremy Miles MS, Minister for Health & Social Services

Mike Nesbitt MLA, Minister for Health