

ITN Productions 200 Grays Inn Road London WC1X 8XZ

10 November 2017

Dear SIr

Thank you for your letter dated 6 November 2017. The attached document (Annex A) responds in detail to points in your letter.

We take any concerns raised about the Homes and Communities Agency extremely seriously. The accusations made in your programme are based on a misunderstanding about the statutory responsibilities and role of the Homes and Communities Agency and, in particular, the remit of the Social Housing Regulator, which is discharged through an independent regulation committee.

The Homes and Communities Agency's role is to get more homes built now and invest in increasing long-term housing supply. One of the ways in which we support housing associations and councils to meet different housing needs is a £4.7 billion capital grant fund to increase the number of homes for affordable rent or shared ownership. Since being established in 2008, we have supported a third of new homes built in England and we are currently transforming our business to further speed up housing delivery and make places better.

The Social Housing Regulator promotes a well governed and financially viable social housing sector. It sets standards and intervenes where there is evidence of a breach that could lead to serious detriment to tenants. The Regulator is currently considering whether the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea has breached its standards taking account of the police investigation and public inquiry.

In appointing staff and board members with the necessary skills and experience it is inevitable that conflicts will arise. The HCA takes a robust approach to managing conflicts of interest, in line with guidance on Public Appointments and ensures that appropriate arrangements are put in place when they arise.

Homes and Communities Agency Fry Building, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P 4DF Yours sincerely

Nil a hell

Nick Walkley Chief Executive