



Department for Levelling Up,  
Housing & Communities

Gavin Jones  
*By email*

**Max Soule**  
*Deputy Director, Local Government  
Stewardship*

**Department for Levelling Up,  
Housing and Communities**  
2 Marsham Street  
London SW1P 4DF

**[www.gov.uk/dluhc](http://www.gov.uk/dluhc)**

Email: [maxwell.soule@levellingup.gov.uk](mailto:maxwell.soule@levellingup.gov.uk)

22 May 2023

Dear Mr Jones,

### **SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL: INTERVENTION**

On 11 January 2022 I wrote to you as the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities had nominated you as Commissioner, to act jointly and severally with the Lead and Finance Commissioner in exercise of his powers under section 15 of the Local Government Act 1999 and in accordance with the Directions to Slough Borough Council dated 1 December 2021, which were later updated on 1 September 2022. I am writing today to make a change to that nomination and the terms of appointment. This change reflects your nomination as Lead Commissioner. I enclose the formal nomination document.

From 22 May 2023, you will use the title 'Lead Commissioner' rather than 'Commissioner' in your work for the intervention. You will continue to exercise the functions set out in the Directions to the intervention – exercisable jointly or severally with Denise Murray and Gerard Curran, Commissioners, as you consider necessary. Fees will be payable to you up to a maximum of 150 days per annum. These limits should not be exceeded without prior approval of the Secretary of State.

Arrangements for your reasonable expenses will continue unchanged and you will continue to be entitled to a fee for each day you act as Lead Commissioner. The Secretary of State has set these fees at £1,200 per day. I have enclosed updated terms of engagement that you will need to sign and return.

The Secretary of State has also asked that you continue to work closely with Paul Moffat, the Children's Services Commissioner, and that you play an active role in the discussions with the Department for Education relating to the safety valve intervention programme given the size of Slough's Dedicated Schools Grant deficit, and in the work to improve Children's Social Care with Slough Children's First and in the work to improve SEND services in Slough Borough Council, as well as ensuring the area as a whole makes progress in respect of its SEND Written Statement of Action. The intervention programme requires genuine collaboration across education, social care

and financial leadership in authorities, for the long-term benefit of children and young people, and as such your involvement will be critical to Slough's progress. It is clear from the recent Ofsted inspection of Children's Social Care Services that support and a renewed focus on improvement is required. The safety valve programme will be a crucial tool for prioritising Slough's children and young people with high needs in a sustainable way.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the work you have done in this intervention as Commissioner, particularly over the last few months. We are very grateful for your commitment to taking up this challenge to improve the performance of Slough Borough Council and for your ongoing commitment as Lead Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,

**MAX SOULE**

**NOMINATION UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1999 (DIRECTIONS UNDER SECTION 15(5) AND (6) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1999 TO SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL, 2022)**

The Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, in exercise of his powers under section 15 of the Local Government Act 1999 and in accordance with the Directions to Slough Borough Council dated 1 September 2022 nominates Gavin Jones as Lead Commissioner for the period beginning on the date of his appointment and ending on 30 November 2024 or such earlier time as the Secretary of State determines.