



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Jim McMahon OBE MP

*Minister of State for Local Government and
English Devolution*
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

Tony McArdle OBE
Chair of the Croydon Improvement and
Assurance Panel
By email

12 June 2025

Dear Tony,

Following today's publication of the latest report, I wanted to write to you to thank you personally for your work leading the Improvement and Assurance Panel at London Borough of Croydon Council.

The role of the Panel has covered a range of challenging topics, including the governance, leadership, financial management and service delivery of the Council. Since 2021, your work supporting the Council has seen positive features and improvements, such as improvements in the managing of service demand and delivery of services such as Housing and Children's Services. With the significant concerns you have raised on the deterioration of the Council's financial position, I am satisfied that Croydon is not yet meeting its Best Value Duty to "Continuous Improvement, Leadership and Use of Resources".

Yours and the whole Panel's expertise and professionalism in navigating through this work, whilst working cooperatively with the Council, have provided me with a robust and well evidenced independent report to inform my decisions on the Council.

I am most grateful for the skill and professionalism with which you lead the Panel team and your commitment to supporting good local government.

Yours sincerely,

JIM MCMAHON OBE MP
Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution