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for Work &
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Baroness Campbell of Surbiton
House of Lords
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Dear Baroness Campbell,

Thank you for your letter of 5 December 2016 about the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). Your points regarding the UK Government response to the recent UNCRPD inquiry are similar to those you raised with Secretary of State in your letter of 14 November 2016.

I, like my Secretary of State, stand by the belief that the conclusions of grave and systematic violations are completely wide of the mark, and that the policies and practices in the UK do fulfil the obligations set out in the Convention. The report fails to place reform in the wider context of delivering a sustainable system that supports our fellow citizens who can and want to work, whilst protecting people for whom that is not possible.

As you highlight in your letter, we are now entering into the UK's UNCRPD periodic examination process. We have already begun engaging with the UN Committee and the UK independent monitoring organisations to ensure that this process is as constructive as possible. I appreciate your willingness to work with our Government to support this process. I can confirm that we will be undertaking stakeholder engagement ahead of the formal examination and would welcome your input and that of the Independent Living Strategy Group. The date of the first event is still to be confirmed but will likely take place around the end of February and my officials will be in touch with invitations shortly.

Penny Mordaunt MP

Minister for Disabled People, Health & Work

