



# Duncan Hames MP

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Mr Mike Clarke  
31 Cherry Tree Read  
Blackpool  
FY4 4NS

Our Ref: [jdm\ClarkeM\201112](#)  
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Dear Mr Clarke,

Thank you for your email regarding the Public Guardian and the adequate supervision of deputies.

I appreciate your concerns and, as you know, have seen how individuals such as my constituent Mr [Abel](#) can be very badly let down by a deputy and the system that is in place to supervise arrangements.

Justice Minister Helen Grant MP confirmed to me during our debate on this issue that a review of how deputies are supervised by the Public Guardian is being carried out, which she described as fundamental. I will look forward to seeing the results of this review and any recommendations that it makes.

I regret, however, that I am not able to personally look into your mother's case, as I have done for my constituent Mr [Abel](#). This is because of a strict parliamentary protocol that precludes one MP from taking up issues on behalf of another MP's constituents. You would therefore need to contact your own MP, Gordon Marsden, regarding this. Mr Marsden would be very welcome to discuss your case with me, should he feel that this would be helpful in light of the recent Westminster Hall debate.

I am sorry that I am not able to be of more direct assistance to you, but would nevertheless assure you that the supervision of court appointed deputies by the Public Guardian is an issue that I will continue to pursue.

Yours sincerely,

**Duncan Hames MP**  
**Liberal Democrat MP for the Chippenham Constituency**