



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

Our reference: MC2024/26951

Cllr Chris Read
Leader
Rotherham Council

20 November 2024

Dear Chris,

Thank you for your email of 31 October to the Deputy Prime Minister regarding Section 17 of the Local Government Act 1988 and Section 116 of the Procurement Act 2023. I am replying as the Minister responsible for Local Government.

Thank you for sharing with me the outcome of the petition. You'll know that the government is committed to resetting the relationship with local government and I hope progress is seen in this regard. On this issue, the Government does not have plans to remove restrictions on local councils contained in Section 17 of the Local Government Act 1988 at this time.

The Economic Activities Public Bodies (overseas matters) Bill is currently at committee stage in the House of Lords, and it can be followed online at <https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3475>.

Thank you again for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely,

JIM MCMAHON OBE MP

Minister of State for Local Government and English Devolution