



**The Commissioner for
Public Appointments**

Rt Hon Peter Riddell CBE
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The Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP
Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
4th Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London SW1P 4DF

6th July 2018

Dear James,

Re: Appointment of the new Housing Ombudsman

Thank you for your letter outlining your intention to appoint Andrea Keenoy as Housing Ombudsman on an interim basis, when the current interim's term ends in August.

You have not provided detail about the proposed length of this interim appointment. I acknowledge and accept that you have reached a judgement on the insufficient strength of shortlisted candidates in the recent run campaign, and thus agree to the interim appointment. However, I am concerned that a second interim appointment in succession has proved to be necessary.

I have noted your aim to refresh the specification for the post in order to find the best candidate possible. I would appreciate greater clarity on the timing of this new campaign, and suggest that it should be underway by late summer. I would be grateful if you could ensure that my office is kept updated on the progress of this.

I have copied this letter to Clive Betts, Chair of the MHCLG Select Committee and to Oliver Dowden, Minister of State for Implementation, Cabinet Office.

*All best wishes
y sincerely
Peter*

Peter Riddell
Commissioner for Public Appointments