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7 April 2018

Thank you for your email of 9 March 2018 concerning living conditions at Keogh Barracks.

The wellbeing of Service personnel is of the utmost importance to the Ministry of Defence and I share your concerns and strength of feeling on this matter. I appreciate the opportunity to respond to the issues you have raised.

The situation at Keogh Barracks is unacceptable, but I can confirm the heating system will be undergoing a £1.5 million upgrade due for completion in 2019. Until this time temporary boilers will be used to manage heating and a team of engineers will be on standby to address any short-term outages.

I would like to assure you that in recognition of the issues, accommodation charges have been refunded during the periods of no or sub optimal heating and hot water provision.

The welfare of Service personnel is of great importance to me and I hope that this response reassures you that we are committed to addressing the maintenance issues at the Keogh Barracks both in the short and long term. I hope your visit on 18 May 2018 goes well and I am grateful for your continued support to our Service personnel.

**THE RT HON GAVIN WILLIAMSON CBE MP**

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