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## Hopkins backs right to defend home from burglars

Keighley and Ilkley Conservative Parliamentary Candidate Kris Hopkins has given his full support to a new Conservative commitment to strengthen the rights of householders to defend themselves and their families from burglars breaking into their homes.

Speaking last weekend, Conservative Leader David Cameron promised that, if elected, a Conservative Government would legislate to give greater protection to individuals who choose to exercise their right to use legitimate self-defence if a burglar enters their property.

And Cllr Hopkins said he believed changing the law in this area was “absolutely the right thing to do.”

He commented:

“At present, homeowners are allowed to use only ‘reasonable’ force to tackle a burglar.

“However, a future Conservative Government would strengthen the law by ensuring householders would only face prosecution for using ‘grossly disproportionate’ force.

“As a series of recent court cases has made very clear, the law is currently too much in favour of the perpetrator, and making this change is absolutely the right thing to do.

“We are not arguing for some new form of vigilantism in our community.

“But what we do want is greater common sense in the law and in our courts on this often controversial but very important issue.”

ENDS