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Rt Hon Meg Hillier MP Chair, Public Accounts Committee House of Commons Westminster SW1A 0AA

21 July 2022

Dear Chair

Given the Committee's continued interest in the Emergency Services Mobile Communication Programme, and our commitment to keeping you updated on developments, I am writing to advise you about the status of primary supplier Motorola Solutions Incorporated (MSI) on the programme and the delivery of the Emergency Services Network (ESN). My letter of 6 May to the Public Accounts Committee refers.

You will be aware that MSI is contracted to deliver 'Lot 2' of ESN which includes the push-to-talk facility (Kodiak) that runs on handsets, and other technical elements that connect ESN to the wider network provided by EE. MSI also owns the existing communication system, Airwave, that ESN is designed to replace.

MSI has recently informed the Home Office that it is not intending to extend its Lot 2 ESN contract beyond the current end date of December 2024. As a result, we are seeking the most expeditious way to allocate the existing Lot 2 to an alternative supplier to deliver a more standardised technical and commercial structure. We are currently assessing the full impact on the timetable for delivery.

The Competition and Markets Authority is close to completing its investigation into MSI's dual role delivering the current system, Airwave, as well as ESN, and the interim report is due imminently (the final report is due at the end of September).

Whilst there will inevitably be an extension to the Airwave contract beyond 2026, the CMA's published work thus far indicates that this may well be at a substantially reduced price. This will alleviate some of the financial pressure that any changes to our timeline may bring.

The Home Office, working closely with the users in the emergency services, will continue to focus relentlessly on this programme to ensure the future delivery of ESN.

In the meantime, we have received your letter of 18 July concerning Main Estimates which refers to ESMCP and will respond separately in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Rycroft CBE

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