



**Janet Alexander**

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Dame Meg Hillier MP  
Chair of the Committee of Public Accounts  
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21 November 2022

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Dear Dame Meg Hillier MP

### **HMRC Covid-19 Employment Support Schemes – Public Accounts Committee**

Thank you for the invitation to speak at the PAC hearing on November 17 2022 regarding the Covid-19 Employment Support Schemes. I agreed to write to the Committee regarding the following:

- The total number of cases closed following our investigation into potential overpayments in the schemes.

### **Our Response**

HMRC are dedicated to tackling error and fraud in the COVID-19 financial support schemes. Our compliance strategy has always been to focus on those who try to deliberately defraud us, while also providing a clear process to enable claimants to return money where they have identified an overpayment. Up to the end of October 2022, HMRC had closed 34,860 of the 49,908 cases opened, with compliance work on-going.

**In-year to end October**

| <b>Year</b>      | <b>Cases opened</b> | <b>Closed cases</b> |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 20/21            | 12,864              | 2,040               |
| 21/22            | 27,883              | 24,814              |
| 22/23 to end Oct | 9,161               | 8,006               |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>49,908</b>       | <b>34,860</b>       |

Yours sincerely

**JANET ALEXANDER**  
**DIRECTOR COMPLIANCE OPERATIONS DIRECTORATE**