



Public Accounts Committee

Sir Philip Barton KCMG
Permanent Under-Secretary
The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office
King Charles Street
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By email: PUS.Action@fcdo.gov.uk

21 March 2023

FCDO Integration Portfolio

Dear Permanent Under-Secretary,

I am writing to you following your letter of 7 February 2023 containing your [summary Accounting Officer assessment of the FCDO Integration Portfolio](#).

I would be grateful if you would confirm whether this is the first AO assessment which has been made of the programme, or whether there was a previous assessment which was undertaken on its predecessor Transformation Portfolio. Please could you also explain why there was a six-month delay between the Portfolio being accepted on to the GMPP and the publication of your AOA summary and provide further detail regarding the difference in scope between the two Portfolios.

In addition, the summary AO assessment itself covers the four Accounting Officer standards, but it is limited in detail. As well as the information requested above, please could you also provide further information about the projects and programmes in the Portfolio, anticipated costs and benefits of the Portfolio, and planned delivery dates. It would also be helpful to know the relationship between the Integration Portfolio and FCDO's Hera Programme to create a single integrated finance and HR system.

I would be grateful if you could respond to these points before the House returns from the Easter recess.

Yours sincerely

Dame Meg Hillier MP
Chair of the Committee of Public Accounts