



Public Accounts Committee

Susan Acland-Hood
Permanent Secretary
Department for Education
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20 Great Smith Street
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By email: permanent.secretary@education.gov.uk

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DfE Accounting Officer assessments

Dear Permanent Secretary,

I am writing to you following your Department's publication of two Accounting Officer assessment summaries in respect of [Teacher development reform](#) and the [Initial teacher training market review](#). The National Audit Office's report, [Accounting Officer assessments: improving decision-making and transparency over government's major programmes](#), published in July, stated that your Department had not published a summary Accounting Officer assessment for any of the its 10 programmes within the Government's Major Projects Portfolio as at 31 December 2021.

I am aware that HM Treasury's DAO letter of 15 July set an expectation for any outstanding Accounting Officer assessment summaries to be published by the beginning of September. I would be grateful if you could write to me after the Conference Recess confirming whether all remaining assessments have been published. If any assessments remain outstanding, please explain the reason for the delay in their publication, and advise whether the delay indicates any underlying concerns about the projects concerned.

For wider interest, I will share a copy of this letter with the Chair of the Education Select Committee, the Comptroller and Auditor General and the Treasury Officer of Accounts.

Yours sincerely

Dame Meg Hillier MP
Chair of the Committee of Public Accounts