

From the Permanent Secretary
Sir Chris Wormald



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Dame Meg Hillier MP
Chair, Public Accounts Committee
House of Commons
London
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Sent via email: pubaccomm@parliament.gov.uk

21 December 2022

Dear Chair,

12 report of session 2022-23 management of PPE contracts

I wrote to you on the 25 November 2022 regarding recommendation 5 of the above report and notifying you of our expectation that we would be able to provide a definitive response to this recommendation during December.

5: PAC recommendation: the department should release its PPE strategy in full as soon as possible setting out how it will work with SCCL and what the respective roles and responsibilities of each organisation will be in the ongoing management of contracts and future procurement activities. If the strategy is not available by the end of September the department should write to the committee to explain the reason for delay.

The department has briefed new ministers on the supply chain disruption that occurred at the beginning of the pandemic and options to ensure supply chain resilience in the future. We are now seeking ministerial steers on a range of proposals for the future of PPE and anticipate that we will be able to update the committee in the new year.

Yours sincerely,

SIR CHRIS WORMALD
PERMANENT SECRETARY