



PACAC (Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee)

House of Commons · London SW1A 0AA

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Alex Chisholm
Permanent Secretary, Cabinet Office
By email only

26th April 2022

Dear Alex,

Cabinet Office Supplementary Estimate and future spending

On 22 February, the Cabinet Office provided the Committee with a copy of the Cabinet Office Supplementary Estimate Memorandum 2021-22. The Committee has now had a chance to review the Memorandum and would be grateful if you could clarify the following points for us:

- Due to rising inflation, the Cabinet Office is now facing an average annual real terms decrease in its Spending Review settlement. Based on data released at the Spring Statement, the Department would need additional funding of between £4 – 7 million per year to maintain the real terms increase announced in the Spending Review. How will the Department cope with the reduction in real terms budget due to rising inflation?
- The Cabinet Office returned £23.7 million of Government Property Agency Capital DEL budget due to underspends. Which projects did this budget relate to and why have there been underspends? Is the Government Hubs Programme progressing as planned?
- The 2021-22 Supplementary Estimate did not include detail of the budget for One Login. In his letter to the Committee on 7 March 2022, the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster said that One Login was 'on track to deliver a minimum viable product by 31 March 2022.' How much was spent on the programme in 2021-22? Was a 'minimum viable product' delivered by the end of the financial year and if so, what did this look like?

I would be grateful if you could provide a response to the above questions by Friday 6th May 2022. A copy of this letter and your response will be placed in the public domain.

Yours sincerely,

William Wragg MP

Chair, Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee