

Rt Hon Greg Clark MP
Chair of Commons Science and Technology Committee

By email only

03 May 2022

Dear Mr Clark,

Response to letter on follow up from 30 March evidence session

Thank you for your letter dated 21 April 2022.

Regarding your letter to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, my advice to government since the easing of all restrictions is that it needs to maintain a competent surveillance system, including genomic surveillance. It also needs capacity to ramp up testing quickly and at scale, to deliver vaccines and treatments, and to protect the vulnerable.

I have further advised that government should run exercises, with ministerial involvement, to assess the operational readiness of our systems to deliver these essential functions.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Patrick Vallance
UK Government Chief Scientific Adviser