



Chloe Smith MP
Minister of State
Cabinet Office 70 Whitehall London SW1A 2AS

Catherine McKinnell MP
Chair
Petitions Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Our reference: MC2020/11186

7 September 2020

Dear Chair,

E-petition 300059 - Intelligence and Security Committee Report on Russia

Thank you for your letter of 3 July concerning E-petition 300059, which relates to the publication of the Intelligence and Security Committee (ISC) report following their inquiry into Russian interference in the UK. I am responding as Minister of State at the Cabinet Office. I apologise for the delay in responding to your letter.

The ISC was formed in the normal way and as quickly as circumstances allow. Members are appointed by the Houses of Parliament (having been nominated by the Prime Minister in consultation with the Leader of the Opposition). The Chair of the Committee is elected by its Members. Nominations require careful consideration and consultation.

As ISC reports are the property of the independent Committee, they are not for the Government to publish. It is for the ISC to lay their reports before Parliament. The Government welcomed the ISC's report on Russia which was published on the 21 July 2020. The Government published its response to the Committee's report on the same day. The response is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-response-to-intelligence-and-security-committee-russia-report>.

Yours ever,

Chloe Smith MP