



Foreign, Commonwealth  
& Development Office

**Rt Hon Vicky Ford MP**  
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(*attending Cabinet*)

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The Rt Hon Sarah Champion, MP  
Chair, International Development Committee  
House of Commons  
London  
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17 October 2022

Dear Sarah,

**Extension of pause on non-essential Official Development Assistance (ODA) spending**

I am writing to inform you that unfortunately the FCDO has had to extend the temporary pause on non-essential ODA spending until 31 October 2022.

The decision to extend the pause has not been taken lightly. However, extending the pause provides us with the space to make decisions about spending priorities as we work through how best to manage ODA budget pressures with HMT. We are working to resolve this as quickly as possible.

Exemptions will remain in place for spending that is vital to protect against immediate threat to life and wellbeing, will prevent people falling into humanitarian need, or will prevent delays to accessing healthcare, primary education, sanitation and clean water, in addition to considering the value for money of any decisions. Impact analyses on this pause will continue.

We will continue to keep you updated.

Yours sincerely,

**Rt Hon Vicky Ford MP**  
**Minister for Development**

**CC:**

Alicia Kearns MP, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee

The Rt Hon. the Baroness Anelay of St Johns DBE, Chair of the International Relations and Defence Committee