



Liaison Committee

Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
By email

09 January 2023

Dear Prime Minister,

Thank you for appearing before the Liaison Committee just before Christmas, at the end of what has been an exceptionally challenging time for you.

During the session, you said you would write to the Committee to follow up on a number of points. It is usual for me as Chair to write after a session and I hope it is helpful if I set out on what matters the Committee would expect you to follow up:

- What is the timeline for the review of UK support to Ukraine? (Q1 of [the transcript](#))
- We were grateful for your assurance that the UK armed forces are being funded to replenish our munitions stocks.
 - What extra money has been allocated to the MoD for this purpose, and when will UK stocks will be restored to appropriate levels? How has the Government reassessed what are the appropriate levels, in the light of recent months?
 - You also addressed the question of the resilience of UK munitions supply chains. How is this challenge being addressed?
 - What munitions manufacturing will now be kept on standby, what munitions manufacturing will now be brought on-shore (to reduce reliance of foreign supplies), and what additional money is being provided to MoD for these purposes?
 - Can you confirm that the Government has conducted a lessons-learned exercise about the Ukraine conflict? How are these lessons are being implemented, and against what time frame? (Q9)
- What is the Government's estimate of the number of small boats which will be arriving in the UK in 2023? (Q18)
- Despite our world-leading approach to designating marine and land areas for the protection of biodiversity, there are significant concerns about whether enforcement of these protected areas is effective. What additional resources do relevant enforcement agencies require to ensure the protections have teeth? (Q34)



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- Government figures show that 23% of London families claiming childcare support in Universal Credit are caught by the £760 per month cap. How much do you accept that leaving the cap at the level set in 2005 is a serious problem in areas where childcare costs are higher, presenting - as Citizens Advice Sutton told the Work and Pensions Committee inquiry - a significant work disincentive for parents? (Q47 & Q48; Work and Pensions Committee, [Universal Credit and childcare costs](#), HC 127)
- Please indicate the level of take-up of the Healthy Start Vouchers scheme following its digitisation in April 2022? (Q53)
- What figures can you provide for the number of people (and the number of children) in absolute poverty, relative to 2010? (Q55)
- During the session it was suggested that Departments are being constrained from starting work on the drafting of regulations to replace existing provisions inherited from the EU engaged by the Retained EU Law Bill, pending the passage of the legislation. Can you confirm that you will authorise Departments, and particularly DEFRA, to start drafting and consulting on replacement regulations immediately, to ensure proper time for the Parliamentary process of scrutinising changes? (Q90 & Q91)
- How is the Government ensuring that adequate focus is given to the Balkans, given concerning reports of increased fragility, particularly in Kosovo (Q101).

I look forward to receiving your response, which the Committee will of course publish in due course.

Yours ever


Sir Bernard Jenkin MP

Chair of the Committee