

**Dame Meg Hillier MP**  
**Chair, Public Accounts Committee**  
**House of Commons**

21 November 2023

Dear Dame Meg,

### **R&R Strategic Case - update**

We are writing to update you on recent developments with the Strategic Case for the R&R Programme, following the evidence given to the Committee on 19 October.

The R&R Client Board (the Commissions of both Houses) met on 14 November to discuss the R&R Strategic Case which is due to be presented to both Houses. A number of updates have been requested to the Strategic Case, which means it is now expected to be published in the New Year after consideration by the Client Board and ahead of the debates that would follow.

The Client Board remains satisfied with the two proposed shortlisted options (a “continued presence” scenario and a full decant scenario) alongside an enhanced maintenance and improvement option in line with good business case practice. Further detailed work on these three options will be presented ahead of a decision by the Houses on costed proposals in 2025.

However, the Client Board also asked officials to include in the Strategic Case:

- a more comprehensive description of work to be undertaken on the ‘enhanced maintenance and improvement’ option so that when Members consider the costed proposals in due course they have more information about this option, which would be the fallback, including the limitations around the outcomes and improvements this scenario would deliver; and
- more information on how temporary accommodation would be delivered, including the location of temporary Chamber(s) during R&R work, so that when Members consider the proposals they have more detail about where they would move in both options.

The Client Board also wanted further consideration given to the presentation of costs, to ensure any put into the public domain are sufficiently robust.

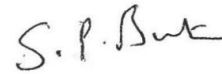
The Strategic Case will be updated with this information before it is published. The R&R Programme continues to have clear direction on developing the two options as well as work to understand the enhanced maintenance and improvement option and temporary accommodation options for the costed proposals due in 2025.

Finally, thank you for your letter dated 17 November. We will respond to the questions by the requested deadline.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Goldsmith, Clerk of the House



Simon Burton, Clerk of the  
Parliaments