



Department for Levelling Up,  
Housing & Communities

By email

**Sarah Healey CB CVO**  
Permanent Secretary

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07 December 2023

Dear Dame Meg,

### **PAC: HOMES FOR UKRAINE ORAL EVIDENCE SESSION: 23 November 2023**

Thank you for the opportunity to set out our evidence on the Homes for Ukraine Scheme at the session on 23<sup>rd</sup> November. We welcomed the constructive scrutiny by the Committee and I know this was also appreciated by my Home Office colleagues.

#### **Palantir Contract**

You asked us about the Palantir contract which, as you know, is in place to manage the digital and data requirements for the Homes for Ukraine Scheme. Your question related to how we planned to take decisions on whether to maintain this service beyond the current contract we have in place with Palantir, which ends in September 2024 although can be extended to September 2025.

We are currently reviewing carefully the ongoing requirements to enable data flows between the Home Office, local authorities and DLUHC. This work includes considering alternative data platforms so that we would be able to run a procurement exercise if we were to decide that the best option for the government would be to procure a new service ahead of September 2024. This work includes understanding the technical and cyber security requirements, the underpinning policy and operational process changes, as well as the relative economic merits of different approaches. Whilst procurement timelines are clear, we cannot provide a specific date by which the decision on whether to launch a procurement needs to have been made in order to not put ourselves at a commercial disadvantage.

The timeline for delivery of the future data needs will depend on the option chosen by Ministers.

#### **Recognised Providers**

In response to Ben Lake MP's question (number 62 in the transcript) on the success of the recruitment drives in getting new sponsors to sign up to the scheme, Ms Payne's answer referred to us working with the Voluntary Community Sector and a number of **registered providers** who are listed on the gov.uk website, when she had meant to

say "recognised providers". I would be grateful if the transcript could be updated to reflect this.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Healey". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

**SARAH HEALEY CB CVO**