



National Audit Office

Comptroller and Auditor General
Gareth Davies

Rt Hon Baroness Morris of Yardley
Chair, House of Lords Public Services Committee
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

**The UK's independent public spending
watchdog**

Telephone +44 (0)20 7798 7777
Email gareth.davies@nao.org.uk

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Dear Baroness Morris,

REQUEST TO EXAMINE HOMECARE MEDICINES SERVICES

Further to my letter of 29 February, I am writing to provide you with an update on the progress my team has made in looking into the important issues you have raised about the apparent difficulties that the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and NHS England (NHSE) have had in providing you with consistent and clear information on the costs of homecare medicines services.

My team has now met with officials at DHSC and NHSE to have an initial discussion about the NAO's role in improving understanding about the cost of homecare medicines services. We consider that we can build on the information that DHSC committed to providing to you in its response to you of 17 January 2024. The Committee did pose further questions in its letter of 15 February and while we are not sighted on any response from the Department we would take any further correspondence into account. Specifically we will carry out work that will allow us to write back to your Committee with factual information on;

- what is known about the cost of the services,
- the limitations in determining the costs, including any restrictions about commercial confidentiality, and
- details of how the Government gets assurance that funding is spent appropriately.

I will write to you again in due course with the outcome of this work.

Yours sincerely,

GARETH DAVIES