



Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall London SW1A 2AS

William Wragg MP
Chair, Public Administration and
Constitutional Affairs Committee
House of Commons
SW1A 0AA

28 January 2021

Dear Mr Wragg,

Thank you for your letter of 21 January.

My role is the Permanent Secretary in the Cabinet Office responsible for leading the COVID-19 Task Force. I took up this position, moving to the Cabinet Office, in October 2020. It was a role previously filled by Simon Case, to whom as Cabinet Secretary I now report.

The COVID-19 Task Force is responsible for coordinating the Government's response to the pandemic. It provides support and advice to the Prime Minister including data and analysis, and co-ordinates the Government's collective response.

We work with departments across Government to perform this role including: supporting decision-making through Cabinet committees; developing overarching strategy; and providing data and analysis. Accountability for individual COVID-19 related programmes rests with Senior Responsible Owners of those programmes within Government departments.

I am supported in this by three Directors General, for strategy, delivery, and analysis respectively and form part of the wider Cabinet Office secretariat.

James Bowler

PACAC (Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee)

House of Commons · London SW1A 0AA

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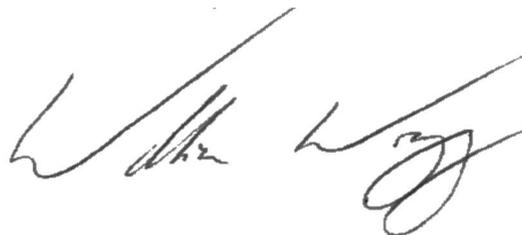
21st January 2021

Dear James,

Cabinet Office Covid Taskforce

Belated congratulations on your new role in Cabinet Office. As you will be aware, my Committee is undertaking an inquiry on Data Accountability and Transparency: Covid 19 and with that in mind, I would be grateful if you could send some detail about your role, including the job description for which you applied and accountabilities, so that the Committee has a proper understanding of where responsibilities lie. If your job is expressed in terms of objectives, these would be equally useful to see.

I would be grateful if you could respond to this request by 28th January. I will be placing this letter, and your response, into the public domain.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William Wragg', written in a cursive style.

William Wragg MP
Chair, Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee