



**Health and Social Care
Committee**

**Wes Streeting MP
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
Department of Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU**

Thursday, 16 January 2025

Subject: Response to the IEP evaluation on Patient Safety

Dear Wes

Thank you for your response to the evaluation of Patient Safety commitments that the Independent Expert Panel conducted in the last Parliament. The Panel and the Committee are grateful for the detailed information that you provided in response to the Panel's work.

The Committee would like to follow up on one issue raised in the Government response:

- In response to the **Maternity safety recommendation**, you said that "The DHSC and the Ministry of Justice jointly consulted on proposals to provide coroners with new powers to investigate term stillbirths in 2019. In 2023, a factual summary of responses to the consultation was published. The Government will provide an update on next steps in due course." **Given the time that has passed since the initial consultation, could you please set out a date by when a further update will be provided? Could you please also provide an update on the Government's policy position on giving coroners new powers in this area?**

We look forward to continuing to work with you on the important issue of patient safety.

Layla Moran
Chair, Health and Social Care Committee