

4 December 2025

Dear Steve,

Thank you for inviting me and other colleagues from the House Administration to give evidence to the Finance Committee at your session on 25 November. My colleagues and I welcomed the opportunity to discuss the savings and improvement work we are delivering with you and the other Members of the Committee.

We committed to write to the Committee on two points arising from the discussion, those issues are dealt with in this letter.

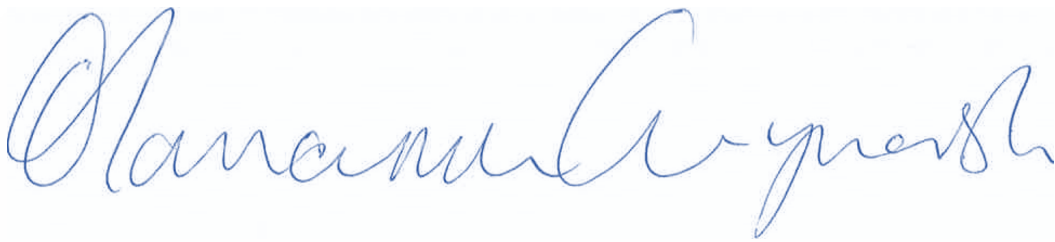
The Committee asked for information which can be disclosed on the Victoria Tower procurement, specifically the costs of the second tender exercise and plans for making these costs public. I can confirm that the total direct cost of the second tender exercise for the Victoria Tower fabric safety was £600,000; £360,000 of which was funded by the House of Commons Administration. I can further confirm that this information is already in the public domain following Freedom of Information requests made throughout 2025. As such there are no further plans for publishing these costs, beyond this letter which I understand the Committee will publish.

The Committee also asked for information on the overall cost of two projects undertaken as part of the Security Programme - New Palace Yard and Derby Gate. I expressed in the session that my commitment to transparency needs to be balanced with the need to keep everyone who works at and visits Parliament safe. In the case of some security costs, it would be possible for a hostile actor with specialist knowledge to work out the level of security provided by the measures in place, if they knew how much they cost. They could then use that to plan an attack. I have consulted with the Director of Security and others, and I can disclose the costs of the security projects in question. The outline business case for the Adaptions to Derby Gate project has been approved at £23,996,000. The forecasted costs for New Palace Yard are £62,000,000. Other projects in the

Security Portfolio Programme are either currently at a commercially sensitive stage or their costs are almost entirely related to security measures.

I'd like to reiterate my commitment to working with you over the coming months and years to deliver the Savings and Improvement Programme and I look forward to further discussion when we next have the chance to meet.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Marianne Cwynarski". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Marianne" written in a larger, more prominent script than the surname "Cwynarski".

Marianne Cwynarski

Director General, House of Commons