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Sir Geoffrey

Public Accounts Committee Oral Evidence Session 'Tackling fraud and error in benefit expenditure 2024-25' - 4th December 2025 - Correction

We have reviewed the transcript of the above oral evidence session and have identified some minor inaccuracies. We would be grateful if they could be corrected, as set out below.

(Q8) - Sarah Olney MP asked about the funding to tackle fraud and error.

As part of my response, I mistakenly said the department is "extending the targeted case review to other areas, particularly pension credit, where we are looking to spend between £60 million and £70 million a year, bringing out between £330 million and £190 million of annual savings from there."

Correction

"extending the targeted case review to other areas, particularly pension credit, where we are looking to spend between £60 million and £70 million a year, bringing out between £30 million and £190 million of annual savings from there."

As part of the response to the same question, I stated that *"The targeted case review in the past delivered, I think, a 1:7 return initially."*

Correction

"The targeted case review was initially expected to deliver a 1:7 return."

(Q3) - In addition, in your comments about the recent Universal Credit fraud and error forecast, published by the Office for Budgetary Responsibility on 26 November, you stated that *In the Report, the percentage was 8.1%. This presages 7.5%?*

The [NAO Value for Money Report \(Tackling benefit overpayments due to fraud and error\)](#) and the DWP [Annual Report and Accounts 2024/25](#) state the that Universal Credit fraud and error rate is 9.7%. If this is the figure you intended to quote, I'd be most grateful if this could be noted and amended.

Yours sincerely
Peter Schofield

Sir Peter Schofield KCB
Permanent Secretary