



Public Accounts Committee

Sharon Hodgson MP
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
for Public Health and Prevention
39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU
By email

14 July 2026

Favipiravir Liability: June 2026

Dear Minister,

Thank you for your letter dated 25 June 2026 notifying me of the contingent liabilities relating to the Favipiravir vaccine in response to the Hantavirus outbreak. Your letter sets out your assessment that there is a very low likelihood of the liability crystallising and that the value is unquantifiable.

I note that the Department of Health and Social Care has failed to follow parliamentary procedures to provide us with the required 14-day notification before entering into a contingent liability, which you acknowledge in your letter. I also note that a [Written Ministerial Statement](#) was published on 18 May 2026 confirming the indemnity entered into. It is not clear why it then took a further 6 weeks for you to provide this notification, or why the letter suggests issuing the Written Ministerial Statement remains in progress. I would welcome further explanation from you on these points by **28 July 2026**.

I have no other objections to this liability.

Yours sincerely

Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown MP
Chair of the Committee of Public Accounts