



Science and Technology Committee

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From Rt Hon Greg Clark MP

Professor Stephen Powis
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22 London Rd,
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Dear Professor Powis,

On behalf of the House of Commons Science and Technology Committee, I would like to pass on its sincere gratitude to you for giving evidence on Wednesday 8 April. The NHS is putting in a heroic effort to address the COVID-19 pandemic and we would like to thank all of your colleagues for their work. We know you are very busy, so your participation in the Committee's evidence session is highly appreciated.

During the session, the issue of 'stress-testing' of the NHS for pandemic preparedness was raised. I would be very grateful if you could provide the Committee with the following information:

- what stress testing is conducted to evaluate the NHS's preparedness for infectious diseases epidemics, and when this was last conducted; and
- when the results of the 2016 'Exercise Cygnus' work will be published.

I would be grateful if you could provide us with information on this by 23 April 2020. I am also copying this request to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP. I will be publishing this letter on the Committee's website in due course.

With best wishes,

Rt Hon Greg Clark MP
Chair