



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

30 March 2020

Mel Stride
Chair, Treasury Select Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear Mel,

COMPREHENSIVE SPENDING REVIEW 2020

I am writing in response to your letter to the Chief Secretary of 3 March, which asked HM Treasury to set out plans for the 2020 Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR).

The budget announced that the CSR would conclude in July, but that this timing would be kept under review in light of the continued spread of COVID-19 in the UK and its operational impact.

Since then, the situation has clearly evolved rapidly. As such, I have decided to delay the CSR to later this year to ensure that HM Treasury and departments can remain focused on responding to the immediate public health and economic emergency we face.

I will be monitoring the situation over the coming weeks and months and HM Treasury Ministers will write to you again in due course to set out our plans for the Spending Review.

I have shared this letter with departments, and request that you distribute it to departmental select committee chairs. My reply provides a response on behalf of the whole of government.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rishi Sunak'.

RISHI SUNAK