



# Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

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Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP  
Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy  
1 Victoria Street  
London SW1H 0ET

22 September 2021

Dear Kwasi,

## **RE: Spending Review 2021**

The Government has announced that the 2021 Spending Review will be published on 27 October, alongside the Autumn Budget. The outcome of this review will have a significant impact on what departments can deliver over the next few years.

This Committee is appointed under House of Commons' standing orders to examine the expenditure, administration and policy of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. To do this effectively, the committee needs to scrutinise funding decisions which affect your department - whether taken as part of, or following, the Spending Review - and the impact which those decisions are likely to have on delivery of future outcomes.

The relatively short timeframe provided between the announcement and publication limits the Committee's ability to understand, scrutinise and influence those spending decisions and their consequences. To maximise the possibility of effective scrutiny, we need good information to understand the issues facing your department and the plans you have for spending public money in the future ahead of the 27 October announcement of the Spending Review settlement

To begin this process, collaborating with the House of Commons Scrutiny Unit, we are seeking the following information from you, in relation to your department and associated arm's length bodies:

- What your policy priorities are for the Spending Review period, including how these differ from those published in the Outcome Delivery Plan in July 2021;
- Details of spending commitments already made for the period to 2024-25, by year, and by amount;
- How your department has analysed its priorities and work for this spending round, including how it identified areas of cost saving and the total resources dedicated to the Spending Round;

- How departmental submissions for the 2021 Spending Review have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, including longer term changes to spending responsibilities and policy priorities as identified in the planning for the intended 2020 Spending Review;
- What impact leaving the EU has had on the department's spending and policy commitments during the forthcoming spending review period;
- Policy commitments (including those in legislation) made which may have a significant spending impact, such as reducing carbon emissions to net zero by 2050, over the Spending Review period, with likely costs; and
- How you intend to measure your performance given any funding settlement

Please supply this information by Friday 22 October.

Your response will be published and shared with the House of Commons Scrutiny Unit and Treasury Committee to enable Committees to work together to scrutinise overall spending plans.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Darren Jones'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'D' and 'J'.

**DARREN JONES MP**  
**CHAIR, BUSINESS, ENERGY AND INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY COMMITTEE**