



Work and Pensions Committee

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From the Chair

Rt Hon Dr Thérèse Coffey
Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

23 August 2021

Dear Thérèse,

I have been made aware of a research project led by the National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) called The Uses of Health and Disability Benefits, which interviewed benefit recipients about their experiences of receiving PIP, ESA and Universal Credit.

As I understand it, the Department received the final report of this research last year, but it has not been published and there appear to be no plans to do so. There is no reference to the research findings in the Green Paper entitled *Shaping future support*, which was published on 20 July.

Please could you explain:

- a) why this report has not been published and whether you plan to publish it at any point; and
- b) what use the Department made of the research findings in preparing the Green Paper and the National Disability Strategy.

Please could you also send us a copy of the report?

I would be grateful for a response by **Friday 3 September**.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Stephen Timms MP
Chair, Work and Pensions Committee