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William Wragg MP
Chair
Public Administration and Constitutional
Affairs Committee
House of Commons
London, SW1A 0AA

Our reference: MC2020/02625

30 March 2020

Dear William,

Thank you for inviting the Government to give written evidence to the Committee as part of its inquiry into the Fixed-term Parliaments Act 2011. I am responding as Minister of State at the Cabinet Office.

As the Committee has noted in launching this inquiry, the Government made a commitment in its manifesto to repeal the Fixed-term Parliaments Act. This is a commitment which was reiterated in the Queen's Speech and work will be taken forward to repeal the Fixed-term Parliaments Act. Further announcements will be made in due course.

The Government is also giving careful consideration to the statutory requirement for the Prime Minister to make arrangements between June and November for a Committee to undertake a review of the operation of the Fixed-term Parliaments Act. We will ensure the Committee is made aware of our intentions as soon as that decision has been taken.

We do note that you will also be taking oral evidence and I hope that the Government will be able to contribute.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Chloe', with a horizontal line underneath.

Chloe Smith MP