

4/8/1/2/ap

17 November 2021

Dear Tobias and Sarah,

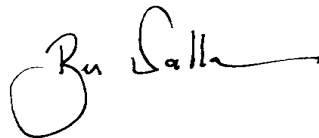
Thank you for your follow-up letter of 16 November in which you ask for a date for the publication of the Government Response to your report on "Women in the Armed Forces from Recruitment to Civilian Life".

As I have previously set out, the delay in response has been due to my driving the Department to go further in delivering against the findings of the Report.

I have been engaging with members of Defence's Servicewomen's Networks to ensure that they feel the Department's response goes far enough in addressing the findings of your report. This has proved an incredibly valuable exercise as after our last meeting it was agreed that additional policy changes should be made.

I am due to receive the Department's improved response by the end of this week and will discuss it with the Defence Service Women's networks again on Monday 22 November. To ensure that there is time to incorporate any final improvements suggested at that meeting, it is my intent to send you the final draft of the report on Monday 29 November. I will of course be delighted to send it to you sooner, should that prove possible.

Yours sincerely,



THE RT HON BEN WALLACE MP

**The Rt Hon Tobias Ellwood MP
Chair, Defence Select Committee**

**House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA**

**Sarah Atherton MP
Chair, Defence Sub-Committee on
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