



Equality Hub

Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP
Foreign Secretary and Minister for Women and Equalities
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The Rt Hon. Caroline Nokes MP
Chair, Women and Equalities Committee
By email at: womeqcom@parliament.uk

3 December 2021

Dear Caroline,

I have read your Committee's report on Katharine Birbalsingh's pre-appointment hearing for Chair of the Social Mobility Commission.

I welcome your Committee's endorsement of Katharine's suitability as preferred candidate for SMC Chair, and note your Committee's concern to ensure a good balance of skills and experience on the new SMC Board, with further Commissioner appointments following as soon as possible.

In order to provide stability and leadership for the SMC, I have decided to appoint Katharine Birbalsingh for a term of four years from Monday 1 November 2021. I also intend to launch a recruitment campaign for additional Commissioners shortly.

I am confident that Katharine will make an excellent Chair, and that both she and Alun Francis as Deputy will champion and improve social mobility across the UK.

Best wishes

Rt Hon Elizabeth Truss MP
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs &
Minister for Women and Equalities