



Lord Agnew Kt
Minister of State
HM Treasury and Cabinet Office
1 Horse Guards Road London SW1A 2HQ

Dame Meg Hillier MP
Chair, Public Accounts Committee
House of Commons
SW1A 0AA

16 December 2021

Dear Dame Meg,

Report on the Independent Review of Construction Frameworks

I am pleased to advise you that the Report on the Independent Review of Construction Frameworks, announced in February 2021 will shortly be issued with recommendations setting out a Gold Standard to improve the way in which the Government uses construction frameworks to deliver better, faster and greener public works.

The Independent Review of Construction Frameworks was undertaken by Professor David Mosey of King's College London with extensive input from industry and the public sector. It sets out the key components of a Gold-Standard framework, framework contract and action plan. This is consistent with the Construction Playbook, which was launched in December 2020 to improve how we assess, procure and deliver public works, with a focus on getting projects right from the start.

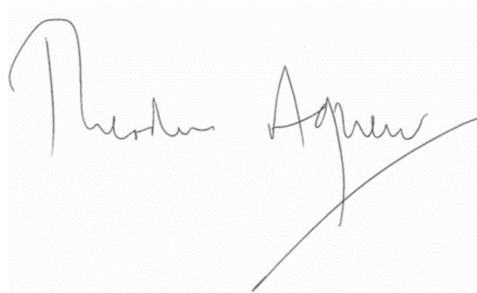
The Gold Standard will enable us to easily identify those frameworks which embody the policies and principles of best practice set out in the Construction Playbook whilst providing a number of framework options to ensure competition and flexibility across government. This will enable us to reduce waste and improve investment and innovation to achieve our infrastructure ambitions through:

- **An outcome-based strategic approach** that drives economic, social and environmental value with strategic supplier proposals for delivering that brief;
- **Collaborative, multi-party relationships** that align objectives, success measures, targets and incentives with commitments to joint work on improving value and reducing risk;

- **Improved framework call-off systems, cost models and incentives** that provide a fair return for suppliers and that drive value rather than a race to the bottom.

By guiding the government's approach to construction frameworks, application of the Gold Standard will enable a greater proportion of public works projects and programmes conducted under frameworks to achieve the PM's ambition of 'better, faster, greener' outcomes over time.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Agnew', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Lord Agnew Kt