

MC2020/42865

1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ



HM Treasury

Rt Hon Sir George Howarth MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

25 November 2020

Dear Sir George Howarth,

Thank you for your correspondence dated 19 November ahead of the Spending Review. The Treasury has received unprecedented amounts of correspondence since the start of the coronavirus outbreak in the UK so the Chancellor of the Exchequer has asked me to write to you directly.

As you may have seen, the Chancellor and the Prime Minister have decided to conduct a one-year Spending Review in order to prioritise the response to Covid-19 and our focus on supporting jobs.

While the Government would have liked to outline plans for the rest of this Parliament, the right thing is to focus entirely on the response to Covid-19 and supporting jobs - that's what the public would expect.

The Government has put in place considerable support for businesses, families and the economy throughout the current crisis and will continue to show flexibility and creativity in its response.

The Government is grateful to you for drawing their attention to the issues set out in your correspondence. While it would not be appropriate to respond in detail to the points you make at this stage, please be assured that the contents of your letter have been registered with HM Treasury.

Thank you again for taking the time to contribute your views.

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Skinner
Correspondence and Enquiry Unit

HM Treasury