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Ben Connah  
Secretary of the UK Covid-19 Inquiry  
Via email

20 October 2022

Dear Ben,

### **UK INQUIRY INTO COVID-19 - RECORD RETENTION**

Thank you for your letter of 11 October, asking that I “*reiterate to government departments that they ensure the requirement to retain records is cascaded to all bodies within their ambit that exercise public functions, either directly by the department or via representative bodies where more appropriate... [including] local authorities in all four nations of the UK.*”

This is to confirm that I have written to all Permanent Secretaries, including in the devolved administrations, to ask them to take the steps you have requested.

Yours sincerely,

**Darren Tierney**

**Director General, Propriety & Ethics**