



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

The Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP  
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care  
Department of Health and Social Care  
39 Victoria Street  
London  
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16 July 2020

Dear Matt,

### **COVID 19 PPE SUPPLY AND FUNDING APPROACH**

1. As you are aware, as of 3 June, HM Treasury has provided £13.8bn in funding to procure PPE. All of this PPE funding was approved, with your agreement, to meet modelled demand in the NHS, adult social care and wider public service settings where there is a clinical need. £8.9bn of this funding was approved on the basis that procurement was to meet UK-wide demand.

2. It is therefore disappointing to hear that the police, LAs, some parts of the NHS and prisons have all incurred costs buying their own PPE, and that the Devolved Administrations are now seeking additional funding for existing purchases via the Barnett formula. Furthermore, these organisations have been buying from the wholesale market, at inflated prices which DHSC has been supplying at cost price. I have received forceful requests from Local Government, other government departments, GPs and pharmacies to reimburse PPE costs they have legitimately incurred because supply from DHSC was not available, despite HMT having funded DHSC to provide PPE across all public services with a clinical need.

### **Resolving PPE supply and funding issues to date**

3. I am sure we both agree that the current situation is not acceptable and requires swift resolution by the department. I expect DHSC to rectify these issues by providing retrospective funding to non-hospital NHS services and other public services that have