



Department  
of Health &  
Social Care

*From the Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP  
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care*

39 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0EU

I&S

Sir Chris Wormald  
Permanent Secretary  
DHSC  
39 Victoria Street  
London SW1H 0EU

Sir Simon Stevens  
Chief Executive  
NHS England Skipton House  
80 London Road  
London SE1 6LH

Sent via email.

29<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Chris and Simon,

**Re: COVID-19 – MINISTERIAL DIRECTOIN**

Thank you for your letter of 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

I want to put on record my gratitude for the immense efforts of staff across the NHS, the care system and in the Department in tackling the spread and impact of coronavirus.

I recognise, as part of this, the work you and your teams have been doing with colleagues in the Treasury to ensure that availability of funding is not a barrier or delay to the actions we need to take. On that basis, and recognising the extraordinary circumstances this country is facing, I am content to direct you to continue in this way, even where this means spending in excess of formal Departmental Expenditure Limits.

I am copying this letter to recipients of yours.

Yours ever,

Personal Data

**MATT HANCOCK**