

Message

From: Permanent Secretary DWP [I&S]@dwp.gov.uk
Sent: 09/08/2021 13:31:29
To: Secretary of State [I&S]@DWP.GOV.UK; [Name Redacted]
[Name Redacted]
[Name Redacted]@dwp.gov.uk; Davies Kate DWP STRATEGY AND GOVERNANCE DIRECTORATE [KATE.DAVIES1@DWP.GOV.UK]; [Name Redacted]
[Name Redacted]@Dwp.gov.uk; DWP Executive Team [I&S]01@dwp.gov.uk; DWP Strategy Submissions [STRATEGY.SUBMISSIONS@DWP.GOV.UK]; [Name Redacted] DWP PRIVATE OFFICE POLICY ADVISER [I&S]@dwp.gov.uk; [Name Redacted]
[NR]@dwp.gov.uk; Farrington Katie Policy Group Disability, Health and Pensions Director General [KATIE.FARRINGTON@DWP.GOV.UK]; [Name Redacted] DWP IMPLEMENTATION AND DELIVERY OFFICE [Name Redacted]@dwp.gov.uk; PRESS OFFICE AND DIGITAL [I&S]1@dwp.gov.uk; Huddleston Trevor CENTRAL ANALYSIS AND SCIENCE DIRECTORATE [TREVOR.HUDDLESTON@DWP.GOV.UK]; [Name Redacted] DWP IMPLEMENTATION AND DELIVERY OFFICE [Name Redacted]
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Minister for Disabled People [I&S]@DWP.GOV.UK
CC: DWP Caxton House Spads [I&S]@dwp.gov.uk; [Name Redacted]
[Name Redacted]

Subject: RE: Submission: Future of the SSP Rebate Scheme

Attachments: Future of the SSPR (final).docx

Hi [Name Redacted]

Thanks [NR] for sharing SoS' steer to end the SSP Rebate Scheme. [NR] or colleagues- grateful for a quick chat on the below questions tomorrow if possible? [NR] happy to link up if helpful for you to join too. It may be helpful for a colleague from **Press Office** to join too.

Please could I check **what the process is to decide between options to stop all claims on 30th Sept, or allow a short transition period for retrospective claims-** does that decision rest with HMRC?

Also, **what is the process for making a public announcement of the closure?** The sub states this could be mid-August. The Perm Sec has a PAC hearing on 9 Sept so we will need to ensure he has robust lines to take if it's closure is announced.

Extract from sub:

Para 23. However, if your steer is to close the scheme in September, government may wish to announce the closure of the scheme beforehand, i.e. mid-late August, to mitigate the potential reputational risk of providing employers insufficient forewarning of the impending closure. Closing the scheme in September would likely to attract criticism from stakeholders and Parliament given that government advice to self-isolate will continue beyond this point and given that that employers are only now beginning to bounce back from the pandemic. Additionally, the waiting period for absences related to COVID remains lifted and so employers will be required to pay SSP from day one with no prospect of a rebate. This creates a situation where employers are less financially secure but asked to fund for absences attributable to public health guidance. We would work with Press Office and OGDs on a handling strategy which would likely focus on the temporary nature of the scheme and the need to move beyond emergency schemes.

Many thanks,

Name Redacted

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From: Secretary of State: **I&S** DWP.GOV.UK>

Sent: 09 August 2021 10:55

Name Redacted DWP POLICY GROUP EMPLOYERS, HEALTH AND INCLUSIVE EMPLOYMENT

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Cc: DWP Caxton House Spac

NR

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Name Redacted

Name Redacted

Subject: RE: Submission: Future of the SSP Rebate Scheme

Hi **Name Redacted**

SoS has reviewed this submission and is not content with the recommendation to extend the SSP rebate scheme. Instead, SoS would like to close the SSP rebate scheme. She commented that HMRC should action this but if necessary we can help to prepare the SI for them.

Happy to discuss.

Name Redacted

SSP Policy Advisor | DWP Policy Group | Employers, Health and Inclusive Employment

Irrelevant & Sensitive

Name Redacted [@faststream.civilservice.gov.uk](mailto:faststream.civilservice.gov.uk)