



Department
for Work &
Pensions

THE RT HON THERESE COFFEY MP
Secretary of State for Work & Pensions

Peter Schofield CB
Permanent Secretary
Caxton House
Tothill Street
London
SW1H 9DA

8 April 2020

Dear Peter,

Thank you for your letter dated 7 April 2020.

I want to put on record my gratitude to staff in the Department for their extraordinary efforts to support people across the country during this time of emergency.

I recognise, as part of this, the work you and your teams have been undertaking with colleagues at HM 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 authorise spend to ensure that the Department effectively responds to Covid-19, irrespective of the formalities of Departmental Expenditure Limits.

I am copying this letter to the Cabinet Secretary, the Comptroller and Auditor General and the Treasury Officer of Accounts.