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FROM THE VISCOUNT
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29th March 2018

Dear Polly,

I am writing to you to confirm my response in the House to your question of 22nd March and further clarify the Government's position on the sale of NHS data.

Patient data will only ever be used within the legal frameworks, the strict parameters of the Codes of Practice and the standards set out by the National Data Guardian and regulatory bodies. We are firm on this.

NHS England and the Department of Health and Social Care are committed to working with representatives of the public and industry to explore how to maximise the benefits of health and care data for patients and taxpayers. Any decision made about use of NHS data must be in the best interests of patients and the public and ensure that their data is kept safe and secure.

I am placing a copy of this letter in the Library

Yours sincerely,
James Younger

VISCOUNT YOUNGER OF LECKIE

Baroness Meacher
House of Lords