



GOVERNMENT WHIPS' OFFICE  
HOUSE OF LORDS  
LONDON SW1A 0PW

LORD YOUNG OF COOKHAM  
020 7219 3778

Telephone 020-7219 3131  
[www.lordswhips.org.uk](http://www.lordswhips.org.uk)  
[holgovernmentwhips@parliament.uk](mailto:holgovernmentwhips@parliament.uk)

22 July 2019

*Dear Gillian*

Thank you for your contribution to Baroness Massey's Topical Question on Tuesday 2 July. I am writing to you to provide further clarification in relation to the question you asked about the additional number of civil servants who have been recruited to handle preparations for the UK's departure from the EU and the extra numbers we will need when we leave.

The total number of people working in EU Exit roles across government is approximately 16,000. The Cabinet Office holds data up until the end of March 2019. This data will be updated at the end of July. Based on the end of March data, up to 6,000 of these roles were recruited externally.

The Civil Service has always moved its staff to where they are most needed, including temporary moves from wider policy work to EU Exit to deal with specific pressures. These are coordinated by a central strategic hub which sits within the Cabinet Office.

I trust that this letter has addressed and clarified your concerns.

I will also place a copy of this letter in the House library.

*Yours faithfully*  
*Richard*

**LORD YOUNG OF COOKHAM**