William Wragg MP
Chair, Public Administration
and Constitutional Affairs Committee
House of Commons
London, SW1A 0AA

15 July 2021

PACAC Recommendations for the IPA's Annual Report for Major Projects

Dear William,

I would like to thank you and the Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee (PACAC) for your engagement with the Infrastructure and Projects Authority (IPA) to date. The government welcomes constructive oversight and scrutiny and I would like to set out progress they have made in realising the recommendations of PACAC, which further our shared ambition of nothing less than world class delivery for major government projects.

We will only meet this ambition if the standards we set for project delivery reflect the best practices from across the world. That is why I am delighted to inform you that the IPA will be publishing their Annual Report for Major Projects and Government Major Project Portfolio (GMPP) data on 15th July. Please find the report and data enclosed. Copies of the report have also been placed in the libraries of both Houses.

As you are aware, the IPA's Annual Report provides an overview of the delivery of all major projects on the GMPP, with data presented and analysed from a snapshot in time. This year - in line with recommendations by PACAC in the report, Delivering the government's infrastructure commitments through major projects - the IPA has gone ahead with two important changes in order to publish more timely data and to ensure a greater level of transparency.

1. For the first time data will reflect the GMPP projects' position as of 2020 Q4 - 31 March 2021. This will reduce the lag between the data snapshot and publication from 9 to 3 months.
2. This year's report will also release benefit data aggregated by the annual report project category. This breakdown includes Infrastructure and Construction projects, Government Transformation and Service Delivery projects, Military Capability, and Information and Communications Technology projects.

I trust that these changes reaffirm the IPA's commitment to data transparency. Going forward, they remain committed to working with PACAC and others to further this aim, as part of it's ambitious agenda for the delivery of major government projects.

Yours sincerely,

Lord Agnew