



Department
for International
Development



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Baroness Sugg CBE
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
Special Envoy for Girls' Education

Baroness Jones
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

3 August 2020

Dear Baroness Jones,

I am writing to follow up on the question you raised on 22 July, following the Lord Collins question on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on global progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

You asked which Minister and which department are responsible, and ultimately accountable, for the UK's delivery of the SDGs. I would like to clarify my response.

As things stand, the Secretary of State for the Department for International Development is the Cabinet Minister with overall oversight for the SDGs, with the Cabinet Office supporting on domestic implementation. The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and Minister for the Cabinet Office is responsible for the supervision of the overall work of the Cabinet Office, across all policy areas. Details of areas of responsibility for junior ministers will be published in due course.

The UK remains committed to the SDGs and they will play an important role in approaches to post-COVID-19 recovery. Department for International Development and Cabinet Office officials recognise that responsibility for the oversight of the SDGs will need to be considered in the round, as part of the formation of the new Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. Notwithstanding this, all government departments have responsibility for the aspects of the SDGs that relate to their respective policy responsibilities.

Thank you for your interest in the SDGs and in the UK's role in collective efforts to achieve them. A copy of this letter will be placed in the libraries of both Houses.

Yours sincerely,

BARONESS SUGG