



Department
of Health &
Social Care

*From the Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care*

*39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU*

020 7210 4850

The Rt Hon Sir Lindsay Hoyle MP
Speaker's Office
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Email: speakersoffice@parliament.uk

31 January 2022

Dear Mr Speaker,

On 17 November 2021 a Humble Address motion was passed by the House of Commons directing the Government to lay before the House the minutes from or any notes of the meeting of 9 April 2020 between Lord Bethell, Owen Paterson and Randox representatives, and all correspondence, including submissions and electronic communications, addressed or copied to, or written by or on behalf of, any or all of the following:

- a. a Minister or former Minister of the Crown,
- b. a Special Adviser of such a Minister or former Minister, or
- c. a Member or former Member of this House

relating to two Government contracts for services provided by medical laboratories, awarded to Randox Laboratories Ltd. by the Department of Health and Social Care.

I am writing to update you on the progress of this work.

The Department of Health and Social Care has been following a rigorous process to identify all relevant documents, including using specialist document review software to identify references to 'Randox.' Initial searches identified 1.5 million pieces of information relating to Randox, with a more focussed search identifying approximately 11,000 documents which required individual review for relevancy against the terms of the Humble Address.

In my letter to Anneliese Dodds MP of 26 November I informed her that work was underway and that the Government would aim to respond to the House no later than the end of January.

This exercise has absorbed significant Departmental resources and has also been balanced against other Departmental priorities including Covid-19 related work - had it been a Freedom of Information request or a Parliamentary Question it is likely that it would have passed the disproportionate cost threshold. Given the scale of the task and the

importance of ensuring that the House receives a fully quality assured response to its motion, I am writing to inform you that the relevant materials will be laid before the House before the February recess. I apologise for this short delay in responding.

I have placed a copy of this letter in the library of the House.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Javid.', with a period at the end.

RT HON SAJID JAVID MP