

To: • Secretary of State for Health and  
Social Care

NHS England  
Wellington House  
133-155 Waterloo Road  
London  
SE1 8UG

4 March 2024

Dear Secretary of State,

### **Correction to written Parliamentary Questions**

I wish to draw the attention of the Department of Health and Social Care to an error that was included in responses to two identical Parliamentary Questions (numbers 332 and 12694). The questions were related to the amount of money spent on outsourced teleradiology over the last five years.

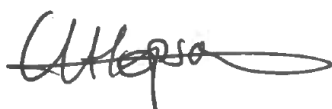
Subsequent investigations conducted by NHS England have confirmed that the data provided was incomplete and therefore created a misleading impression of the average cost of outsourcing teleradiology activity.

At your request, NHS England conducted a full audit of the quality of the data and the associated clearance processes to understand the source of the error and the steps that could be taken to strengthen internal processes.

Following this data quality review, the information has been corrected and is set out as an appendix in this letter so the House of Commons can be updated accordingly.

We apologise for the error and fully recognise the importance of equipping DHSC Officials with complete data to ensure Ministers provide accurate contributions to Parliament.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Hopson  
Chief Strategy Officer

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## **Appendix**

The revised and correct data below has been shared with DHSC.

NHSE advised DHSC that it is not possible to compare the cost of outsourcing, or the activity outsourced between financial years. This is because there is not uniformity of data coverage across those financial years. Earlier years include significant data gaps due to trusts not fully returning data. In response NHSE has worked hard to improve the quality of the data returns. 2022-23 therefore represents a much more complete picture than earlier years.

Financial year	<b>Total Cost</b> of outsourcing imaging acquisition and teleradiology reporting	Total imaging acquisition and teleradiology reporting <b>activity</b>
<b>2022-23</b>	£368,858,838	6,911,042
<b>2021-22</b>	£241,015,574	4,463,731
<b>2020-21</b>	£170,131,115	3,234,912
<b>2019-20</b>	£192,261,028	5,149,575
<b>2018-19</b>	£123,817,267	4,439,748