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Lucy Powell MP
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Dear Lucy,

I am writing in relation to your Written Parliamentary Question 191588, tabled on 28 June 2023, regarding the Help to Grow: Digital scheme. I would like to thank you once again for your valuable contribution to this important topic.

I am writing to correct the record on one particular point. In response to your question on the allocated funding and spend of the programme, I said the following:

Help To Grow Digital (HTGD) had an initial budget allocation for each of the HTGD scheme years which were as follows: 21/22 - £20m, 22/23 - £72m, 23/24 - £107m and 24/25 £97m (* - subject to Spending Review). When the scheme finally closed on 31st March 2023, the total RDEL Programme spend was c£31.4m. The decision to close the scheme enabled the Government to refocus efforts towards other support mechanisms for small businesses, ensuring businesses get the backing they need in the most efficient and productive way possible.*

I would like to take the opportunity to update the record and correct the following statement: When the scheme finally closed on 31st March 2023, the total RDEL Programme spend was c£31.4m. The £31.4m figure was based on an estimate of the final scheme costs. However, following completion of all closure activities, I can now confirm the final total spend for the scheme was £19.8m.

I hope that this correction and clarification is helpful to you. I can confirm that a copy of this letter will be deposited in the House Library.

Yours ever,

KEVIN HOLLINRAKE MP

Minister of State for Enterprise, Markets and Small Business