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Dear Rachel,

Thank you for your letter dated 26 February regarding the ongoing review by the Office of Product Safety and Standards of the Whirlpool modification programme.

Firstly, let me assure you that I fully appreciate and share your concerns regarding the issue of faulty tumble dryers. I know that your committee has been diligent in their examining of this issue.

The Government's top priority is to keep people safe, which is why manufacturers selling white goods in the UK must meet some of the strictest safety laws in the world. The Office for Product Safety and Standards is reviewing the corrective actions taken by Whirlpool, including reviewing information shared by Which? and BBC Watchdog. I am sure you will agree that it is vital that this review is both thorough and rigorous. I am determined that we get this right. The risk assessment relating to these products is being kept under regular and dynamic review. If at any point my official's assessment of the risk posed changes, I will make this known immediately.

The review of the Office for Product Safety and Standards is well advanced and will be published shortly. I will of course update you when we are ready to report the findings of the review.

KELLY TOLHURST MP
Minister for Small Business, Consumers & Corporate Responsibility