Dear Ms Hillier

Update on HMRC’s Stratford Regional Centre

I wrote to you in August 2018 about developments in our locations plans and again in October to follow up your questions at the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) hearing on 5 September. In view of your previous interest in our future presence in London, as Chair of the PAC, I would like to update you on our plans for the Stratford Regional Centre.

Today we have informed staff that we have taken a further three floors at the Stratford Regional Centre in order to accommodate 600 full time equivalent (FTE) posts so that our IT and Customer Services teams can have a larger presence in London than originally announced in December 2017. We have made this decision due to additional workload as a result of our exit from the European Union and also to ensure that we can keep to our promise to staff that for those who can get to a regional centre, transitional site or specialist site, and have the skills or can develop them, there will be a role for them.

Our plan to move the previously agreed roles out of London will still happen, just not as quickly as we first thought, with 900 roles initially moving out. This now makes our Stratford Regional Centre a base for 4,400 FTE roles. The build of the regional centre is progressing well with the outer shell of the building almost complete. I can now confirm that it is on schedule to open as planned in late 2020.

We continue to support staff to get ready for the move and our commitment to them remains the same, that if people are able to get to a regional centre, and have the skills we need or are able to develop them, we expect there will be a role for them.

We will keep you updated about future developments.

Yours sincerely,
Information is available in large print, audio and Braille formats.
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