From Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP, Chair

Matthew Hancock MP
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London. SW1H 0EU

5 February 2019

Dear [Name],

Flu vaccination programme in England
Thank you for providing the Government Response to the Committee’s Flu vaccination Programme in England Report. I have also asked a number of Parliamentary Questions on issues raised within the Report following the publication of the Government Response (WPQ 211143 and WPQ 211142).

Following the information provided in the Response and in answer to the PQs, I would be grateful if you could provide further information on a number of matters:

- Data is published on frontline healthcare worker uptake. Is it possible to get this data broken down by role (e.g. Nurse, Porter, Doctor, Ambulance Service)?
- The Response states that the Government “agree with the Committee about the importance of promoting the flu vaccination among social care workers, alongside those who work in the NHS. Health and social care vaccination is part of the employer’s occupational health responsibility”. The Response then goes on to explain the funding that you have made available to try and increase uptake. Although the Response says that social care vaccination is a “priority”, it does not commit to an aim of 100% coverage among this group—is 100% coverage the Government’s aim?
- The Response also sets out the benefits of collecting data on uptake among social care workers but notes that “establishing such a system will be challenging”. While the Response does note the actions that will be taken in 2018/19 with social care provider representative bodies to try and collect this data, plans for a long-term data collection system are not set out. We would be grateful if you could set out further detail on plans to establish a data collection system for uptake among social care workers?
- Does the UK plan to support and invest in the development of new and more effective flu vaccines?

I would be grateful if you could provide a response to this letter no later than Friday 22 February. I have written in similar terms to NHS England on a data collection system for social care worker uptake.

Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP
Chair