



Home Office

Rt Hon Ben Wallace MP  
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Rt Hon Harriet Harman QC MP

Chair of the Joint Committee on Human Rights

By email

8 July 2019

Dear Harriet,

Thank you for your letter of 20 June 2019. I am grateful for your support for and scrutiny of the Independent Review of Prevent, which I announced during the passage of the Counter Terrorism and Border Security Act 2019.

The Review will be a great opportunity to engage with the public and other partners, challenge critics, understand where the programme can be improved, and identify best practice in our work to protect the vulnerable and ultimately keep the public safe.

Since I announced the review earlier this year, my officials have been working to ensure that the proper arrangements are in place by 12 August 2019 to meet the requirement set out in the 2019 Act. They have been working with other government departments and Devolved Administrations to feed in views from them as well as any views received from outside government into this process. The House will be informed of the arrangements for the Independent Review, including the Terms of Reference, by that date of 12 August 2019.

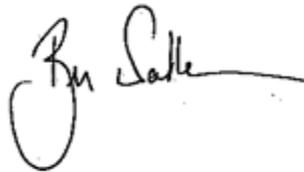
I note your advice that the Terms of Reference should be broad. Prevent itself covers a broad remit and our intention is that this breadth will be reflected in those Terms of Reference, with the Reviewer being empowered to consider which areas to focus on. I will make sure that the areas in your letter are brought to the Reviewer's attention when he or she is appointed.

In order to meet the 12 August requirement, the Independent Reviewer will be a public appointment which I will make. Best practice with regards to public

appointments will be followed as outlined in the Cabinet Office Governance Code on Public Appointments 2016.

You asked for confirmation that the Review will be properly resourced. I can confirm that a secretariat is being set up to support the Reviewer. The majority of the posts on the team have now been filled or will be over the next month. The team will be fully in place by 12 August, and headed up at Senior Civil Service (SCS) level. Recruitment for the SCS post is underway, with an experienced SCS member of staff heading up the team temporarily during the set-up phase.

Thank you again for writing to me on this important matter. I will ensure your letter is passed to the Reviewer, when appointed, for their consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ben Wallace', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**Rt Hon Ben Wallace MP**  
**Minister of State for Security and Economic Crime**