



Lord True CBE
Minister of State
Cabinet Office 70 Whitehall London SW1A 2AS

The Baroness Drake CBE
Chair of the Constitution Committee
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0AA

1st June 2022

Dear Baroness Drake

Cabinet Manual

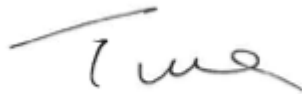
Thank you for your letter dated 16 May 2022. As ever, I welcome your interest in the work we are undertaking to review the Cabinet Manual. Since we announced our intention to update the current edition within this Parliament in response to your committee's report, work has started to identify the areas where the Cabinet Manual has become out of date.

Unlike the production of the first edition of the Cabinet Manual between 2010 and 2011, we will not be producing the document from scratch but instead updating the Manual to reflect changes in processes, practice and convention since it was first published. Our process for updating the Cabinet Manual, including any engagement, will reflect the extent to which significant changes are required or whether the updates are more limited in nature e.g. to reflect where legislation has been updated. We will of course keep your committee and others updated as the work progresses.

On ministerial duties, when the first edition was published it was endorsed by the Cabinet. The then Prime Minister made it clear that he would expect everyone working in Government to be mindful of the guidance it contains. This remains the case. Officials will be very happy to meet your Committee officials to provide background on the timetable and our approach. I am grateful for the Committee's support in this work.

I am copying this letter to the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Lord Speaker, the Chair of the Liaison Committee, the Convener of the Scottish Parliament's Constitution, Europe, External Affairs and Culture Committee, the Chair of the Senedd Legislation, Justice and Constitution Committee and the Northern Ireland Assembly Committee for the Executive Office so that they are aware of the latest developments.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'True', with a long horizontal stroke above the first letter.

Lord True CBE