



Susan Hall AM
Chairman of the Police and Crime Committee

The Rt Hon. Kwasi Kwarteng MP
Secretary of State
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

(Sent by email)

24 March 2022

Dear Kwasi,

I am writing to you on behalf of the London Assembly's Police and Crime Committee to seek an update on what the Government is doing to address frauds committed under its Bounce Back Loans Scheme (BBLs). The Committee understands that the National Investigation Service (NATIS) is leading on the investigation for which your Department has oversight.

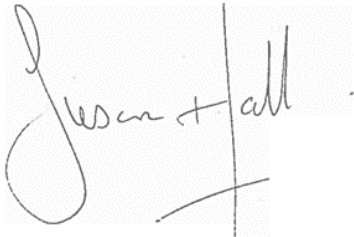
On 9 March the Committee held a meeting to discuss online fraud and Committee Members expressed their wish to have an update on action being taken to address the frauds that were committed via online applications to the Bounce Back Loan Scheme.

In the update provided by Government on 3 March on progress with action on fraud committed under Covid-19 support schemes it states that a £100m Taxpayer Protection Taskforce of 1,200 HMRC staff to combat fraud has been set up and that it is expected to recover £1.5 billion in fraudulent or incorrect payments made under COVID-19 support schemes.¹ Please can you update the Committee on how much has been recovered to date?

¹¹ UK Government, [Government action on fraud committed under Covid-19 support schemes](#), 3 March 2022

We would be grateful if you could provide a response to this letter by 21 April 2022. Please copy your response to Janette Roker and Philippa Goffe, the Committee's Senior Policy Advisers (janette.roker@london.gov.uk) (philippa.goffe@london.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature reads "Susan Hall" in a cursive style. The first letter 'S' is large and loops around. The name is written in a single line.

Susan Hall AM
Chairman of the Police and Crime Committee