



Department
for International
Development



Harriett Baldwin MP
Minister of State

Caroline Lucas MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Our ref 178156

Your ref ML.C0061.CM.19.1.18

30th January 2018

Dear Caroline

Thank you for your email of 19 January to the Secretary of State, about the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) replenishment. I am replying as the Minister who leads on this policy area.

Education is a top priority for the UK and we are proud to be a strong supporter of global education. We are committed to working towards Global Goal 4 to ensure inclusive education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

The UK is a major investor in girls' education. Our support helps girls to access and stay in education; these girls will benefit as individuals but their families, communities and economies will also prosper. We invest not only through the GPE but also through our bilateral and centrally managed education programmes, and our education research programmes. For example, our Girls Education Challenge programme is helping up to a million marginalised girls benefit from a quality education. We also push our international partners, such as GPE, to do more on ensuring that girls benefit from the same education opportunities as boys in their communities.

Education enables girls (and boys) to be healthier and more productive, fulfil their potential and help create more open, inclusive and economically vibrant societies. DFID's vision is a world in which increasing numbers of children and young people can fulfil their potential as global citizens, change makers, the future workforce and leaders of tomorrow.

We recognise the need for more spending on education, as well as the need to make spending more effective. The UK works with a wide range of partners, including national governments, multilateral institutions, civil society and the private sector, prioritising those with the highest impact.

GPE's emphasis on uniting partners (e.g. donors and civil society) around a government-owned education plan aligns closely with UK efforts to strengthen national education systems, to provide quality education for all children. It is for this reason that the UK has made the largest overall contribution to GPE since 2003, and is currently providing £210 million worth of funding between 2015 and 2018. We are in the process of considering the UK's future pledge to GPE.

2018 will be an important year for education financing and the UK wholly supports a successful replenishment for GPE.

Thank you again for writing to the Secretary of State and for your support and passion for this important matter.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'H' followed by a cursive 'Baldwin'.

HARRIETT BALDWIN