



Treasury Committee

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Richard Hughes
Chair
Office for Budget Responsibility
Via email

23 August 2022

Dear Richard,

Potential Emergency Budget

It is clear from the Conservative leadership election that there is the potential for an emergency Budget in September 2022.

It would be normal for the Treasury to provide you with ten weeks' notice of a fiscal event, to enable you to undertake independent forecasting in time for publication alongside the event. Given the potential for a much reduced timetable, can I ask:

- What work is the OBR currently doing to prepare economic and fiscal forecasts for any such emergency Budget, and what help it has received from the Government in the preparation of such forecasts?
- What would the OBR expect to be able to provide in terms of forecasts and costings if such an emergency Budget were on 14 September or on 21 September?

In responding to the above questions, it would be useful to know what the OBR would be able to provide in terms of:

- Economic and fiscal forecasts reflecting Government policy decisions up until the arrival of the new Prime Minister;
- Costings of any measures announced by the new Prime Minister, and any new measures included in any emergency Budget; and
- Economic and fiscal forecasts which take into account the effects of any measures announced by the new Prime Minister, and any new measures included in any emergency Budget

I would be grateful for a response to this letter by the end of this week (Friday 26th August).

As is normal Committee practice, I will be publishing this letter shortly, and any response in due course.

With best wishes,

Rt Hon. Mel Stride MP
Chair of the Treasury Committee