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*Dear Constituent,*

Thank you for contacting me about vaccine passports or COVID status certification.

I am incredibly proud of the progress that the UK is making in vaccinating the population, with one in three adults receiving their first dose. The Government has reached the goal of offering a vaccine to priority groups 1-4, over 15 million people, by the 15<sup>th</sup> February.

While I understand that a range of options are being considered to encourage people to receive the vaccine, the Government does not plan to make the COVID-19 vaccination mandatory.

As set out in the Government's Roadmap towards easing restrictions, four programmes of work have been established to consider different aspects of how the UK should handle COVID-19 from summer onwards. One of these is a review into whether COVID-status certification could play a role in reopening our economy, reducing restrictions on social contact and improving safety.

Of course, COVID-status certificates raise complex ethical and discriminatory issues that would need to be worked through. This is something I know the Government and the Prime Minister are conscious of and I welcome the fact that the Government is considering these issues fully as part of the review. I have noted the concerns you have raised, which I will ensure ministers are made aware of throughout the review process.

It is right that we rule out no options at this stage. Conclusions and the outcome of the review will be set out in advance of Step four of the Roadmap. As the Prime Minister has said, it may be that there is a role for certification in the future, but for now the emphasis is rightly on our vaccination and testing programmes.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

**CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY**