



Department
for International
Development



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Dear Mr Humpherson

Thank you for your letter of 12 April regarding DFID's pledge on aid funding for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE).

DFID is committed to ensuring its public use of statistics is in line with the guidance set out in the *Code of Practice for Statistics*. I am grateful to you for drawing attention to concerns about the recent statement on GPE. I agree that this was not expressed as clearly as it might have been, although it was certainly not our intention to mislead. I welcome the opportunity to provide a more complete statement about the pledge.

DFID's previous pledge for GPE was to spend up to £300 million over a four year period, equivalent to £75 million a year. This was subject to a cap of 15% on the total GPE budget. The purpose of the cap was to create an incentive for GPE to diversify its funding and to encourage other countries to contribute more. In the event, other funding was not sufficient to allow DFID to disburse the full £300 million pledged. The 15% cap restricted DFID's total outturn spend to £210 million over the four year period. This was equivalent to around £50 million a year.

The new pledge is for up to £225 million over a three year period. This is equivalent to £75 million a year, the same annual amount as the previous pledge. It is also subject to the same 15% cap on the total GPE budget. However, GPE has already raised sufficient additional funds from other sources that the 15% cap will not prevent DFID from spending the full £225 million pledged this time around. This will be equivalent to £75 million a year over the three year period, and represents an increase of 50% on outturn spend in each of the previous four years.

To maintain confidence in DFID as a producer of data, we will always seek the advice of the Department's Chief Statistician ahead of any statistics being made publicly available.


MATTHEW RYCROFT