Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

Sam Gyimah MP Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation

Margot James MP Minister of State for Digital and the Creative Industries

1 Victoria Street London SW1H 0ET

+44 (0) 20 7215 5000 enquiries@beis.gov.uk

www.gov.uk

27 June 2018

Dear Lord Clement-Jones,

The Lord Clement-Jones CBE

House of Lords

London

SW1A 0PW

Chairman, Artificial Intelligence Committee

Please find enclosed the Government response to the Lords AI Select Committee's report, *AI in the UK: ready, willing, and able?* 

Government welcomes this timely report, and we have found its content to be well-informed and responsibly sensitive to the multidimensional implications of Artificial Intelligence and data technologies' development and integration into our society and economy. Government is committed to making the UK a global centre for AI and data-driven innovation and, key to the ambitions of the Industrial Strategy, supporting sectors to boost their productivity through the adoption of these technologies.

We are reassured that the Committee's findings and recommendations align to the Government's work, our ambitions, as well as the recent AI review delivered by Professor Dame Wendy Hall and Jérôme Pesenti. We are sympathetic to the ambition of the report and are convinced by AI and data technologies' potential to deliver meaningful and productive change to our lives and across sectors. We are also realistic about the need to create frameworks to ensure it is delivered responsibly and safely. Our focus is on policy development at this stage, and we will continue to take the report into consideration going forward.

As Government builds its capability through new institutions dedicated to AI and data technologies, it is important to dedicate time to finding the right people to staff them and towards further developing their expertise in policy and delivery. A rapidly growing team has already delivered the AI Sector Deal; begun embedding AI considerations into public service design

through Grand Challenge Missions and the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund; carried out research, scoping and planning for Data Trusts; and conducted work towards improving skills through the Industrial Master's programme. These accomplishments have been delivered all while growing the team's capacity as a hub for AI expertise and engagement across Government and the sectors with whom we work.

Government looks forward to the opportunity to debate this report, and the broader challenges and opportunities presented by this developing sector, in the House of Lords in the coming months.

Yours sincerely,

hanger

SAM GYIMAH MP

MARGOT JAMES MP