



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP
Secretary of State
Department for Business,
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10 March 2021

Dear Stephen,

Thank you for your letter dated 4th March about the transition away from the Industrial Strategy.

I would like to start by thanking you for the invaluable work that Make UK and manufacturers have done over the past year. As you have highlighted, your members have worked day and night to keep factories open, keep supermarket shelves stocked and to provide vital resources to healthcare professionals and care workers. This hard work has not gone unrecognised, and we believe the manufacturing sector will continue to play a key role in the UK's long-term growth.

In the four years since the Industrial Strategy was published, the UK's business and economic environment has changed – we have legislated to end our contribution to climate change by 2050, we're forging a new path outside the European Union and we continue to fight the Covid-19 pandemic. That is why we published 'Build Back Better: our plan for growth' alongside the Spring Budget. This document sets out the Government will support growth through significant investment in infrastructure, skills and innovation, and specifically pursue growth that levels up every part of the UK, enables the transition to net zero and supports our vision for Global Britain.

Industrial policy remains a major priority of ours, which is why we are transitioning the Industrial Strategy into 'Build Back Better: our plan for growth' and its supporting strategies. We will take forward the best elements of the Industrial Strategy within a new framework that responds to the new challenges and opportunities we face. Delivery of ongoing aspects of the 2017 Industrial Strategy will not be abandoned. To fit the world of the 2020s, existing Sector Deals will continue, and Grand Challenges will evolve in order to best fit HMG's current priorities.

Over the next 12 months, BEIS will support 'Build Back Better: our plan for growth' by leading work on an Innovation Strategy, as well as strategies on Net Zero, Hydrogen and Space. We will also develop sectoral visions for priority future sectors, technologies and places. These strategies will aim to put the UK at the forefront of opportunities, give businesses the confidence to invest, boost productivity across the UK and enable our transition to net zero.

The Government has decided that the Industrial Strategy Council in its current form will no longer be needed and will be wound down after its upcoming Annual Report. However, the Government is, and will continue to be, a champion of the needs of

business and industry as we build back better from the pandemic. That is why the Prime Minister and Chancellor have convened a Build Back Better Business Council (B4C), which will support the Government as it delivers 'Build Back Better: our plan for growth'. We will draw on the Industrial Strategy Council's work, both on success metrics and insight projects, in taking forward further our thinking in this area.

We recognise that our vision can only be delivered if we work in partnership with key stakeholders, such as Make UK. I look forward to continuing to work closely with you to gain your invaluable insight into the manufacturing sector and its needs.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Kwasi Kwarteng', written in a cursive style.

RT HON KWASI KWARTENG MP
Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy