



The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP

Prime Minister,

10 Downing Street,

London,

SW1A 2AA

19th December 2019

Dear Prime Minister,

Many congratulations on your General Election success and forming a new Government for the country.

The Oxford-Cambridge Arc area represents some of the most successful, talented and fastest growing communities in the country. Worth over £111bn pa to the UK economy, it is home to globally renowned academic brilliance in science, pioneering businesses including nearly a fifth of all UK University spin-outs and an innovation powerhouse which is creating the technologies in sectors that are driving new global thinking.

As the Arc's three Local Enterprise Partnerships and Mayoral Combined Authority we stand committed to working with you and your Ministerial team to deliver the Government's economic priorities for the UK: Putting UK's research and innovation firmly on a global platform, giving businesses the clarity and certainty to invest in British jobs and creating prosperity for all our communities.

Together, we have set out an ambitious economic vision for the Arc area. We have jointly developed with Government a family of economic strategies published in July which aims to double the value of the Arc's economy and we are already working closely with all 10 universities in the Arc, as part of a new Arc Universities Group to deliver on the area's ambitions. Through this new collaboration, the Arc is at the forefront in helping the UK lead the way in addressing some of the world's most pressing environmental and social challenges.

As we enter this new decade business leadership is critical and with the right catalytic support from Government, we believe we can deliver even more, at pace, for the region and rest of the UK. The Arc has the ambition, capacity and capability to shine brightly on the global stage as a world-leading region for research-led business innovation and growth. With the greater certainty that the election result now provides, there is renewed opportunity for us to work with you to make this happen.

We welcome the opportunity to present proposals to strengthen the Arc's global offer and are developing a programme of investment opportunities to support our area's growth ambitions. This includes continuing to strengthen businesses so they are best prepared for opportunities provided through new trading deals, backing university-industry collaboration to lead new technology solutions towards achieving our zero carbon future and, ensuring that Government's capital

investment is targeted locally to projects that generate long-term growth. To build on this momentum, we would welcome an early announcement of an Arc Ministerial champion.

We look forward to welcoming you to the Arc and working even more closely with your team.

Yours sincerely,



Sir Peter Gregson

Chair, Arc Universities Group



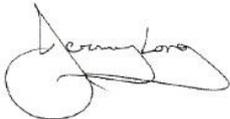
Andrew M Smith

Chair, Buckinghamshire LEP



Austen Adams

Interim Chair, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority Business Board



Jeremy Long

Chair, Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership



Peter Horrocks CBE

Chair, South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership

C.C. Rt Hon Sajid Javid MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer

Rt Hon Andrea Leadsom MP, Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy.

Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government