



Department  
for Education



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy

Professor Pam A. Thomas  
Pro Vice Chancellor for Research  
University of Warwick  
Coventry, CV4 7AL

[P.A.Thomas@warwick.ac.uk](mailto:P.A.Thomas@warwick.ac.uk)

**Chris Skidmore MP**  
Minister of State for Universities, Science,  
Research and Innovation

1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET

+44 (0) 20 7215 5000  
[www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus](http://www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus)  
[enquiries@beis.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@beis.gov.uk)

[www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

18 January 2019

Dear Professor Thomas,

Thank you for the report and recommendations of the Open Research Data Task Force, in support of improving the open availability of the data underpinning publicly-funded research findings in the UK.

The United Kingdom is renowned for our world-leading science and scholarship. I am proud to be part of a Government that is committed to increasing the investment in research and innovation to 2.4% by 2027. The Task Force's work, by considering the ways to support Open Research Data, helps to maximise the many benefits of our collective investment.

The Task Force has produced an informative report on a complex matter, and has made a number of recommendations to support the continued uptake and usage of Open Research Data. I am grateful for your attention to this agenda, and for the valuable contributions of the Task Force. I will invite UK Research and Innovation, Universities UK, Jisc and other stakeholders to consider them carefully in light of their ongoing support and enhancement of the UK research endeavour.

Yours sincerely,

**CHRIS SKIDMORE MP**