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THE PRIME MINISTER

30 November 2016

*Dear Sir Mark*

Thank you and Professor Dame Nancy Rothwell for your letter of 21 October and for your report on robotics, automation and artificial intelligence (RAAI).

Your report highlights the growing importance of RAAI and the opportunities for these pervasive and cross-cutting technologies in sectors such as healthcare and applications for hazardous environments. The House of Commons Science and Technology Select Committee recently published its report into RAAI, making the case for increased coordination and direction through a government strategy, and highlighted the importance of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) skills.

We are committed to ensuring that we are developing the high level skills, including digital skills needed to support innovations in technology such as artificial intelligence and robotics. From inspiring more young people to take STEM subjects, to reforming the computing curriculum to a better provision of high level skills such as software engineering and data science, we are taking action across education and training to create a strong digital skills talent pool.

We will be sending a fuller response to the points in your report in due course.

Thank you, once again, for writing.

*Yours sincerely*

Professor Sir Mark Walport