



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Kwasi Kwarteng MP
Minister for Science, Research & Innovation
Department for Business, Energy & Industrial
Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

Cathryn Ross
Chair
Regulatory Horizons Council
Cathryn.Ross@thameswater.co.uk

T +44 (0) 20 7215 5000
E enquiries@beis.gov.uk
W www.gov.uk

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Dear Cathryn,

Thank you for your recommendations to the Government from the Regulatory Horizons Council. I found this report on the future regulation of drones very interesting and timely considering Government's ongoing consultation on the [future of transport regulation](#).

Technology will drive radical changes in transport innovation in the next 10 years, with profound implications for transport users and businesses. We are seeing already how electrification, connectivity, automation, and real-time data collection and analysis are driving the development of new modes of travel and new ways to do business. We want the UK to be a world leader in shaping the future of transport and a flexible and forward-looking regulatory framework is a critical enabler for this.

I agree with the Council that there are opportunities for the UK to harness the benefits of drone technology through ensuring a proportionate regulatory approach and my colleagues in the Department for Transport, who have responsibility for the relevant regulations, will respond in detail to your recommendations in due course after the Future of Transport consultation concludes.

It is important that we take steps to ensure that we deliver a regulatory system that continues to support the development of aviation technologies in a safe, secure and sustainable way. Increasing commercial deployment of drone technologies offers the potential to improve productivity and efficiency across multiple industries. Such benefits have already been demonstrated through the deployment of drones to deliver vital COVID-19 supplies, backed by Government funding.

I have also discussed the report with Lord Callanan, the Minister responsible for better regulation and regulatory reform, and would like to thank him for his ongoing support for the Council and its advice.

Recognising that this marks the completion of the Council's first tranche of activity, I would like to thank you and all the Council Members for your timely and relevant recommendations delivered to date. I look forward to supporting the Council's next phase of work planned on Hydrogen, Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare, Neurotechnology and Pro-innovation Regulatory Principles.

Yours sincerely,

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

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