

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

Kathryn Stone OBE House of Commons London SW1A 0AA Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP Secretary of State Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy 1 Victoria Street London SW1H 0ET

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

15 November 2021

Dear Kathryn,

I wanted to write to you concerning my answer to a question while being interviewed on broadcast media.

Having seen how my remarks have been interpreted, and reflecting on them, I recognise that in answering the question that was posed to me I should have chosen my words more carefully. I did not mean to express doubt about your ability to discharge your role and I apologise for any upset or distress my choice of words may have caused.

I recognise that it is incumbent on Ministers to adhere to the high standards of the Ministerial Code, including ensuring that our words are carefully chosen and that we treat others with consideration and respect. I therefore regret if the words I used on this occasion have given the impression of having fallen short of these high standards.

I am copying this letter to the Independent Adviser on Ministers Interests, Lord Geidt, and publishing this letter on my department's website.

Yours sincerely,

Unani hancen

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