



Department for  
Business, Energy  
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By email:

26 July 2022

Dear David,

I am writing to thank you for your recent review of UKRI. It provides a comprehensive and thorough assessment of the governance, efficiency and efficacy of the organisation against the statutory terms that created it in 2018.

Four years on from the creation of UKRI, now is an important moment to reflect on how the organisation can operate and deliver most effectively. You rightly recognise the importance of accelerating UKRI's programme to harmonise and integrate the operations of its constituent councils, maximising the benefits of being a single organisation.

The Government is committed to driving efficiency throughout the public sector and I have already challenged UKRI to drive operating efficiencies throughout the organisation, including by supporting them to deliver IT harmonisation and solutions where they can. This is an opportunity for UKRI to create a robust and agile operating model fit for a future where we will be continuing to grow the investment in R&D right across the country. UKRI will play a pivotal role in delivering the UK's largest ever R&D budget, helping cement our position as a Science Superpower. With UKRI's funding rising to £8.8 billion per year by 2024/25, ensuring that the organisation is effectively delivering its objectives is a key priority for my department.

I know that Sir Andrew Mackenzie, the Chair of UKRI, will be writing to set out how UKRI will be responding to the specific recommendations in your report. I look forward to continuing to work with UKRI's leadership to deliver against the significant reform agenda that you have set out.

A detailed Government response to the specific recommendations in your report will follow later in the year.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff of UKRI for all that they have achieved over the last four years. I welcome your comments around how the organisation has supported our strong national research and innovation environment.

I am copying this letter to Sir Andrew Mackenzie and Professor Dame Ottoline Leyser.

Yours sincerely,

*Kwasi Kwarteng*

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