



Department for  
Business, Energy  
& Industrial Strategy

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Dear Christopher,

Thank you for the Council's latest report on Neurotechnology regulation and its recommendations to government. I found the report fascinating. Neurotechnology is an area of great potential for the UK and is yet another example of how innovation and technology can act as drivers for growth. From Parkinson's to Alzheimer's, medical neurotechnologies have the potential of changing the lives of tens of thousands of people suffering from neurological conditions in the UK. Emerging applications in the non-medical field could redefine how we understand the brain and interact with one another and our environment, enabling new opportunities in a wide range of sectors.

Nonetheless, neurotechnologies do not come without challenges and the Council's report is very timely in terms of recommendations seeking to provide certainty to businesses, avoid regulatory fragmentation and encourage investment and the safe development of the sector. I welcome the Council's pragmatic approach to neurotechnology regulation, focusing on establishing a proportionate regulatory framework that reduces the barriers to commercialisation of medical neurotechnologies and addresses under regulation concerns of non-medical applications. I also welcome the Council's proposals to address forward-looking challenges and establish an agile governance system that guarantees senior accountability for neurotechnology in government.

My colleagues in relevant government Departments have received your report and I look forward to seeing the government response to your recommendations.

Technological innovation is fundamental to the government's plans for unlocking growth. I am committed to growing the UK's global reputation for regulatory best practice and capitalising on our Brexit freedoms. Building on plans outlined in the Innovation Strategy and by the Taskforce on Innovation, Growth and Regulatory Reform, I intend to foster a regulatory approach that will promote innovation, growth and inward investment. The work of the Regulatory Horizons Council is a key part of modernising our approach to regulatory reform.

I now look forward to your upcoming recommendations on the regulation of Hydrogen in Maritime Propulsion. I am also eager to support your planned work to identify further technologies and innovations where there are regulatory opportunities for the UK.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Grant Shapps". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent 'G' and 'S'.

**RT HON GRANT SHAPPS MP**  
Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy