



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

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Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP
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November 2022

Dear Christopher,

Congratulations on your recent appointment of Chair of the Regulatory Horizons Council and thank you for the Council's latest recommendations on the regulation of Artificial Intelligence as a Medical Device (AIaMD). The Regulatory Horizons Council's report comes at an opportune moment given the MHRA's ongoing work to develop a new regulatory system for medical devices and the work currently underway by the Office for AI to develop a pro-innovation regulatory framework for AI.

AI is a transformative technology that will create significant UK investment and jobs. Its use in the health sector offers significant potential to bring faster, higher quality care to patients and create much needed efficiencies in NHS services. The NHS AI Lab's National Covid-19 Chest Imaging Database (NCCID), which supported the development of AI technologies to provide better care for patients hospitalised with a severe Covid-19 infection, shows the benefits that can be achieved when health professionals, AI experts and regulators come together to get this right.

It is clear that the UK is on a strong footing to lead the way in the regulation of AI as a Medical device and realise the full benefits of these technologies. I agree with the Council that there are significant opportunities for the UK to develop a proportionate regulatory approach that ensures patient safety whilst driving innovation. My colleagues in the Department of Health and Social Care have received your report and will respond to your recommendations in full.

Technological innovation is fundamental to the government's plans to 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 initial 'G' and 'S'.

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