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THE PRIME MINISTER

28 February 2026

Dear Josh,

Thank you for your letter. It is with sadness that I accept your resignation from your role as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State in the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology and the Cabinet Office.

I want to express my thanks for the commitment, focus, and energy you have brought to ministerial office. First, in providing maternity cover to Satvir Kaur MP as a Parliamentary Secretary across a wide range of Cabinet Office business; and more recently in your current role as a joint minister.

As you note in your letter, freedom of the press is a cornerstone of our democracy. The Government remains firmly committed to upholding and protecting that freedom. It is essential that journalists are able to carry out their work without fear or favour, including holding politicians of all parties to account on behalf of the public we serve.

In accepting your resignation, I also want to place on record that the Independent Adviser, Sir Laurie Magnus, found no breach of the Ministerial Code. I am grateful for your full and proactive cooperation throughout his work. I understand that, to avoid any ongoing distraction from delivering the Government's mission, you have taken the difficult decision to step aside. I respect that decision, and I look forward to continuing to work with you in driving forward the Government's priorities.

All best wishes,

Mr Josh Simons MP