

Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
London SW1A 2HQ

30 September 2020

National Engineering Policy Centre submission to the 2020 Spending Review

Dear Chancellor,

We are writing to share with you the National Engineering Policy Centre's submission to the 2020 Comprehensive Spending Review. Please find a copy of the submission, *Engineering a resilient and sustainable future*, as attached.

Led by the Royal Academy of Engineering, the National Engineering Policy Centre is a partnership of 43 of the UK's professional engineering organisations with a combined membership of over 450,000 engineers. It connects policymakers with critical engineering expertise to inform and respond to policy issues of national importance, giving policymakers a route to the best independent advice available from across the whole profession, and access to the unified voice of the engineering profession on shared challenges.

The National Engineering Policy Centre recognises that the 2020 Spending Review is one of the most important in a generation. Investing in the engineering actions we set out will result in progress for all of the priorities of the Spending Review, not only increasing jobs and skills and levelling up through investment in infrastructure, innovation and talent, but also securing the UK's place in the world, improving public services and establishing the UK as a science, engineering and innovation superpower.

- **Net zero:** We set out priorities for progressing a step change to achieve a thriving, low-carbon economy while creating skilled jobs across the country, for instance by deploying and integrating existing low carbon technology and prioritising low-carbon retrofit and refurbishment of the existing building stock.
- **Innovation:** Go beyond the ambition for the UK to be a science superpower to create a science, engineering and innovation superpower which fully realises the economic and social benefits of our science base, makes the UK a more attractive place for businesses to invest in R&D, and supports small businesses to upskill and adopt digital technologies.
- **Education and skills:** plan for the long-term engineering and skills need, with an education system fit for the future and a plan for training, up-skilling and reskilling to ensure we have diverse engineers and technicians needed to deliver the government's ambitious plans.
- **Infrastructure:** We outline action on how to progress delivery of high-performing infrastructure that improves productivity, collective wellbeing, social inclusivity, healthy lifestyle choice, safety, security and resilience.

If government takes these practical actions proposed by the National Engineering Policy Centre it will create more jobs and prosperity across the nation, addressing the needs of our future society with efficiency, sustainability and resilience.

We would be delighted if you were able to meet with representatives of the Policy Centre to discuss how we would be able to work with you further during and after the Spending Review process.

With best wishes,

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