



HOUSE OF LORDS

The Rt Hon the Baroness Stowell of Beeston MBE
Chair of the Select Committee on Communications and Digital
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Sarah Munby
Permanent Secretary
Department for Science, Innovation and Technology
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22 September 2023

Dear Permanent Secretary,

On 12 September the Committee held the first oral evidence session of our inquiry into large language models.

We are grateful to Ian Hogarth, Chair of the Frontier AI Taskforce, for attending. We discussed his work on the Taskforce and the importance of ensuring that this does not give rise to concerns about potential conflicts of interest. The Taskforce has been allocated £100 million of public funding. We noted that Mr Hogarth may have business interests in areas closely related to the work of the Taskforce. This is of course understandable given Mr Hogarth's background and expertise in this area.

Mr Hogarth told us that he had discussed this matter with you and established a series of mitigations.

We would be grateful if you could provide us with details of the mitigations that have been taken as of 12 September 2023 to manage actual or perceived conflicts of interest. This should include information about mitigations relating to relevant investment platforms. We request this information to help provide assurance about the work of the Taskforce and ensure that it can command public confidence.

We are grateful for your cooperation and look forward to continued engagement throughout our inquiry.

Yours sincerely,

BARONESS STOWELL OF BEESTON