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& Industrial Strategy

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Our ref:
Your ref:

13 July 2021

Dear Greg

Chair of UK Research and Innovation

Thank you for holding a pre-appointment scrutiny hearing with Sir Andrew Mackenzie, the Government's preferred candidate to be the next Chair of UKRI. Sir Andrew has an exceptional record in R&D intensive industry including leadership at the highest levels, and an impressive research background. Together with his depth of experience in corporate governance this makes him an ideal candidate to chair the UKRI Board. I look forward to working closely with Sir Andrew, across government, industry, finance, and academia to make sure the UK receives the maximum benefit from its strong public research base. I have therefore confirmed his appointment as of 13 July 2021.

As requested, I attach a separate document my officials have drawn up in collaboration with UKRI and Shell staff to explain the general measures in place to manage any conflicts of interest. It also describes specific measures agreed with Sir Andrew to minimise and mitigate any potential for conflict, perceived or actual, in relation to Sir Andrew's role as Chair of Shell.

Yours sincerely,

RT HON KWASI KWARTENG MP
Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy