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Prime Minister's Office
10 Downing Street
London

Dear Prime Minister,

**Institute of Acoustic and the UK Acoustics Network Response to
Government Research Funding Decision**

It is of great concern that the Government has released its Central Government Supply Estimates 2022-23, in which it is detailed that the former Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy has returned £1.6 billion of funds to the Treasury. This money had previously been allocated for the Horizon Europe association or domestic alternatives. If this funding is lost to scientific research, this decision will directly adversely affect UK Plc's competitive position in the medium and long term. It is well established that UK Plc has previously greatly benefited from such research investment.

You will recall the Conservative pledge, in December 2019, committing to invest more in R&D in real terms (3% over inflation) over the course of this Government. Potentially losing this funding would place our universities and businesses at a significant disadvantage so that they would not be able to compete effectively on the world stage. This additional



promised funding was specifically allocated to replace EU monies to maintain the competitiveness of UK Plc.

We trust that it is the intention to reallocate this funding to the newly formed Department for Science, Innovation and Technology so that funding for UK research is restored. It is essential that R&D is properly funded.

Yours sincerely



Mr Alistair Somerville

President of the Institute of Acoustics



Professor Stephen Dance

Co-Lead for the UK Acoustics Network