



9th July 2025

Dear Chancellor, Secretary of State for Business and Trade, and Secretary of State for Education,

As organisations committed to a sustainable future for UK industry underpinning growth and prosperity for all, the CIA, IChemE, RSC and SCI welcome the Industrial Strategy and commit to working with the Government and each other to support its implementation.

Chemistry and chemical engineering knowledge, skills, research and innovation are fundamental in delivering the Strategy's ambitions, across all sectors but particularly Clean Energy, Life Sciences, Advanced Manufacturing and Defence. We welcome recognition of the role of foundational industries and especially the confirmation that chemicals are "at the core of Advanced Manufacturing underpinning all domestic manufacturing." No foundational industry can function without chemistry and chemical engineering, both of which are vital for success.

We look forward to working together and with Government to help implement key recommendations from the Strategy including working with employers to drive investment in training and developing sustainable, skilled workforces for their sectors.

To ensure success, we call on the Government – in its upcoming Post-16 Skills white Paper – to –

- Explicitly recognise the vital role of chemistry and chemical engineering skills in underpinning the health of the UK economy and the Industrial Strategy;
- Provide appropriate incentives for employers to support lifelong training and workforce development across their organisations and sectors;
- Ensure the continued viability and local availability of chemistry and chemical engineering programmes across the UK, including technician, reskilling and graduate routes.

Yours sincerely,

Yvonne Baker

CEO, IChemE (Institution of Chemical Engineers)

Steve Elliott

CEO, CIA (Chemical Industries Association)

Dr Helen Pain

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Sharon Todd

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