



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

20 July 2022

To whom it may concern,

MILTON KEYNES NORTH LEVELLING UP FUND BID – MK:U

We wanted to take this opportunity to share our Priority Support, as the Members of Parliament for Milton Keynes North and South, for the Milton Keynes North Levelling Up Fund Bid - MK:U. We both strongly believe that this bid aligns with the Government's agenda to build a high-skilled workforce, stimulate local economic growth and repurpose existing brownfield sites.

To put it in a nutshell, MK:U is a project with transformative potential for the residents and businesses of Milton Keynes. If this funding bid is successful, it will support the development of an innovative, STEM-focused university that will provide many benefits for Milton Keynes and beyond. This includes, but is not limited to, helping to develop a highly skilled local workforce, supporting the Government's and the city's aims for sustainable economic growth and revitalising underused office space to bring about more footfall into Central Milton Keynes. Also, with the recent heatwaves, the re-using of existing buildings is inherently sustainable and the accessible, central location will allow students, staff and visitors to make green travel choices.

MK:U is not your traditional, red-brick campus university. MK:U will be partnered with a variety of local, national and international employers to ensure the curriculum that is being taught is one that will deliver the skills and needs of businesses, particularly those in STEM industries. Students that undertake their education at MK:U will not only have the opportunity to complete a flexible degree but they will also be employment-ready having worked with partnered employers throughout their time at MK:U, such as Santander, Microsoft and Network Rail.

In our roles as Milton Keynes' MPs, we have supported the development of the MK:U project since day one and have worked alongside Cranfield University, Milton Keynes Development Partnership and Milton Keynes Council to realise its potential. Alongside providing our Priority Support for this bid, we will continue to champion this project and lobby our ministerial colleagues to ensure the success of MK:U.

Therefore, we would like to urge the Government to grant this Levelling Up Fund bid and help MK:U deliver its next phase of growth for the benefit of Milton Keynes and beyond.

If either of us can provide any further information on MK:U, please do not hesitate to get in touch.



Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'BE' with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ben Everitt MP
Member of Parliament of Milton Keynes North

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Iain Stewart' with a horizontal stroke at the end.

Iain Stewart MP
Member of Parliament for Milton Keynes South