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Head of the Direct Communications Unit

10 January 2025

Dear Mr Smith,

I would like to thank you for your correspondence to the Prime Minister. I hope you will understand that the Prime Minister has asked me to reply on his behalf. I apologise for my delay in replying.

The Government recognises the importance of civil society's contribution and fully appreciates the significant ongoing contribution of civil society organisations to the UK. You will be aware that the Prime Minister and his team are already engaging with key civil society representatives. This signals the start of a period of wider commitment to forge a bold new partnership between Government and civil society. I know you will be pleased to hear of the creation of a 'Civil Society Covenant' that will usher in a new era of partnership, which will tackle some of the UK's biggest challenges.

The important work of UK Health Alliance on Climate Change in the medical sector should rightly be recognised and praised. Please be assured that as part of the Prime Minister's Plan for Change, the Government shares your vision and aims, which truly represents the amazing value civil society has on our nation. On behalf of the Prime Minister, I would like to unreservedly thank all those at UKHACC for your tremendous dedication and commitment to better our society. You all should be very proud of the incredible impact you have made, and will continue to make, in all our lives.

Beyond its direct economic contribution, civil society helps create the environment that growth and prosperity depend upon. It provides people with a sense of belonging and it offers people a sense of control over their future. Civil society occupies a unique place in public life by also providing support to those in need and binding communities together. Across the UK, there are countless examples of what partnership between civil society and Government can achieve, including youth activities to support vulnerable teenagers and tools to support people into work.

The Government is committed to creating an inclusive and fairer society and understands that civil society is a significant key to achieving this aim. Thank you, once again, for writing.

Yours sincerely,

MANDY GODRIDGE

Mr Richard Smith CBE FMedSci