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You tabled the Parliamentary Question below on April 27<sup>th</sup> and I apologise for not answering sooner:

**To ask Her Majesty's Government, in the light of the impact on jobs of increasing automation, what steps they are taking to (1) assess new types of work which may arise, (2) stimulate new businesses, and (3) encourage the adjustment of workplace training, to accommodate new technologies. [HL6880]**

As part of on-going work, the Government regularly considers the impact that automation may have on the labour market and what the appropriate policy response should be. I am sure you are also aware that the Prime Minister asked Matthew Taylor to carry out an independent review of Modern Employment Practices, which is considering how employment practices keep pace with changing business models.

The UK has an excellent record in creating businesses, ranking 3rd in the OECD for start-ups. We are determined to ensure that the UK remains a leading place to start and grow a business. Industrial Strategy can address the barriers many of them face to scaling up and growing, and the BEIS Chief Entrepreneurial Advisor has been asked to conduct a review to take stock of the support currently available to entrepreneurs and consider international best practice, with the aim of identifying any potential gaps in current policy.

The government will produce its White Paper on Industrial Strategy later this year which will set out the risks and opportunities facing our economy in the light of the new technologies to which your questions refers.

I am placing a copy of this letter in the Libraries of the House.

DAVID PRIOR