Dear Norman Lamb MP,

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Science and Technology Select Committee hearing on UK telecommunications infrastructure yesterday.

I wanted to write to clarify my declaration of financial interests at the beginning of the hearing, where I misunderstood the question. There was detailed discussion of the funding of the 5G Innovation Centre (5GIC) at the University of Surrey, of which I am Founding Director, later in the session — as the transcript records. However, for the avoidance of doubt I want to place on record the following financial declaration.

The 5GIC has received funding of more than £80m since it opened, including the initial £12m Government grant and a further £10m from DCMS in 2018. It is also funded by a wide range of industry partners (members of the 5GIC), from internationally renowned companies to SMEs.

We have four Platinum members of the 5GIC — Huawei, EE, O2 and Vodafone. Each of our Platinum members has contributed £5m to the centre. The centre also has seven Gold members — AirCom, BBC, BT, Cobham, Fujitsu, Rohde & Schwarz and Samsung. A full list of our partners is available on our website at https://www.surrey.ac.uk/5gic/members/network.

This information is all publicly available, but I wanted to write to you today to clarify these points specifically.

Yours sincerely,

Regius Professor
Rahim Tafazolli