



HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London, SW1A 2HQ

Lord Broers
House of Lords
London SW1A 0PW

28 June 2010

Dear Alex,

Thank you for your contributions to last week's oral Parliamentary Question (PQ) on the Government's strategy for promotion of economic growth. You raised a number of points regarding support for scientific research. I thought it may be helpful to write to set out the Government's position on these matters.

The Government fully recognises the important role science and research plays in supporting economic growth. Within the context of overall fiscal consolidation, the Government will support the UK's world-class science base through budget allocations at the Spending Review in October 2010.

The recent reapproval process, which the Chief Secretary to the Treasury announced on 17 June, confirmed the continuation of the £75 million Discovery Research ship project. It also confirmed that approval of the Diamond Light Source phase III is subject to a value for money and affordability assessment, which is consistent with the previously announced government approval process. The Government will use the forthcoming Spending Review to undertake this assessment.

I hope you find this response helpful. I am copying this letter to all peers who spoke during the oral PQ, and will place a copy of the letter in the Library of the House.

*Yours
James*

LORD SASSOON