

20/05/2024

Rt Hon Michelle Donelan MP

Secretary of State for Science, Innovation and Technology
Department for Science, Innovation and Technology
100 Parliament Street
London
SW1A 2BQ

Dear Secretary of State for Department of Science, Innovation and Technology,

If the UK Government is to fulfil its ambition to become a science and technology superpower, we need to be a global player in the semiconductor industry.

The Chips Coalition, as the industry voice for the semiconductor sector, strongly welcome the announcement made today of the creation of a National Semiconductor Institute, as recommended in the *Infrastructure Feasibility Study* completed earlier this year by the Institute for Manufacturing.

This announcement, coming on the one-year anniversary of the *National Semiconductor Strategy*, is a welcome commitment to the importance placed on semiconductors as one of the UK Government's "five technologies of tomorrow." Since the publication of the National Semiconductor Strategy, other positive steps have also been taken, including the creation of the Semiconductor Advisory Panel, a commitment to developing the UK's position with international collaboration agreements on semiconductors, and the wider Infrastructure feasibility study that recommended the National Semiconductor Institute.

However, we believe that UK Government can better leverage the rhetoric of the National Semiconductor Strategy to deliver more co-ordinated and ambitious support that will enable the UK semiconductor industry to thrive.

It is critical to transform the National Semiconductor Strategy into action through targeted support for the semiconductor industry, delivering a strong return on investment across the public and private sectors. The Chips Coalition believes that this can be delivered through the National Semiconductor Institute. This announcement recognises the important role this Institute will play in developing a strong co-ordinating voice for UK semiconductor industry, creating value from British innovation. With this in mind, the Chips Coalition have identified three core areas where action can be taken through this Institute:

1. Commitment to next-gen R&D and manufacturing for semiconductors related to deeptech
2. Commitment to skills
3. Commitment to international trade and expansion

We must see the announcement of the National Semiconductor Institute turn into action. We look forward to continuing our work with UK Government on this, building a pathway towards long term funding and ensuring the role it will play in R&D, manufacturing, skills development and international collaboration.

The Chips Coalition will continue to advocate for this Institute to be authoritative, independent, and an empowered body that will bring together wider UK industry as users of semiconductors, alongside the international and domestic semiconductor industry.

We look forward to working with UK Government and industry on any next steps.

Kind Regards,

Members of the Chips Coalition

About the Chips Coalition:

Across the UK, multiple groups are contributing to the growth and success of the UK domestic semiconductor industry, supporting a *beneficial-to-UK* global supply chain, and advancing UK based design and innovation.

Due to the significance of semiconductors across these areas, the Chips Coalition was formed with the united goal of providing a strong industry voice to a thriving semiconductors industry in the UK.

The Coalition will produce recommendations to UK Government on how to support the UK semiconductor industry, including how the UK connects to global supply chains and develops the skills and infrastructure to compete internationally. It is made up of a composite of sector advocates and companies and led jointly between techUK, TechWorks and Global Tech Advocates, and with over 100 company members as part of the Chips Coalition.

[Link to the UK Semiconductor Hub](#)

This letter is supported by the Chips Coalition. However, some members specifically shared their name in support:

Amadeus Capital

AMD

BlueGen Group

Blue Shift Memory

EIP LLP

EnSilica

Flexciton

Global Tech Advocates

IQE

Kigen UK Limited

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