

Thames Valley Chamber of Commerce Group

150 Edinburgh Avenue Slough

Berkshire SL1 4SS

Tel: +44 (0)1753 870500

Executive Assistant: Alexandra Keane: +44 (0)1753 870582

Email: AlexandraKeane@tvchamber.co.uk

www.thamesvalleychamber.co.uk

Department for Science, Innovation & Technology
100 Parliament Street
London
SW1A 2BQ

By email to: aigrowthzone@dsit.gov.uk

30th May 2025

To whom it may concern,

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Growth Zone Expression of Interest (SEGRO)

As the Accredited Chamber of Commerce for the Thames Valley region, representing the business communities of Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire and Swindon, I am writing to express my strong support for the AI Growth Zone submission made by SEGRO plc in relation to [Slough Trading Estate](#) (STE).

Our support reflects the strategic priorities for the Thames Valley economy as set out in the 2025 TVCC Business Manifesto to advance the Thames Valleys global reputation as a business location of choice and an engine of growth for the United Kingdom.

The STE has been in SEGRO's ownership since 1920 and has been at the heart of driving the Slough and Thames Valley economy for 105 years, it has been home to many of the world's most successful and innovative companies, constantly evolving to meet the demands of modern businesses and global trends.

Over the last 20 years, STE has built a reputation as a premier destination for technology led businesses. Put simply, it is a British business success story that can help drive our Government's growth mission and provide further support for our country's digital and AI infrastructure.

The STE is the epicentre of Europe's largest data centre (DC) cluster. There are currently over 35 DCs operating at STE, including major global players such as Equinix, China Mobile, Cyrus One, Global Technical Reality (GTR), Iron Mountain, Kao-Data; NTT-Data and Virtus, plus many more established/planned across the wider local geography around east Berkshire, southern Buckinghamshire and west London.

These DC's represent a multi-billion-pound investment in the UK and [Thames Valley](#), support a wider supply chain of industries and enable the UK government's ambitions to be a science and technology super-power – [one piece of the jigsaw](#) driving the digital technology and can [unlock the UK's AI opportunity](#). These companies are not only investing in our digital infrastructure but are also committed to sustainability – accessing renewable energy, energy-efficient systems, and advanced cooling technologies to significantly reduce their carbon footprint.

The estate's strategic location - on London's doorstep, with proximity to Heathrow Airport and direct access to the UK's leading transatlantic fibre optic route - makes it a highly attractive destination for cloud and AI driven data centres.

STE also benefits from holding a unique streamlined planning process, owed to its Simplified Planning Zone (SPZ) status, which was [renewed](#) for a further 10 years in November 2024.

I know that SEGRO plans to continue to invest in and grow its DC cluster, which will not only attract new technology and AI investment to support the growth of the UK economy but will also provide valuable job opportunities and community benefits for my local constituents. Their development pipeline could unlock further investment to the value of millions of pounds to be invested in projects that will support local SMEs, unemployed people and young people living in Slough. The STE and its cluster of DC's is a Great British success story – watch [HERE](#).

By granting “Growth Zone” status to STE, our Government has the opportunity to safeguard this pipeline of investment, enhance national competitiveness in AI and digital technologies, and solidify the UK's position as a global leader in the data economy.

I urge the Government to give serious consideration to SEGRO's submission, and to work proactively with them to deliver the AI infrastructure that will maintain the UK's competitiveness whilst delivering significant benefits for my local community.

Yours sincerely,



Paul Britton
Chief Executive Officer