

Cllr Louise Gittins

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Date: 5th March 2021

The Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
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Dear Prime Minister

Vauxhall Plant, Ellesmere Port

As we approach one of the most critical decisions for the future of automotive manufacturing and the opportunity for greener vehicle production in this region of the UK, I write to urge you to stand by local partners and commit the support needed to secure the Vauxhall plant in Ellesmere Port.

The media speculation over the last several days has highlighted the need, if it wasn't already evident, for the Government's urgent action to provide full and absolute commitment to the future of the Ellesmere Port plant and its place in supporting sustainable and competitive automotive manufacture in the UK.

Hundreds of employees and their families rely on the right decision and a positive outcome in this region.

Local partners, including ourselves and Cheshire and Warrington LEP, have worked extensively over the last few weeks with the local management team of the company and your officials to pull together the strongest offer of local support possible alongside Government investment. I have written to Rishi Sunak and Kwasi Kwarteng twice in the last few weeks, and I look forward to their replies.

This is a significant moment to show leadership and commitment to the North for the Government's 'levelling up' agenda. Your decision to do what is necessary to conclude this deal could be a cornerstone in the revival of an industrial town, proud of its past and looking to a new future of green jobs in low carbon industries.

The extensive package we have put together would not only protect the Vauxhall plant, which is synonymous with Ellesmere Port, but it would also enhance the Vauxhall brand through opportunities to create vehicles of the future using energy sources and technology



of the future. By transitioning to electric vehicles and net zero carbon manufacturing, this evolution of Vauxhall's business model would also demonstrate real commitment to our important environmental ambitions, a priority both of our Council and of Government.

The considerable number of Vauxhall employees, along with our entire population, have shown incredible commitment and fortitude in playing their part to fight this terrible virus. The level of compliance with ongoing national Covid regulations has been remarkable, and it would be a tragedy if, alongside the terrible impact of the pandemic on our local communities, they faced the further significant challenges that would arise from the loss of hundreds of jobs, along with many hundreds more across the supply chain.

Sustainable employment must remain a crucial part of our collective recovery strategy as we emerge from this unprecedented period of hardship; and securing a positive decision from Stellantis would go a very long way to supporting that ambition.

I look forward to your response and stand ready to deliver on our commitments.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louise Gittins". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Councillor Louise Gittins
Leader - Cheshire West and Chester Council

c.c Justin Madders MP