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July 13, 2018

His Royal Highness
The Prince of Wales, KG, KT, GCB, OM, AK, CD, QSO, PC
Clarence House
London
SW1A 1BA
United Kingdom

Your Royal Highness,

I write to wish you a happy birthday and, more important, to thank you for exceptional leadership in making the world a healthier and better place. My introduction to the concept of sustainability was hearing of your then novel work when I was in graduate school in London. The debt of the world to Your Royal Highness for this vision and drive, which, no doubt, was thankless early on, is substantial.

I was born in Sale, (where the air quality at the time was terrible). My now 96 year-old father was so proud to bring my mother and older brother to England. He was a Holocaust refugee who, shortly after escaping Europe, enlisted in the British Army and ultimately fought in the two battles of El-Alamein. He learned physics literally on the battlefield, and was admitted to the University of Manchester, where he earned his Ph.D. He always impressed on his young children how fortunate we were and that we must give back. I see the direction that my father gave us in the remarkable commitment to solving the biggest problems of our day that Your Royal Highness has led for more than four decades.

From advocacy to protect the world's environment, rainforests and oceans to work inspiring global businesses towards resilient business models and a sustainable economy, your initiatives have driven global action to address critical challenges.

As Your Royal Highness has stated, it is critical to catalyze action quickly, before "we could well find ourselves with a planet and a society that are disastrously beyond repair." Your convening of global leaders to focus on adoption of sustainable and resilient business models is so important. The Prince's Accounting for Sustainability Project inspires global Chief Financial Officers and Directors to discuss, learn about and expand their sustainability efforts. Each action taken by a company adds to the momentum globally, motivating others to increase transparency and improve operations to benefit the environment.



Among the actions that Google has taken are being carbon neutral since 2007; achieving 100% renewable energy in 2017 for all of our global operations, including our offices and data centers; leading the industry in data center energy efficiency by using 50% less energy than average; creating nearly 10 million square feet of LEED-certified office space; and diverting more than three-quarters of our waste from landfills.

Earlier this year, I returned to Manchester to open a Google Garage—a digital skills training center that we offer free to all. Manchester is vibrant, the air is clean and talk of economic growth focuses on issues that were pioneered by Your Royal Highness.

As a true visionary, Your Royal Highness was the earliest convener of public and private institutions seeking to have them work together to make the world a more sustainable place. It has been my privilege to be involved with the great work being done by Your Royal Highness.

Again, I wish you a healthy and happy birthday, and I remain,

Faithfully yours,

Ruth Porat

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Alphabet and Google