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PRESS RELEASE

IOM3 WELCOMES QUEEN'S SPEECH FOCUS ON INCREASED INVESTMENT IN SCIENCE, TRANSPORT, ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The Monarch has today set out the Government's plan for 26 bills to deliver Brexit, improve environmental targets to help tackle climate change, increase investment in science and ensure a national infrastructure strategy to improve transport and energy infrastructure.

IOM3 is pleased to see Government is committed to:

- Building safety standards – new legislation regarding the implementation of safety standards
- Introducing a national infrastructure strategy – a long-term vision to improve the nation's digital transport and energy infrastructure
- Establishing the UK as a world-leader of scientific capability and space technology
- Increased investment in science and development of new funding agency and open visa system
- Ambitious national space strategy
- Protecting the environment for future generations through new laws
- Improve air and water quality, tackle plastic pollution and restore habitats so plants and wildlife can thrive.
- A new legislation to create new legally binding environmental improvement targets
- Establish a new world-leading independent regulator to scrutinise environmental policy and law and investigate complaints and take action
- Prioritise and tackle climate change
- Ensure all girls have access to 12 years of quality education.

The full details of the Environmental Bill are expected in due course.

IOM3 CEO Colin Church welcomed the Government ambitions. 'Clearly, we need to see the detail of the proposals, but it is good to see the high profile of some important issues for IOM3 in the Queen's Speech. The commitments around investment in and support for science and engineering and the future of environment policy are particularly welcome. We look forward to working with our fellow professional bodies through the Environmental Policy Forum and the National Engineering Policy Centre to input to these discussion as they move forward.'

To read the full Queen's Speech, visit www.gov.uk/government/speeches/queens-speech-2019

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Notes to editors:

x. The Environmental Policy Forum (www.envpolicyforum.org.uk/) works together to influence environmental policy and its formulation by ensuring that environmental sustainability is high on policy agendas. It is a network of UK environmental professional bodies promoting environmental sustainability and resilience for the public benefit.

y. The National Engineering Policy Centre (www.raeng.org.uk/policy/national-engineering-policy-centre) connects policy makers with critical engineering expertise to inform and respond to policy issues of national importance, giving policymakers a route to advice from across the whole profession, and the profession a unified voice on shared challenges. The Centre is an ambitious partnership, led by the Royal Academy of Engineering, between 39 different UK engineering organisations representing 450,000 engineers.