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Our Ref: PN/JB

To whom it may concern

Re: Letter of support for UCL's 256 Grays Inn Road Planning Application (Planning application reference - 2019/2879/P, listed building application reference - 2019/2880/L)

On behalf of The Francis Crick Institute, I am pleased to give my full support to UCL's application to Camden Council for the planning permission of 256 Grays Inn Road, UCL's new building for transformational neuroscience research.

In addition to housing the world-renowned UCL Queen Square Institute of Neurology, the new facility will be home to the headquarters of the UK Dementia Research Institute, a national initiative launched to tackle dementia from every angle, which we are also supporting.

Neurological diseases, such as Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Huntington's and vascular dementia, affect over four million people in the UK and cost the UK economy over £112 billion each year. Treatments for many of these conditions is limited and for some, virtually non-existent. Investment on the scale of which we will see at 256 Grays Inn Road is the only way that we are going to see the breakthroughs needed to achieve tangible benefits for both patients and their families.

Importantly, the proposed development will also restore the Grade II listed Eastman Dental Clinic and Alexandra Wing, and will support a total of 944 full time jobs, bringing long-lasting benefits and adding to UCL's already significant contributions to the local economy.

It is essential that planning application is determined as quickly as possible to ensure that momentum is maintained for this internationally significant development in neuroscience research.

Yours sincerely

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