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- Belgian Ministers and business delegates join Princess Astrid at Windlesham, one of UCB's three global research hubs
- Belgian-headquartered UCB is the UK's third largest investor in R&D

Windlesham, UK 12 May 2022 – 12 noon (GMT) – Her Royal Highness Princess Astrid of Belgium, representative of His Majesty King Phillipe of Belgium visited UCB's new Windlesham campus yesterday (11 May) as part of a week-long Belgian Economic Mission to the UK.

Her Royal Highness was joined by HE Tinne van der Straeten, Minister of Energy and HE Willy Borsus Vice-President of the Walloon Government, Minister of Economy, Foreign Trade, Research and Innovation, New Technologies, Agriculture and Urban and Spatial Planning.

They were accompanied by business delegates from Belgian-based companies on the tour of UCB's new R&D hub in Surrey to understand the importance of the UK for Belgian companies, including the research-based biopharmaceutical and life sciences industries.

Belgian-headquartered UCB is the UK's third largest investor in R&D – committing 28% of its revenue for research and development in 2021. It purchased the Windlesham campus in 2020 and, following redevelopment, it will become home to one of UCB's three global R&D hubs bolstering its cutting-edge R&D, early manufacturing, and commercial operations in the UK.

UCB's projected investment in the UK, including the Windlesham site, will be more than £1 billion over five years and the transition to the new facility will support more than 650 high-value jobs in scientific research, translational medicine, clinical development, and early manufacturing.

Jean-Christophe Tellier, Chief Executive Officer at UCB, welcomed Princess Astrid to Windlesham where she unveiled a plaque and dedicated a tree on site to commemorate her visit. He said:

"It is a pleasure to welcome Her Royal Highness and Ministers to Windlesham. We have a strong track record of discovering medicines in the UK which go on to make a difference to the lives of patients worldwide and the Windlesham campus signifies our commitment to the UK providing a hub, from which all of our colleagues will be able to continue to develop their extensive collaborations with some of the most innovative universities, bio-techs and medical research charities, bringing even greater benefit for patients.

"This new UK site will not only support our ambitions for future drug discovery but will be well-placed to enable us to achieve our 2030 global sustainability goals and provides an environment which supports the physical and mental wellbeing of our people – essential to helping us thrive."

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About UCB

UCB, Brussels, Belgium (www.ucbpharma.co.uk) is a global biopharmaceutical company focused on the discovery and development of innovative medicines and solutions to transform the lives of people living with severe diseases of the immune system or of the central nervous system. With 8,561 people in approximately 40 countries, the company generated revenue of € 5.8 billion in 2021. UCB is listed on Euronext Brussels (symbol: UCB).

About the Windlesham campus

The Windlesham campus in Surrey is a 47-acre (19 hectare), internationally recognised life sciences research and development campus. The site is currently undergoing extensive refurbishment to create a state-of-the-art campus. UCB will move from its current location in Slough, Berkshire to the Windlesham campus in January 2024.

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