



Department for
International Trade

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'Preparing for our future UK trade policy' publication

In October, we published the Trade White Paper, which set out our ambition to building a future trade policy that not only delivers benefits for the UK's economy but for businesses, workers and consumers alike. The United Kingdom has a long and proud history as a great trading nation and champion of free trade with all parts of the world. We want to maximise our trade opportunities globally and across all countries – both by boosting our trading relationships with old friends and new allies, and by seeking a deep and special partnership with the EU.

Global trade has had, and continues to have, an overwhelmingly positive impact on prosperity in communities up and down the UK as well as around the world. That is why we are committed to working with businesses to help them make the most of the many trade opportunities as we leave the EU. In all of this we will work closely with the devolved administrations as we forge new and deeper trade relationships around the world.

The Trade White Paper contained the principles that will guide future UK trade policy as well as laying out the practical steps that will support those aims. Since the publication of the Trade White Paper, the Government has also launched its Industrial Strategy. Closely aligned with our principles, this supports our vision of how the UK will look at the global emerging trends and challenges to further expand access to markets, support our businesses to export, and welcome investment and collaboration from emerging and established partners from across the globe.

We have also introduced the Trade and Taxation (Cross-Border Trade) Bills, which will ensure the UK is ready for when we leave the EU, providing continuity for

individuals, businesses, and international trading partners. These Bills will ensure continuity of existing agreements, not set out new agreements.

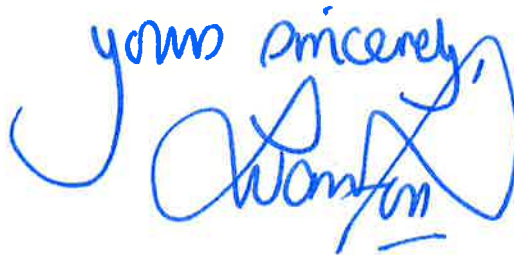
I have always been clear that our approach to developing our future trade policy must be transparent and inclusive. This document sets out the Department's response and the follow-up actions that will be taken as a result of feedback received.

The Paper welcomed views from respondents on all aspects of our developing approach and sought views in particular on:

- a. Our commitments to an inclusive and transparent trade policy;
- b. Our approach to unilateral trade preferences;
- c. Our approach to trade remedies.

This document summarises the submissions received and sets out the Government Response. I am very grateful to all those who responded; we received 150 responses providing feedback and evidence in response to the specific questions posed in the policy paper and to our general approach to a future UK trade policy. Submissions were received from across business and Civil Society, including representative organisations and non-government organisations (NGOs), with people saying that they welcomed the opportunity to contribute to the development of our future trade policy. In addition, we received a large number of responses (7429) as part of a Civil Society campaign on transparency and inclusivity.

As we progress with developing our future trade policy, we remain committed to meaningful engagement and an open dialogue with business, partners and stakeholders from across the UK. My team of Ministers and senior officials have met with a wide range of interested parties and this has been incredibly valuable in informing our approach. I would urge you to continue to engage with us as we develop our future trade strategy.

Yours sincerely,


THE RT HON DR LIAM FOX MP
Secretary of State, Department for International Trade
& President of the Board of Trade