



Department for Business & Trade

The Rt Hon Jonathan Reynolds MP
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Dear Shevaun,

The British Chambers of Commerce has long been advocating for government to make planning better, removing blockers to development, and for streamlining processes to help us in our Mission to grow the economy. You have also been clear about the huge potential infrastructure projects have to boost regions and reinvigorate supply chains.

When we came into government, we promised to take action to become the best place in the world to start up, scale up or invest.

In just six months we have taken on the blockers holding back investment. We lifted the effective ban on onshore wind. We greenlit stalled solar and data centre projects. We launched the most ambitious planning reforms in a generation. We hosted the International Investment Summit attracting £63 billion of investment, and in Spring we will deliver a modern Industrial Strategy that will support our Plan for Change by supercharging the eight key growth sectors in the UK economy.

I'm delighted that the Prime Minister will announce another step in our Plan for Change by scrapping the excessive three attempts to challenge major infrastructure decisions in the courts.

"No hope" cases will get just one attempt, while a second attempt will be permitted where a case has clear merit for an appeal. The Government's Planning and Infrastructure Bill will deliver these reforms, as well as broader measures, to make it faster, cheaper and more certain to build the infrastructure we need.

The Chancellor and I have been in Davos where we have been promoting the UK as the most connected market on earth and banging the drum for even more investment into the nation. This reform, on top of our clear instruction to regulators to go for growth, are exactly the actions needed to unlock British business potential.

I hope the businesses in your community will join me in supporting this action, and agree this demonstrates government's unwavering commitment to unlocking growth and taking the brakes off Britain.

As ever, thank you to the Chamber network for championing new building projects across the nation. I look forward to hearing how you take advantage of this change as we work together to unlock growth.

Best wishes,

THE RT HON JONATHAN REYNOLDS MP
Secretary of State for Business & Trade and President of the Board of Trade