



Department for
International Trade

The Rt Hon Liam Fox MP

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Tim Wales
Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership
Arun House
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Hurst Road
Horsham RH12 2DN

31st August 2016

Dear Mr. Wales,

Trade has never been more important to our nation than it is today. As you know, the Prime Minister has recognised this by creating The Department for International Trade, for which it is my honour to serve as Secretary of State.

I want to take this opportunity to share my ambitions for the department and explain why I believe we have a golden opportunity to make the United Kingdom a truly global trading nation.

The Department for International Trade has responsibility for coordinating and implementing trade and investment policy and, in time, negotiating free trade and market access deals around the world. We will provide operational support for exports and provide financial support for exporters through the UK's export credit agency, UK Export Finance. We will also facilitate inward and outward investment. To do this we will bring together trade promotion and trade policy, allowing us to champion UK businesses around the world.

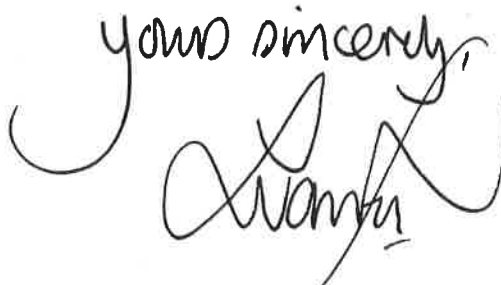
I am delighted to serve as Secretary of State for the Department for International Trade and UK Export Finance, and straight away I want to reiterate that leaving the EU is a thoroughly pro-market, pro-free trade decision. I believe that, following the British people's historic vote, we can become a beacon of hope for open trading and a much more outward-looking country.

My message is simple: the United Kingdom is open for business like never before. I also want to ensure government and its stakeholders are working together as effectively as possible. I'm clear that government alone is not the answer – if we don't draw on the expertise that exists around us then we will fail.

As you will be aware, I am joined in the department by three ministerial colleagues: Greg Hands, Lord Price and Mark Garnier, all of whom bring with them a wealth of experience and will be a huge asset to the department. I have attached a document outlining how we will split our responsibilities.

There's no doubt we're entering one of the most important periods in our economic history. I'm excited about the opportunity we have to make the United Kingdom a truly global trading nation: a nation that businesses around the world want to do business from and with.

I look forward to working with you.

Yours sincerely,


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



Ministerial roles



Rt Hon Dr Liam Fox MP

Secretary of State for International Trade

Will be in overall charge of all policies and sectors, both directly and through his Ministers of State. He will personally lead on the defence and security sector and will be involved in the most significant global deals across all sectors.



Greg Hands MP

Minister of State for Trade and Investment

Will lead on high value export and investment campaigns in: technology & smart cities, infrastructure, energy, healthcare and life sciences. He will also lead on: cross-Whitehall alignment; the business forecasting function; UKEF; and policy direction on topics such as mergers and acquisitions and the Overseas Development Institute (ODI).



The Lord Price CVO

Minister of State for Trade Policy

Will be leading the Trade Policy Unit, which has a wide range of critical Trade Policy functions, including strategy and communications, organisation, operations, free trade agreements and the UK's dealings with the World Trade Organisation.



Mark Garnier MP

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State

Will lead on high value export and investment campaigns in: financial services, advanced manufacturing and aerospace, automotive, bio-economy and consumer, creative & education. He will also be leading on work with the Export Control Organisation, the high volume export campaign, UK regional delivery and overseas partner delivery.