

Press release: PM meeting with Prime Minister Szydło: 29 September 2017

Prime Minister Theresa May met with Polish Prime Minister Szydło, while in Estonia.

A Downing Street spokesperson said:

“Prime Minister Theresa May and Prime Minister Beata Szydło this afternoon held a bilateral meeting at the Tallinn Digital Summit in Estonia.

The Polish Prime Minister welcomed last week’s Florence speech and stressed the importance of reaching an early settlement on citizens’ rights.

PM May said this was a shared priority, good progress was being made in the talks and that she wanted to give certainty to Polish and other EU citizens living in the UK.

PM Szydło and PM May agreed on the importance of Poland having a strong relationship with the UK after Brexit, pointing to the two countries’ many shared projects, family ties and history.

The two leaders agreed the next UK-Poland Summit will take place in Poland on December 21.

The bilateral summit – the second of its kind – will bring together senior ministers from both countries to discuss cooperation in areas such as foreign affairs, defence and security, and trade and investment.”

News story: Brexit Minister visits university and businesses in Northern Ireland

Minister Robin Walker has heard directly from people, groups and businesses in Northern Ireland about the opportunities and challenges of Brexit, as part of the Government’s ongoing commitment to work with all parts of the UK on our withdrawal.

Visiting alongside Northern Ireland Minister Chloe Smith, Robin Walker met representatives from a number of key sectors, including higher education and business. The trip took in Ulster University’s Belfast campus, recycling and waste management company Re-Gen Waste in Newry, a visit to the border, and

the CBI's under-35s forum for promising future business leaders.

The Minister also saw the regeneration of Belfast Harbour and heard how Belfast is becoming a major hub for inward investment. It is the world's number one international investment location for financial services technology and cyber security firms, and has seen 1,200 new cyber security related jobs created over the past five years.

The Minister used the visit to hear first hand about the opportunities and challenges that the UK's exit from the EU could present to Northern Ireland, and to reiterate the Government's commitment to ensuring the specific interests of Northern Ireland are a priority in the talks. The visit is part of a wider programme of engagement with all parts of the UK on Brexit, and builds on previous visits to Northern Ireland by Minister Robin Walker and Secretary of State David Davis to discuss our EU withdrawal.

The Government has published a comprehensive paper which outlines the UK's position on addressing the unique circumstances of Northern Ireland and the land border with Ireland. It makes clear the Government's commitment to avoiding any physical infrastructure at the border.

Minister for Exiting the EU, Robin Walker said:

As we look to leave the EU, we've been absolutely clear that we want to hear from people and businesses across all parts of the UK about the specific opportunities and challenges Brexit represents to them.

Because of its land border and shared history with Ireland, Northern Ireland of course has unique issues relating to Brexit that we've committed to address as a priority. That's why we've set out our proposals to ensure we protect the Belfast Agreement in the negotiations, and ensure the land border is as seamless and frictionless as possible for people and businesses.

I've had the chance to speak with a wide range of groups during this trip – and it's an opportunity that's proved invaluable. I had the pleasure of meeting with some of Belfast's brightest young business leaders, who demonstrated to me the breadth of talent and opportunity the City has to offer. It is clear that Belfast is putting itself on the map as a hub for innovation and foreign direct investment. We want to ensure this trend continues – delivering EU exit in a way that works for all parts of the UK.

Northern Ireland Minister Chloe Smith said:

The UK Government is completely committed to finding a practical solution for the movement of people and goods across the border, as we recognise the unique economic, historical and geographical circumstances between Northern Ireland and Ireland. We are clear we

do not want any obstacles between the UK and our closest trading partner, Ireland.

The Government is working for a successful outcome that brings more economic opportunities for the future of everyone in Northern Ireland and preserves stability in Northern Ireland.

[Press release: Salmon fishing season in Trent catchment area to come to a close](#)

With the salmon fishing season due to close in the Trent catchment area from Sunday 8 October 2017 to Wednesday 31 January 2018 inclusive, the Environment Agency is reminding anglers that failure to comply with statutory rod fishing byelaws could result in prosecution in court and a fine of up to £50,000.

Rod fishing byelaws are statutory rules put in place by the Environment Agency to protect fish stocks and apply to all waters in England, whether they are owned by angling clubs, local councils or private individuals. The close season aims to protect fish stocks from the impacts of angling during the fish breeding season.

Matt Buck, Fisheries Specialist at the Environment Agency, said:

We would like to remind anglers that the salmon fishing season is due to come to a close and they should refrain from fishing for salmon until the start of February next year. This allows the impacts of angling to be minimised in order to protect fish stocks at a time when the fish are breeding.

If anglers catch any salmon by mistake when fishing for other fish throughout the salmon close season, they should allow the salmon to recover by handling them with great care so as not to damage the fish before allowing them to swim off upstream.

Survival rates for salmon are greatly increased if the appropriate angling techniques and equipment are used, and best practices for catching, handling and releasing angled fish are adopted. Between 1 February and 15 June, any salmon caught from any waters should not be removed and must be returned to the water with the least possible injury. Other restrictions also apply during this period and anglers must only use artificial fly or artificial lure to ensure the fish can be returned alive.

Anyone fishing with rod and line in England and Wales must hold a rod fishing licence and comply with the byelaws that cover the waters where they are fishing.

A special salmon and sea trout rod fishing licence is required for anyone wishing to fish for salmon and is available from www.gov.uk/get-a-fishing-licence or by calling the Environment Agency on 0344 800 5386 between 8am and 6pm, Monday to Friday. The licence covers one rod for salmon in freshwater. Any salmon taken by rod and line may not be offered for sale.

Catch and release is vital to help protect and restore salmon stocks in our rivers – read our [guide for anglers](#).

[Statutory guidance: Catching or landing of berried lobsters and crawfish in England](#)

Updated: Guide updated

A lobster or crawfish which is carrying eggs attached to its tail or some other exterior part, or which was carrying eggs at the time when it was caught.

[News story: Lord Duncan visits Lewis and Harris](#)

The Minister's visit to Lewis and Harris concludes a summer of engagement by Lord Duncan across Scotland, including visits to the Shetland Isles, Aberdeen, Inverness, Elgin, St. Andrews, Glasgow, Perth and Paisley.

The visit also follows Scottish Secretary David Mundell's recent visit to Skye, as the UK Government ensures it is listening to the priorities of Scottish businesses as we prepare to leave the EU.

Lord Duncan met with representatives from the Na h-Eileanan Siar and MG Alba, as well as visiting the Harris Tweed Shawbost Mill and Isle of Harris Distillers, to see the trading opportunities for two global brands, home and

abroad.

Touring the Isle of Harris Distillery

Speaking after his visit, Lord Duncan said:

It is good to be back on the islands. I spent many summers on Donald MacInnes' converted fishing boat touring from Lewis to Barra. Much has changed since then. Back then the Harris Distillery was just a plot of land!

The purpose of the visit – aside from enjoying the traditional islands hospitality – was to listen to the voices from the islands to ensure that it is heard and heeded as the Brexit negotiations unfold.

This trip has been a fantastic opportunity to speak with key sectors and individuals, listening to how we can ensure Brexit offers a bright future for our traditional industries.

Brexit is about strengthening devolution and bringing decision-making powers to Scotland. It is essential that Na h-Eileanan Siar stands ready to seize the opportunity.