

Press release: UK Government statement following Welsh Government EU Exit meeting

First Secretary of State Damian Green said:

The talks today were conducted in a constructive spirit and were a step in the right direction.

We both agree that it is vitally important to protect the internal UK market and to avoid making things more difficult and expensive for Welsh companies doing business across the UK.

To achieve this we will need to adopt a UK-wide approach on certain issues. The next step is to discuss those areas that need a common UK approach for the good of businesses and consumers in Wales and across the United Kingdom.

It is critical that work starts now.

Secretary of State for Wales Alun Cairns said:

More powers will certainly come to Wales as part of this process and that will be an important incentive in pushing us towards an agreement.

There is a significant job of work to be done and we must keep focus on the outcomes we want to achieve.

We will keep talking and I am confident we can reach an agreement that works for all parts of the UK.

Speech: Sajid Javid's speech at the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation survivor consultation

Thank you all for joining us here today at what is a truly remarkable gathering of truly remarkable people. I've had the privilege of meeting with

a number of you in the past. And one thing I've learned from that is that no two survivors are alike, no two stories are the same.

But those unique experiences, those unique views, are precisely why you've been invited along today.

There are deeply moving monuments to the murdered Jews of Europe in cities around the world. The thousands of concrete columns that comprise the vast memorial in Berlin. The heart-wrenching bronze shoes that line the banks of the Danube in Budapest. The symbolic glass towers that stand opposite City Hall in Boston.

They are all ideally suited to the cities and countries they are in.

But we want a [UK memorial](#) that is truly national, one that speaks to the thoughts and feelings and experiences of British survivors.

And that's why your opinions – your honest, open opinions – are so important.

If you think one of the designs is head and shoulders above the rest, don't be embarrassed about saying so. But if you don't rate a design, we want to hear that too. And if you can think of ways to improve a design, share those thoughts too. These are just initial ideas, there's a lot of work still to be done.

I can't promise that the jury will pick your personal favourite. I can't promise that we won't pick your personal least favourite, for that matter! But I can promise that your opinions will carry a great deal of weight.

We have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to build a stunning, inspiring, sobering memorial in a jaw-dropping location. And it's so important that we get the design right.

It's not just important to me, or to the jury. But to the whole country.

Because there are voices out there saying we don't need another reminder of the Holocaust. That it's enough to let it be noted in the history books and the museums. That we should move on.

Such voices couldn't be more wrong.

In recent weeks we've seen people proudly marching through an American city with swastika flags held high. We've seen Jewish children as young as eight being chased through London by a man shouting the foulest anti-Semitic abuse. We've read report after report about the steadily swelling ranks of neo-Nazis and their efforts to become almost respectable by denying or belittling the crimes of their predecessors.

That's why, as the Shoah slides towards the edge of living memory, it becomes ever more important that we refuse to forget it.

That we stand up as a nation and say "No, we will not let the past be airbrushed. We will not allow this country forget what happens when hatred

and ignorance and bigotry are allowed to flourish unchecked.”

The UK Holocaust Memorial and Learning Centre will stand as a permanent reminder of what happened.

Constructed right in the heart of our democracy, it will be impossible to ignore or overlook. It will be a lasting tribute both to those who died and to those who survived. And it will be a focal point for reflection and education that will ensure the Holocaust is remembered long after all of us in this room are gone.

And I hope that, with your help, we can choose a design worthy of the 6 million men, women and children who must never be forgotten.

News story: Open call for sponsors and partners for the Commonwealth Summit 2018

During the week of 16 April 2018, the UK will host the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting . The week will begin with a series of forum events – with a focus on the themes of business, people (civic society), young people and women – and will culminate with meetings of the Commonwealth Heads of Government. The week will see leaders from more than 50 Commonwealth countries and over 10,000 people attending a series of events, mainly in London. The Department for International Trade is looking for sponsors and partners to help deliver a truly vibrant summit.

The Commonwealth is made up of 52 members spanning 6 continents with a combined population of around 2.4 billion people, almost half of whom are under 25. The network includes established economies, as well as a number of developing and emerging markets.

Under this backdrop, CHOGM will present a unique opportunity to build on the proud, global relationships that we have forged with these nations, and to reaffirm our shared values. It will also help to re-energise and revitalise the Commonwealth, to cement its relevance to future generations, strengthening our collective partnerships.

Sponsorship offers a truly unique platform for companies to:

- gain commercial exposure through a strategically important international event
- showcase the very best of their brand and its relevance to the Commonwealth nations
- align with the key objectives of the summit week and its underpinning

values

- reach out to key consumers, including young people

Packages available to businesses span direct financial and / or value in kind support in the form of a free product or service, predominantly for the forums and associated events. Whilst all ideas for sponsorship would be welcome, some of the specific areas where we are seeking expressions of interest for value in kind support are:

- catering, including food and beverage products
- involvement in, or the hosting of, lunch and evening receptions
- gifts for delegations and attendees
- cultural evenings and exhibitions
- hospitality, including accommodation for some of the delegates
- equipment, transport and technology, to support the event

Any company wanting to register an expression of interest should contact Steven Anderson, Head of Sponsorship and Partnerships, Department for International Trade.

Government response: Bluefin tuna in UK waters

Bluefin tuna is a prohibited species for UK registered commercial fishing vessels.

Atlantic bluefin tuna is [recognised as an endangered species by the WWF](#) and the [IUCN Red List](#).

Within EU waters, it is prohibited for commercial or recreational vessels to catch or target bluefin tuna unless authorised to do so by an EU member state. The UK has no specific quota to catch bluefin tuna and as such does not currently issue authorisations to UK recreational vessels.

Bluefin tuna is a prohibited species for UK registered commercial fishing vessels and if caught as a by-catch must be returned to the sea, alive and unharmed to the greatest extent possible.

Bluefin tuna caught as a by-catch which are dead must be reported to the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) by contacting the local MMO office, landed whole and unprocessed. Bluefin tuna landed as a result of this requirement must not be sold or given away unless it is for scientific research following approval from the MMO.

More information on bluefin tuna on the [MMO blog](#).

More information

[Commission Regulation \(EU\) 2016/1627](#)

[Commission Delegated Regulation \(EU\) 2015/98](#)

[News story: Electric car team racing in Mongol Rally arrive at UK Pavilion](#)

Scottish adventurer Chris Ramsey from Aberdeenshire and his wife Julie, the first participants to enter the world-famous Mongol Rally in an electric vehicle, have arrived at the UK Pavilion at the International 'Future Energy' Astana Expo.

Their visit comes as the UK and Kazakhstan mark the 25th anniversary of bilateral diplomatic relations.

Whilst at the Expo, the couple will be guests of the UK Pavilion which is supported by the Department for International Trade and has the theme 'We are Energy', exploring new ways to harness the various sources of energy that surround us and secure a greener future.

To date, 355,557 people have visited the UK Pavilion which is showcasing the nation's world-leading expertise in new technologies across the energy sector as well as helping British businesses build contacts in Kazakhstan.

Chris will also speak at the UN's 'Options and Solutions for a Clean Energy Future' environment forum at the Expo and meet with Kazakh government officials to promote electric vehicles and charging technology.

Chris Ramsey, founder of Plug In Adventures, said:

After the 9000km drive from Goodwood to Astana in a 30kw Nissan LEAF, I am wholly committed to demonstrating the huge capability of electric vehicle technology and the positive impact this can have on our planet.

I am very much looking forward to being a part of the UK Pavilion, which comes as bilateral relations between Kazakhstan and the UK reach their 25th year. I hope that my journey can help to promote sustainable trade opportunities between our two countries in the years to come.

International Trade Minister, Greg Hands said:

I have seen first-hand the hugely inspiring UK Pavilion at the Astana Expo, promoting our vision for future energy to more than 355,000 visitors from across the globe. As an international economic department, the Department for International Trade has been a key supporter of the Astana Expo in bringing together countries around the world to develop sustainable energy solutions.

Through his latest adventure, Chris and his team have helped to showcase the UK's ongoing commitment to world-leading innovation and sustainable technology.

Clean energy

In July this year, the government reaffirmed its commitment to clean energy innovation when it announced a £20 million investment to help develop electric vehicles capable of returning electricity to the grid.

The new investment will support vehicle-to-grid projects as part of the government's Industrial Strategy and create a smarter energy system, while increasing the numbers of electric cars on UK roads.

Plug In Adventures

Chris is the founder of Plug In Adventures, a venture borne from a combined passion for adventure and electric vehicles. Comprising of a group of electric vehicle enthusiasts based in Scotland, its aim is to engage and champion the cars to the public.

Their participation in the Mongol Rally is not the first driving adventure for Plug In Adventures; in 2015 they drove from John O'Groats to Land's End and back again and in 2016 they completed the North Coast 500, a 516-mile route around the Scottish Highlands.

The pair is tackling the arduous 16,000km journey from Goodwood to Ulan-Ude, Siberia in a Nissan LEAF which is manufactured in the car maker's Sunderland Plant. Through participating in the rally alongside some 340 other petrol and diesel cars, Chris is hoping to raise awareness of the capabilities of electric vehicles and the important role they will increasingly play in reducing carbon emissions.

More information

Pictures of Chris, his car and the UK Pavilion can be found on [dropbox](#).

The UK is participating at the Astana Expo which runs for 3 months, ending 10 September. The UK Pavilion shows the UK at its creative best and is sharing the UK's brilliant scientific and engineering expertise across the energy and mining industries.

The UK Pavilion at Astana promotes the UK as a business partner of choice and

a hub of academic excellence.

115+ countries are participating with 5 million visitors expected to pass through the gates of the Expo

Astana Expo is a 'Specialised Expo'. Such Expos were established by the Bureau International des Expositions in 1988. They are global events dedicated to finding solutions to precise challenges of humanity, such as ocean protection (Expo Yeosu 2012) or the future of energy (Expo Astana 2017).