

# News story: Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport appoints new Chair of National Museums Liverpool (NML)

From:

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Sir David Henshaw has been appointed by the Secretary of State as Chair of NML for a term of four years from the 13 February 2017

Born and educated in Liverpool, Sir David went on to obtain a degree in Public Administration and then a Master's Degree in Social Sciences at the University of Birmingham (INLOGOV).

He has had an extensive career in the public sector with Chief Executive roles at Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council (1989-1999) and Liverpool City Council (1999-2006). During his time at Liverpool he was part of the core team which secured the successful bid to be European Capital of Culture 2008, managed the Council in developing Liverpool One, and saw Liverpool recognised as Council of the year.

He led a major review of Child Support and the Child Support Agency for central government (2006-2007) and was also involved in the Prime Minister's Delivery Unit Capability Review programme of central government departments.

Sir David has also held a number of senior roles in the NHS. He has held positions as Interim Chair at University Hospitals of Morecombe Bay NHS Foundation Trust (2012-2013), at Dorset Healthcare University NHS Foundation Trust (2013-2014), at St George's University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (since 2016). Sir David was Chair of the North West Strategic Health Authority (2006-2011) and has been Chair of Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust since 2010, leading the Board in the building of the new hospital. He was knighted in 2004 and is an Honorary Fellow of Liverpool John Moores University, a Fellow of Liverpool University, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and an Honorary Doctor at Sheffield Hallam University.

The NML Chair role is not remunerated. This appointment has been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. It is a requirement of the Code that political activity by those appointed is declared. Sir David has declared no political activity.

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## Press release: PM call with Sinn Fein leader Michelle O'Neill: 25 January 2017

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Part of:

Prime Minister Theresa May spoke to Michelle O'Neill to congratulate her on becoming the leader of Sinn Fein in Northern Ireland.

A Downing Street spokesperson said:

The Prime Minister spoke to Michelle O'Neill to congratulate her on her new appointment as leader of Sinn Fein in Northern Ireland.

The Prime Minister said she looked forward to working with her and that she hoped that following the elections all parties would be able to come together to find a way forward for Northern Ireland.

She added that the UK government remained committed to building on the progress made in Northern Ireland to ensure a strong, stable devolved government that works for everyone.

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## News story: Gross Domestic Product (GDP): What it means and why it matters

**GDP is the size of the economy at a point in time**

GDP measures the total value of all of the goods made, and services provided, during a specific period of time.

Goods are things such as your new washing machine, or the milk that you buy.

Services include the haircut from your hairdresser, or repairs done by your plumber.

It's only final goods and services that are sold to you and me that matter for GDP though. So if some tyres roll off a production line and are sold to a car manufacturer, the value of the tyres isn't included in GDP, it is reflected in the value of the car.

The amount you pay, or the market value of that good or service, is what's important as these are added together to get GDP.

## **UK GDP includes goods and services produced in the UK**

Gross Domestic Product means that GDP is only measuring things that are produced within the borders of the UK.

This is important, because if a British company is producing cars in China, they're not contributing towards UK GDP.

## **Sometimes people use the phrase Real GDP**

This is because GDP can be expressed in nominal or real terms. Real GDP takes the value of goods and services produced in the UK, but it takes into account changing prices to remove the effect of rising prices over time, otherwise known as inflation.

Real GDP is otherwise known as the 'constant price' measure of GDP.

Nominal GDP still measures the value of all the goods and services produced in the UK, but at the time they are produced.

It is otherwise known as the 'current price' measure of GDP.

## **There's more than one way of measuring GDP**

Just imagine trying to add together the value of everything made in the UK – that's no easy feat, which is why there is more than one way of measuring GDP.

GDP is calculated three ways, adding up:

- all the money spent on goods and services
- the money earned through wages and profits
- the value of goods and services produced

These are known as the expenditure, income and output measures of GDP, respectively. All three different methods of calculating GDP should, in theory, give the same number.

## **In the UK, we get a new GDP figure every 3 months**

So if the GDP figure is higher than it was in the previous 3 months – the economy is growing.

If it's lower – the economy is getting smaller.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) is responsible for calculating the GDP figure for the UK. Naturally it collects a lot of data from a lot of different sources to do this. It surveys tens of thousands of UK firms working in manufacturing, services, retail and construction, as well as using a wealth of administrative data.

### **You might have heard people refer to the first or second estimate of GDP**

The ONS calculates GDP using each of the expenditure, income and output measures of GDP. The first estimate is just the output measure, with expenditure and income measures added from the second estimate.

The UK is one of the fastest countries in the world to compile the first estimate, although to do this it doesn't have all the data it needs for a complete picture.

At this point, the ONS has only gathered about 40% of the information it needs – so this can be revised at the second and third estimates, when they have gathered more information. GDP can also be revised at a later date due to changes in the methods for estimating it, or to incorporate less frequent data.

### **GDP matters because it shows how healthy the economy is**

Rising GDP means the economy is growing, and the resources available to people in the country – goods and services, wages and profits – are increasing.

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## **News story: Welsh Secretary launches series of Brexit discussions**

Starting in Builth Wells today, Secretary of State for Wales, Alun Cairns and Minister for Wales, Guto Bebb will meet farmers, farming unions and other representatives from the agriculture sector to seek their views on powers returning from the EU.

In particular, the discussion is expected to focus on where decisions might, in future, be taken at a local level and the areas in which UK wide frameworks might be desirable.

Over the following weeks, Ministers will meet representatives from a range of sectors, including manufacturing and life sciences, in a number of locations across the whole of Wales. They will be seeking answers from these sectors to

seven key questions:

1. What thinking have you done about these powers returning from the EU?
2. What do you think would work best for the people you represent?
3. Where do you think consistent standards or local variation may be required?
4. How best do we ensure day 1 legal certainty and continuity?
5. What opportunities do you think exiting the EU offers the people/industry you represent?
6. What should we do to make sure that we don't create barriers to living or doing business within the UK?
7. What common standards do we need to make sure that the UK can strike future trade deals that benefit the whole of the UK?

**Speaking ahead of the first event, Secretary of State for Wales, Alun Cairns, said:**

I am determined to make sure that Wales is in the strongest possible position to benefit from Brexit and these events will help us to understand how the UK Government can deliver the best solution.

The people I plan to meet over the coming weeks are in the engine room, helping to keep the Welsh economy growing. By working together I am confident we can make the most of this unique opportunity to build a stronger, fairer Britain that works for everyone.

**Steve Hughson, Chief Executive of the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society, said:**

With a rapidly changing political and financial climate, it essential that all areas of the agricultural industry come together and devise a way to make the most out of these changes.

It is fitting that the first of the UK Government's meetings takes place today here at the showground, the home of the Royal Welsh Agricultural Society, which has become an important platform for such high profile consultations over the years.

Representing over 21,000 members from all agricultural and rural sectors and communities throughout Wales, the society will be contributing to these discussions and helping shape and influence the future of Welsh agriculture.

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# Press release: Chinese New Year 2017: Theresa May's message

I want to send my best wishes to everyone in Britain, China and around the world celebrating Chinese New Year.

From the fairs in Beijing, to the fireworks in Hong Kong and the parades here in London, families and communities will come together and look to the year ahead – the Year of the Rooster.

And what a year it is set to be – particularly for the relationship between Britain and China.

Our starting point is stronger than ever before. We had the [historic state visit of President Xi](#) just 15 months ago. We receive more Chinese investment than any other major European country. We've got around 150,000 Chinese students studying here and the number of Chinese tourists visiting has doubled in 5 years.

Meanwhile, as permanent members of the UN Security Council, our countries are working together on the most pressing global issues.

This year also marks some important anniversaries: 20 years since the handover of Hong Kong to China; and 45 years of ambassadorial relations between our countries.

I want us to take this chance to build on all the ties we share – in business, diplomacy, education, tourism and culture – as we forge a new role for Britain, as the most outward-looking, free-trading nation in the world.

Indeed, I look forward to making another visit to China, following my trip to Hangzhou last year, which was my first visit outside Europe as Prime Minister and my first meeting with President Xi.

And it is an auspicious time. The Rooster – the Fire Rooster – represents so many of the characteristics we need to employ in that endeavour: openness, confidence, hard work and leadership.

These aren't alien concepts to any of us. Indeed, they are characteristics demonstrated day in, day out by the British Chinese community.

For this is a community that makes an enormous contribution to our society – proving that the strength and success of this country rests on dedication, diversity and a deep spirit of citizenship among our people.

So as the lanterns are lit and the dumplings are served, let me wish you and your family, wherever you are, a very happy and healthy New Year.

Xin Nian Kuai Le.