

## [Press release: Trade taskforce launched to increase UK business competitive advantage](#)

Businesses to receive support to develop trade links around the world from a new taskforce. The newly appointed HM Trade Commissioner network will support the board's advisers acting as a bridge to business in their regions, ensuring UK companies have a competitive advantage by providing support and local market knowledge.

Speaking in Coventry today (Thursday 6 September), Dr Liam Fox will launch the new taskforce to accelerate the government's Global Britain agenda, building on the Prime Minister's recent visit to Africa.

The taskforce, part of the Board of Trade, will seek to guarantee the UK's status as a prominent champion of free trade, leading the world in the way the UK partners with developing countries to alleviate poverty, support development and deliver jobs, growth and prosperity.

The taskforce will meet throughout the year and will be supported by HM Trade Commissioners across the world.

International Trade Secretary and President of the Board of Trade Dr Liam Fox MP said:

Championing free trade and supporting developing nations through trade is in the UK's interest. The prosperity created by free trade is the basis for social stability, which in turn provides the political stability which underpins our global security.

Prosperity, stability and global security are the prizes for a strong, rules-based international trading system, and that is what the UK seeks to create.

My international economic department is working hard to drive the Global Britain agenda, and this taskforce will ensure the Board of Trade makes a real impact around the world.

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## [Press release: Change of Her Majesty's](#)

# Ambassador to Uzbekistan – Summer 2019

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

Full name: Timothy Achille Torlot

Married to: Jennifer Florence Steil

Children: Two daughters

2016 to present	FCO, Head, Litigation Unit, Arabian Peninsula and Iran Department
2012 to 2016	European External Action Service, Head of Delegation, EU Delegation Bolivia
2011 to 2012	FCO, Head, Yemen Team, Middle East and North Africa Directorate
2007 to 2010	Sana'a, Her Majesty's Ambassador
2005 to 2006	Baghdad, Deputy Head of Mission
2002 to 2004	UK Trade and Investment, Director, Technology and Sector Partnership, International Sectors Group
1997 to 2001	Santiago, First Secretary (Commercial)
1995 to 1997	FCO, Head, Commonwealth Section, South East Asia Department
1992 to 1995	FCO, Head of Section, Career Development Unit, Personnel Management Department
1987 to 1992	Wellington, Second Secretary (Chancery)
1984 to 1987	Muscat, Third Secretary (Chancery, Information and Technical Cooperation)
1982 to 1984	Full time language training (Arabic)
1981 to 1982	FCO, Assistant Desk Officer for US, North America Department

## **Further information**

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## [Press release: New pilot scheme to bring 2,500 seasonal workers to UK farms](#)

A nationwide pilot to bring migrant workers to UK farms has been announced by the Home Secretary and Environment Secretary today (Thursday 6 September).

The pilot will mean fruit and vegetable farmers are able to employ migrant workers for seasonal work for up to six months. 2,500 workers from outside the EU will be able to come to the UK each year, alleviating labour shortages during peak production periods.

Soft fruit production in the UK has grown dramatically, by 130% in the last 20 years. To ensure that this growth continues and the UK is at the forefront of the next agriculture revolution, farmers must also look at ways that technology can reduce demands for labour.

However, automated harvesting solutions are not universally available and so in the short term, this pilot will support farmers during peak production periods.

This pilot will also explore how to keep British horticulture competitive, as almost all other OECD countries source seasonal workers to pick fruit and vegetables.

Home Secretary Sajid Javid said:

British farmers are vital to the UK's economy – and the Government will look to support them in any way we can.

This pilot will ensure farmers have access to the seasonal labour they need to remain productive and profitable during busy times of the year.

I am committed to having an immigration system that reduces migration to sustainable levels, supports all industry and ensures we welcome those who benefit Britain.

Environment Secretary Michael Gove said:

We have listened to the powerful arguments from farmers about the need for seasonal labour to keep the horticulture industry productive and profitable.

From lettuce in East Anglia to strawberries in Scotland, we want to make sure that farmers can continue to grow, sell and export more great British food.

This two year pilot will ease the workforce pressures faced by farmers during busy times of the year. We will review the pilot's results as we look at how best to support the longer-term needs of industry outside the EU.

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## [Press release: Community order for operating an illegal waste site in Walsall](#)

In the case brought by the Environment Agency, Stephen Wayne Morgan (aged 52) had pleaded guilty to one offence of operating a waste storage and treatment facility without an environmental permit, at an earlier hearing. He was sentenced to a 2 year community order with a requirement to complete 250 hours of unpaid work, and ordered to pay £17,000 in prosecution costs, along with a £60 victim surcharge. Morgan must also pay £54,415.33 under a confiscation order depriving him of the criminal benefit from the illegal operation.

The case relates to an offence between 6 April 2015 and 29 August 2015 committed on Middlemore Lane, Aldridge, Walsall, where Morgan had operated under the trading name Aldridge Aggregates & Recycling. Over the period of offending, Morgan allowed the deposit of waste on site, that was later shredded and crushed, before being sold as processed products. The site contained thousands of tonnes of waste including construction and demolition waste, wood waste, and waste soils.

The activities at the site posed a nuisance local residents and a local business. On one occasion (15 June 2015), waste on the site was deliberately burned, subjecting employees of a nearby business to excessive amounts of smoke and forcing them to shut the doors and windows of their business premises.

Complaints were made by local residents, who were subjected to problems of excessive dust blowing towards their homes and settling, and excessive noise from machinery crushing and shredding waste on the site. One resident described the noise as "incredibly loud" and said it could be heard every day from Monday to Friday over a period of months.

Mr Morgan was provided with advice and guidance from the Environment Agency but failed to obtain planning permission or an environmental permit to

legitimise the operation. He continued to receive and process waste on the site despite being advised that the activities were illegal, that the activities were having an effect on the local community, and that enforcement action could follow. Waste operations continued even after the Environment Agency served a legal notice on Mr Morgan on 1 July 2015 requiring removal of the waste.

Morgan was ultimately evicted from the premises by the site landlords on 29 August 2015. Thousands of tonnes of waste had to be removed from the site in the ensuing clean-up.

In mitigation, Mr Morgan's barrister stated that he had no relevant previous convictions and had pleaded guilty at the earliest opportunity. He stated that Mr Morgan had expressed remorse for his offending and had made some attempt to reduce the quantities of waste from the site. He further stated that Mr Morgan was suffering with a number of health conditions.

Speaking after the case, an Environment Agency officer in charge of the investigation said:

The operation of illegal waste sites undermine legitimate businesses along with the investment and economic growth that go with it.

This case demonstrates that we will act upon information given to us regarding suspected illegal or nuisance waste activity and will not hesitate to prosecute when circumstances warrant it.

If you see pollution or a waste crime incident, report it on our incident hotline on 0800 807060.

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## **[Notice: CA14 4JX, Energy Coast Laundry Ltd: environmental permit application advertisement](#)**

The Environment Agency consults the public on certain applications for Radioactive Substances Activity. The arrangements are explained in its [Public Participation Statement](#)

These notices explain:

- what the application is about
- which Environment Agency office you can visit to see the application documents on the public register

- when you need to comment by

The Environment Agency will decide:

- whether to grant or refuse the application
- what conditions to include in the permit (if granted)