

BCC comment following PM's Business Council meeting

Following his attendance at the Prime Minister's business council meeting, Francis Martin, President of the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC), said:

"The increased tempo of engagement with business in recent weeks is welcome, as is the Prime Minister's commitment to sustain that engagement over the crucial months ahead.

"High-level discussions with the Prime Minister and her Cabinet must continue, but we also need to see sustained and structured discussion with business on the dozens of practical, real-world questions that firms face as a consequence of Brexit. Only by working together on the detail can we minimise disruption and maximise confidence for firms across the UK.

"Our research shows clear support among the business community for the UK to reach a comprehensive agreement with the EU, and for a transition period which will prevent firms facing a cliff-edge. The prospect of multiple, costly, adjustments to trading conditions is a concern for many, so starting discussions on transition arrangements as soon as possible would go a long way to boost business confidence.

"Economic growth is slowing, with Brexit-related uncertainty part of the story. As we work to get the best possible deal with the European Union, the government must not forget to underpin confidence here at home. A domestic agenda that puts the economy and business growth front and centre remains absolutely critical."

Ends

Notes to editors:

[The British Chambers of Commerce's post-election survey](#) received responses from 2,422 business people from all regions of the UK online between Monday 12 June and Wednesday 14 June 2017. Of the businesses surveyed, 91% were SMEs, 25% operate in the manufacturing sector, and 75% operate in the services sector. The results were weighted to align to the BEIS 2016 business population estimates.



The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) sits at the heart of a powerful network of 52 Accredited Chambers of Commerce across the UK, representing thousands of businesses of all sizes and within all sectors. Our Global Business Network connects exporters with nearly 40 markets around the world. For more information, visit: www.britishchambers.org.uk

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