

News story: Brokenshire vows Bombardier jobs “absolutely vital” to NI economy

Rt Hon James Brokenshire MP, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said:

Bombardier jobs are absolutely vital to the Northern Ireland economy. Today’s visit to meet Bombardier NI CEO Michael Ryan provides assurance on the UK Government’s continuing commitment and efforts to protect jobs and the livelihoods of so many people across Northern Ireland and discuss how we can continue to work together to resolve this very serious issue.

There is a compelling requirement for all in politics, in business and across the community to stand as one on this issue.

The UK Government’s commitment has been clear from the outset, with the Prime Minister, Business Secretary and other Cabinet colleagues working tirelessly to bring this matter to a satisfactory conclusion.

I want to echo comments by Defence Secretary Rt Hon Sir Michael Fallon MP that this is an unjustified action by Boeing and whatever course of action they take could have an impact on any future dealings they may have with the UK Government.

The Government is committed to building a stronger economy across the UK, including Northern Ireland. But it is clear economic success, securing existing jobs and creating new ones, attracting local and foreign direct investment is largely dependent on sustainable and stable Government.

We will continue to work with the senior management at Bombardier, the trade unions and the workforce as well as with the Canadian and US Governments to find a resolution. I hope this fight can be boosted by getting Stormont back up and running. I remain hopeful a political deal can be done and I again call on the parties to resolve differences and work together for everyone in Northern Ireland.