

Ties with major Asian economy boosted through new agreement

Press release

Foreign Secretary Liz Truss has today launched a major new agreement with Indonesia, to turbocharge trade, tech and security ties.



The '[UK-Indonesia Roadmap](#)' between the 2 democracies commits to closer working across a range of important areas from trade and investment, to counterterrorism and cyber security.

It will also boost our security and defence relations, with new defence cooperation, joint training and jungle warfare exercises with the British Army in the pipeline.

The agreement, personally signed off by the Foreign Secretary, will also support a free and open Indo-Pacific, as well as enhance collaboration on investment in sustainable infrastructure projects and industries of the future, like electric vehicles and green technology.

Foreign Secretary, Liz Truss said:

Indonesia is the world's fourth most populous country, a strong democracy with a vibrant economy and a vital part of our efforts to defend freedom, peace and stability.

Deeper ties are a win-win, delivering jobs and opportunities for British people while ensuring an open, secure and prosperous Indo-Pacific.

The [UK-Indonesia Roadmap](#) will also commit to closer ties with the Indonesian economy, which is forecast to more than quintuple in GDP (PPP\$), with 532% growth between 2020 and 2050.

Indonesia is one of the world's most largely populated countries (272

million) and by 2050, forecast to be the world's fourth largest economy. They share UK values on international law, multilateralism and democracy with the new 'Roadmap' set to turbocharge relations.

Ties will also be boosted by the UK's offer of over £4 billion to finance long-term projects with British expertise and the relaunched British International Investment (BII) entering the Southeast Asian market later this year.

Published 19 April 2022

[DIO welcomes new Chief Executive](#)

News story

Mike Green has today joined the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) as its new Chief Executive.



DIO's new Chief Executive Mike Green. Crown Copyright / MOD 2022.

Mike brings with him a wealth of experience, most recently, serving as Chief Operating Officer of the Department for Education (DfE) and Director General of their Operations Directorate. His previous roles include Director of Commercial at DfE and Departmental Lead for the response to Grenfell. Before joining the Civil Service, Mike was a civil engineer and spent his career in the private sector working for companies such as Boots.

Mike said:

I'm honoured to join DIO today as its Chief Executive. DIO is an organisation I've been watching with interest from the sidelines for many years.

Over the next few months, I will be getting to know the organisation and working closely with our customers to ensure that the needs of Service Personnel and families are at the forefront of everything we do.

MOD Permanent Secretary David Williams said:

Mike brings a wealth of very relevant leadership, commercial, transformation and delivery experience and the strong customer focus required to deliver effective service improvements.

DIO Board Chairperson Neil Sachdev said:

It's an exciting time in DIO's journey, as it steps up to the challenge of delivering against its ambitious 10-year strategy. Mike joins us at a time when DIO steps up to deliver for our customers, creating a world-class Defence estate.

Mike replaces former Chief Executive Graham Dalton, who retired from DIO last month.

DIO is the estate expert for Defence, supporting the Armed Forces to enable military capability by planning, building, maintaining, and servicing infrastructure.

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[UK to revoke Moscow Stock Exchange's recognised status](#)

Press release

The UK's tax authority, HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC), has today (19 April 2022) announced its intention to revoke the Moscow Stock Exchange's (MOEX) status as a recognised stock exchange.



This means investors will not be able to access certain UK tax benefits in future when trading securities on MOEX, although existing investments will be protected.

The move comes alongside the unprecedented sanctions the UK Government has placed upon Russia because of their illegal invasion of Ukraine.

Financial Secretary to the Treasury, [Lucy Frazer](#), said:

As we continue to isolate Russia in response to their illegal war on Ukraine, revoking Moscow Stock Exchange's recognised status sends a clear message – there is no case for new investments in Russia.

Recognised stock exchange status is a classification given by HMRC for tax purposes, on application, to qualifying stock exchanges. Securities traded on a recognised stock exchange are eligible for certain tax treatments and reliefs.

HMRC proposes to remove MOEX's recognised stock exchange status, limiting access to certain UK treatments and reliefs for future investments in securities traded on MOEX. Access to those treatments and reliefs for existing investments will remain unaffected.

1. This is in response to restrictions the Bank of Russia has placed on foreign investors. On 28 February 2022, MOEX banned brokers from selling assets at the instruction of non-residents of Russia, which means that it is no longer operating in line with the normal commercial standards expected of a recognised exchange.
2. HMRC has [today launched a two-week consultation](#), which will include the draft revocation order, and we invite comments from any interested parties before the decision is finalised.
3. If restrictions placed by MOEX on non-resident investors remain in place, HMRC will publish the revocation order to give effect to this change following consultation.
4. HMRC intends to take these actions alongside the sanctions that the UK is placing on Russia because of the illegal war on Ukraine. HMRC has acted in the interests of all those who value fair and open trading on global stock markets.

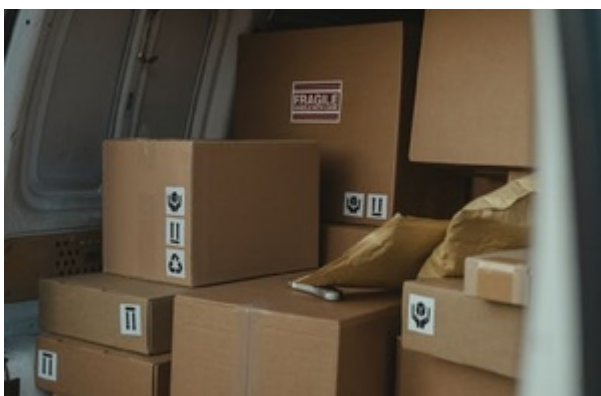
5. Revoking recognised stock exchange status will limit the ability of people who have invested in assets traded on the MOEX to access certain UK tax reliefs which are contingent on that status – such as an exemption from withholding tax on interest bearing Qualifying Eurobonds and eligibility for inclusion in an Individual Savings Account.
6. We've designed the revocation order in such a way that investors should experience no change in respect of their pre-existing investments on MOEX – which we think is a fair approach and protects the interests of current UK taxpayers.
7. But the UK tax reliefs contingent on recognised stock exchange status will not be able to be accessed in respect of future investments in securities traded on MOEX, unless and until the exchange is once again recognised.
8. Follow HMRC's Press Office on Twitter [@HMRCPressOffice](https://twitter.com/HMRCPressOffice).

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[Animal medicine seizure notice: Parcel addressed to premises in Belfast](#)

News story

Details of seizure notice served following a parcel addressed to premises in Belfast was stopped at a Belfast depot.



The following veterinary medicines were identified by a courier company based at a Belfast depot. The products were then detained and subsequently seized by Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA).

This parcel was addressed to residential premises in Belfast and was shipped from Canada.

The parcel contained bottles/packages labelled:

- B2 – 4 bottles
- B2 ready – 2 bottles
- Clotol concentrate – 2 bottles
- Cobalt 100 – 3 bottles
- Pre-Ferrin 20cc twice weekly – 4 bottles
- AD – 12 bottles
- Unidentifiable powders – 10 packets
- Unidentifiable bottles – 4 bottles

These products were seized as they are purporting to be veterinary medicines intended for use in horses.

The medicines were seized under Regulation 25 (Importation of unauthorised veterinary medicinal products) of the Veterinary Medicines Regulations 2013.

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[Pair convicted for waste injection scheme](#)

Company director Neal Tremayne used his firm, Carnon Valley Transport, to collect raw sewage, septic tank contents and other controlled wastes from holiday and caravan parks, hotels, a farm, abattoir and a car dealership. He then put that liquid waste into giant storage tankers belonging to Brian Matthews.

Matthews was paid a quarter of the going rate for legitimate disposal and he did this by injecting the mixture into the ground at agricultural locations he rented in Kehelland, Crosslanes, Sparnock and Mithian in West Cornwall. Both men pleaded guilty to various environmental offences.

For negligent culpability and environmental harm, Matthews, of Twelvehead, Truro was ordered to pay £136,674.50 under the Proceeds of Crime Act within 3 months or face imprisonment, fined £8,000 plus £10,000 in costs at Truro Crown Court on 14 April 2022, bringing the long-running case to a close.

Judge Carr called Matthews' operation "woefully lax and inadequate". He said:

It was effectively an open door policy for waste to be deposited. No staff on site, no inspections, no checking of the chits.

It was no surprise that Brian Matthews was able to charge significantly less for disposal and run a profitable business, making £1.3 million between 2013 and 2019.

For his reckless offending, Tremayne of Penryn, Cornwall, was ordered to pay £80,000 under the Proceeds of Crime Act within 3 months or face imprisonment, given a four-month prison sentence suspended for 12 months, alongside fines for him and his firm totalling £3,000 plus £3,450 in costs.

A spokesperson for the Environment Agency said:

When done properly and with care, sludge from sewage plants and septic tanks can provide suitable crop nutrient. However, if abused as a cheap and nasty form of disposal to undercut the competitive marketplace, then it is not just legitimate businesses that suffer but also the environment.

There are regulations in place to prevent toxic chemicals like these from polluting the environment and endangering human health. Ignorance of the rules is not a defence.

Injecting and spreading suitable wastes to agricultural land is a farming practice used to improve field nutrient levels using manure and slurry. Sludge from sewage plants and residual septic tank sludge can also be used, with care. Raw sewage can carry potentially toxic elements – viruses, bacteria and pathogens like salmonella.

During interview, Tremayne claimed he was keeping costs down for customers of his Carnon Valley Transport Ltd business by paying Matthews £27 to dispose of a 4,500l tanker load of liquid waste – considerably less than the going rate of £60-£100 for proper disposal.

Matthews also admitted during interview that he could only accept septic tank waste, but anything could have been going into tanks at his sites. During the two-year period investigated by the Environment Agency, Matthews accepted around 73 million litres of liquid waste – the equivalent of £432,000 income.

Tremayne admitted failing to give waste transfer notes to customers which detail where waste has come from, its quantity, contents and destination. Matthews did not have the proper measures in place to check that only septic tank waste was going into his tanks, nor did he have the environmental permits needed to screen and test the waste prior to storage for spreading.

Waste transfer notes were produced by Tremayne for one client, an upmarket car retailer. The note claimed car wash effluent was being taken to South West Water for disposal. In reality, it was given to Matthews for injection into the ground.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Tremayne pleaded guilty to the following charges under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010 at Truro Crown Court on 13 November 2019:

Two counts of operating a regulated facility otherwise under or in accordance

with an environmental permit contrary to regulations 38(1)(a) and 12(1)(a) at:

- Allowing the commission of the offence of collection and disposal of liquid waste between 6 April 2010 and 10 December 2016 and 11 December 2016 to 31 March 2018.

One count of failing to comply with a duty of care contrary to section 34(1) and 34(6) by:

- Allowing the commission of the offence of transferring waste and failing to ensure there was a written description of the waste between 6 April 2010 and 31 March 2018.

One count of fraud contrary to section 1 of the Fraud Act 2006 by:

- Dishonestly intending to make a gain for himself or to cause a loss to another by making false representations to Ocean BMW Ltd, namely providing them with waste transfer notes which stated the waste collected was destined for South West Water treatment works.

His company, Carnon Valley Transport, pleaded guilty to the following charges under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010 at Truro Crown Court on 13 November 2019:

Two counts of operating a regulated facility otherwise under or in accordance with an environmental permit contrary to regulations 38(1)(a) and 12(1)(a) by the:

- Collection and disposal of liquid waste between 6 April 2010 and 10 December 2016 and from 11 December 2016 to 31 March 2018.

One count of failing to comply with a duty of care contrary to section 34(1) and 34(6) by:

- Transferring waste and failing to ensure there was a written description of the waste between 6 April 2010 and 31 March 2018.

Matthews pleaded guilty to the following charges under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010 at Truro Crown Court on 21 February 2022:

Seven counts of operating a regulated facility otherwise under or in accordance with an environmental permit contrary to regulations 38(1)(a) and 12(1)(a) at:

- Four Lanes Farm, Kellhelland, between 6 April 2010 to 10 December 2016.
- Cross Lanes Farm, Twelveheads, between 6 April 2010 and 10 December 2016 and from 11 December 2016 to 31 March 2018.
- Sparnock Farm, Sparnock between 6 April 2010 to 10 December 2016 and from 11 December 2016 to 31 March 2018.
- Trewartha Farm, Mithian, St Agnes between 6 April 2010 to 10 December 2016 and from 11 December 2016 to 31 March 2018.

One count of failing to comply with a duty of care contrary to section 34(1) and 34(6).

Four counts of treating, keeping or disposing of controlled waste in a manner likely to cause pollution of the environment or harm to human health under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 will lie on file.