

## G7 Summit – uniting for a fairer, greener and prosperous future

The G7 grouping of countries is an easy one to criticise. As someone who has attended several of these summits, I know well the risks of them becoming talking shops with wordy communiqués that are forgotten the moment the ink dries. Beyond the theatre, and the perennial questions of how to make this format inclusive, the real test is whether the agreements reached had any substance. This year, the group needed to show that countries could come together and address how we can all build back better from the pandemic, and unite to make the future greener and fairer.

The summit did this on three important shared challenges: coronavirus, climate change, and giving all girls a good education. All three are issues on which Pakistan is a vital partner.

First, on coronavirus, the G7 agreed that no-one is safe until everyone is safe. They recognised that we must work together to prevent an international catastrophe like Covid-19 from happening again. The UK's own world-leading scientists developed the Oxford University-AstraZeneca vaccine which is now saving lives around the globe including in Pakistan. At the summit, the UK pledged to donate at least 100 million surplus vaccine doses within the next year, including 5 million starting in the coming weeks, and out of a total of 1 billion doses pledged by the G7; that's on top of the £548 million we have committed to the global Covax facility so far, which will help supply at least 1.3 billion vaccine doses to over 90 countries. Over £1 billion of new UK aid will help end the pandemic as quickly as possible.

Here in Pakistan we have pivoted our aid budget to help Pakistan fight Covid-19 and to help mitigate its health and economic impacts. G7 countries committed to a new "Pandemic Preparedness Partnership" to save countless lives from future diseases by reducing the time taken to develop new vaccines from 300 to 100 days; and the UK will set up a new Animal Vaccine Manufacturing Centre, building on British scientific excellence, that will help protect people from the risk of zoonotic diseases, here in Pakistan and globally.

Second, on climate change, the G7 agreed that we have to act now to save our planet. As Sir David Attenborough told G7 leaders, our scientific collaboration on vaccines has showed just how much we can achieve together if the goal is clear and urgent. There is much the world can learn from Pakistan as we look to build back better by protecting the environment. Pakistan's pioneering pledge to plant 10 billion trees and its promise to end new coal power investments are being noticed across the globe.

Earlier this month Prime Minister Boris Johnson saluted Pakistan's efforts to set a global leadership example on environmental issues during his speech for World Environment Day, hosted in Islamabad. This was closely followed by a phone call between Prime Minister Boris Johnson and Prime Minister Imran

Khan, underlining the ongoing friendship between our two nations. At the G7, the UK built on its ambitious pledge to cut carbon emissions by 78% by 2035 compared to 1990 levels with further commitments on green finance, protecting our oceans, and on nature conservation. Leaders also committed to conserve or protect at least 30 per cent of land globally by the end of the decade, something Pakistan has already committed to. The UK will host the UN's COP26 Climate Change Summit later this year, and will ensure a voice for the world's most climate-vulnerable countries. Further ambitious commitments from Pakistan will send a powerful signal to the rest of the world.

Third, the G7 agreed that we can only build back from the pandemic if we are better at ensuring opportunities for all in our societies. We know that a country can only reach its full potential when all of its population gets a good education. Pakistani girls and young women have shown time and again they have the ambition and talent to excel, when given the chance. The UK has played an important role in helping to educate girls in Pakistan. Through our education programmes, UK Aid has since 2011 helped over 5.5 million girls in primary school and 2.5 million girls in secondary school.

Last year, nearly 60% of our Chevening scholars (the UK's flagship postgraduate scholarship for leaders) were inspirational Pakistani women. We need to do more – it is not acceptable in today's world that children and especially girls still miss out on a good education. We have to help our children catch up with lost learning due to the pandemic. At the G7, leaders agreed ambitious global targets to get more girls into school and learning, and pledged to increase their support to the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) in time for the Global Education Summit, being co-hosted by the UK and Kenya in July. The UK announced a commitment of £430 million. This is the largest pledge the UK has ever made to GPE; and in time, GPE aims to train 2.2 million more teachers, build 78,000 new classrooms and buy 512 million textbooks, transforming education opportunities for our world's children.

Global challenges do not respect borders. This was not just a small group of countries deciding what was best for the world. Instead, it was about bringing big ideas and resources to help tackle big challenges together, sharing knowledge and expertise. From the streets of Glasgow to the Karakoram mountains, our world is our responsibility. We have to act together – while we still have time.

---

## **Change of Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran: Simon Shercliff**

Press release

Mr Simon Shercliff CMG OBE has been appointed Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran.



Mr Simon Shercliff CMG OBE has been appointed Her Majesty's Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran in succession to Mr Rob Macaire CMG. Mr Shercliff will take up his appointment during August 2021.

## **CURRICULUM VITAE**

Full name: Simon Shercliff

Married to: Emma Louise Shercliff

Children: Two

2018 to 2021 FC0, Director, National Security  
2017 to 2018 Her Majesty's Ambassador to Yemen  
2014 to 2016 Abuja, Deputy Head of Mission  
2012 to 2014 FC0, Head, Counter Terrorism Department  
2011 to 2012 FC0, Deputy Head, South Asia Department  
2008 to 2011 Washington DC, First Secretary – Afghanistan/Pakistan  
2007 to 2008 Kabul, Acting Political Counsellor  
2006 to 2008 Washington DC, First Secretary – Strategic Threats  
2004 to 2006 FC0, Press Officer, then Acting Press Secretary  
2003 to 2004 Baghdad, Private Secretary to UK Special Representative to Iraq  
2003 FC0, Head of Political Section, Iraq Policy Department  
2000 to 2003 Tehran, Second Secretary – Political  
1998 to 1999 FC0, Assistant Desk Officer, Resource Planning Department  
1998 Joined FC0

Published 21 June 2021

---

## **Called-in decision: Symmetry Park, Junction 25 of the M6, Wigan (ref: 3253242 – 21 June 2021)**

We use some essential cookies to make this website work.

We'd like to set additional cookies to understand how you use GOV.UK, remember your settings and improve government services.

We also use cookies set by other sites to help us deliver content from their services.

---

## **Called-in decision: land west of Wingates Industrial Estate, Wimberry Hill Road, Westhoughton, Bolton (ref: 3253244 – 21 June 2021)**

We use some essential cookies to make this website work.

We'd like to set additional cookies to understand how you use GOV.UK, remember your settings and improve government services.

We also use cookies set by other sites to help us deliver content from their services.

---

## **May 2021 Transaction Data**

News story

This data provides information about the number and types of applications that HM Land Registry completed in May 2021.



Image credit: NicoElNino/Shutterstock.com

Please note this data shows what HM Land Registry has been able to process during the time period covered and is not necessarily a reflection of market activity.

In May:

- HM Land Registry completed more than 1,729,460 applications to change or query the Land Register
- the South East topped the table of regional applications with 408,181

HM Land Registry completed 1,729,466 applications in May compared with 1,760,322 in April and 934,380 last May 2020, of which:

- 281,344 were applications for register updates compared with 292,611 in April
- 941,240 were applications for an official copy of a register compared with 959,995 in April
- 213,233 were search and hold queries (official searches) compared with 215,203 in April
- 16,897 were postal applications from non-account holders compared with 16,871 in April

## Applications by region and country

Region/country	March applications	April applications	May applications
South East	496,222	420,311	408,181
Greater London	383,607	327,723	321,549
North West	234,354	197,145	193,992
South West	204,703	172,216	169,319
West Midlands	173,871	145,539	143,621
Yorkshire and the Humber	161,569	135,405	135,143
East Midlands	151,624	127,348	124,503
North	96,479	81,782	82,532

Region/country	March applications	April applications	May applications
East Anglia	87,092	73,063	72,540
Isles of Scilly	86	54	47
Wales	91,590	79,622	77,952
England and Wales (not assigned)	86	114	87
Total	2,081,283	1,760,322	1,729,466

## Top 5 local authority areas

### May 2021 applications

#### Top 5 local authority areas May applications

Birmingham	23,854
City of Westminster	21,672
Leeds	19,933
Cornwall	18,674
Buckinghamshire	18,078

### April 2021 applications

#### Top 5 local authority areas April applications

Birmingham	25,144
City of Westminster	21,544
Leeds	20,992
Cornwall	18,957
Buckinghamshire	18,716

## Top 5 customers

### May 2021 applications

Top 5 customers	May applications
Infotrack Limited	109,685
Enact	32,606
TM Group (UK) Ltd (Search Choice)	28,207
O'Neill Patient	18,992
My Home Move Limited	18,991

### April 2021 applications

Top 5 customers	April applications
Infotrack Limited	109,513
Enact	35,607
TM Group (UK) Ltd (Search Choice)	29,309
My Home Move Limited	21,747

**Top 5 customers**  
**O'Neill Patient**

**April applications**  
**21,004**

## **Access the data**

[Access the full dataset](#) on our Use land and property data service.

## **Next publication**

Transaction Data is published on the 15th working day of each month. The June data will be published at 11am on Monday 21 June 2021.

Published 21 June 2021