

Press release: Historic State Visit celebrates depth and breadth of our longstanding ties with Spain

Spain's State Visit is an opportunity to celebrate our longstanding partnership with Spain and our shared, history, values and interests, the Prime Minister said today, as she prepared to host King Felipe VI at Downing Street.

The three-day visit by King Felipe and Queen Letizia is Spain's first State Visit to the UK since 1986 and follows centuries of diplomatic relations. It highlights the close and vibrant links we have built through cooperation on trade and investment, security and defence, science and innovation, and on the world stage.

Ahead of the UK-Spain Business Forum at Mansion House today, the Prime Minister welcomed the scale of this investment as a sign of the depth of our commercial ties and Spain's continued confidence in the strength of the UK economy.

Britain remains the number one European destination for Spanish investment.

Today's business forum will highlight examples of Spanish investment in a range of sectors across the UK, including:

- today's announcement by Spanish manufacturer CAF that it is to start building trains and trams at a new factory in South Wales. The company will invest £30 million in the facility near Newport, creating 300 jobs and giving a boost to UK manufacturing and the Welsh economy.
- today's announcement by Spanish infrastructure company Sacyr that it will soon open a new London office close to Victoria Station, which will provide a base for further investment and job creation in the UK.
- the ongoing expansion of Luton Airport, whose majority shareholder is Spanish airport operator AENA. Over £100 million is being invested in this major redevelopment which aims to increase capacity by 50% to 18 million passengers and is expected to create thousands of jobs, with the first phase now complete.
- the construction of a £26 million factory on a Steel & Alloy Processing site in Oldbury, as Spanish steel producer Gonvarri Steel Services, part of the Gestamp Group, scales up its production capacity in the West Midlands. The project has been supported by the Department for International Trade and will create more jobs in the local area.

- the recent launch of new clinics in the West Midlands and London by Spanish fertility specialists IVI as they invest in their UK expansion, creating jobs and supporting research.

The Prime Minister also hailed the enduring friendship between Britain and Spain and pledged that our relationship will continue to go from strength to strength as the UK leaves the EU.

Prime Minister Theresa May said:

Britain's longstanding relationship with Spain has been built over centuries on the deep and solid foundations of our shared history, values and interests.

Today, we work closely together in a range of areas to ensure the security and prosperity of our people, including through our military and law enforcement cooperation to fight international terrorism, our academic collaboration on science and innovation, and our growing trade and investment ties.

Indeed, the sheer scale of Spanish investment in Britain demonstrates Spain's continued confidence in the strength of the UK economy, and shows that we can and will maintain the closest possible relationship.

This week's State Visit is an opportunity to celebrate the historic bond between our countries and our citizens. We are firm friends, and I look forward to seeing our partnership go from strength to strength in the years ahead.

Speaking ahead of the UK-Spain Business Forum, International Trade Secretary Liam Fox said:

As an international economic department over the past twelve months we've helped secure more foreign direct investment projects than ever before, supported thousands of UK businesses on their export journey, and continue to promote British trade values across the world.

I'm delighted to welcome further Spanish investment into the UK today, as we remain Spain's number one destination in Europe for direct foreign investment.

Our diplomatic relations stretch back more than 500 years, and as we leave the EU we want to remain a good friend and neighbour to Europe and build a positive new partnership with each of its member states".

There are over 300,000 Britons living in Spain, while over 130,000 Spaniards have made the UK their home. In today's talks with King Felipe, the Prime Minister will welcome the valuable contribution that Spanish citizens make to Britain's economy and society.

And she will pay tribute to the heroism of Ignacio Echeverría, the Spanish banker who was killed in last month's appalling act of terror at London Bridge as he rushed to help someone who was being attacked.

[Press release: State of the nation's health revealed in landmark report from PHE](#)

The 'Health Profile for England' report is the first time PHE has used its wealth of population health data to give an overall picture of the health of England.

People are living longer than ever – life expectancy in England has now reached 79.5 years for males and 83.1 years for females. However, much of the extra time is spent in poor health.

A major theme of the 'Health Profile for England' report is health inequalities; we are simultaneously publishing a focused report examining health inequalities between different population groups. In the richest areas, people enjoy nearly 20 more years in good health than people in the poorest areas.

The 'Health Profile for England' report covers life expectancy, major causes of death, morbidity trends, European comparisons, inequality in health, social determinants of health and current health protection issues.

Some of the report's more notable findings include:

- life expectancy has increased more than years in good health and therefore the number of years lived in poor health has also increased
- diabetes makes the top 10 causes of ill-health and disability (morbidity) for the first time
- the 2 biggest risk factors behind levels of ill health are excess weight and high blood sugar
- lower back and neck pain are the biggest causes of ill health
- while deaths from heart disease and stroke have halved since 2001, it's still the biggest killer of men
- the biggest killers for women are Alzheimer's disease and dementia

'Health Profile for England' has been created with policymakers, both

national and local, in mind. PHE wants them to use the report as a shared reference point and to think about the broader impact of their policies on health. The report also allows local policymakers to see how they compare with the national picture.

Duncan Selbie, Chief Executive of PHE said:

Good public health is not defined by health policy alone. Our health profiles show a high-quality education, a well-designed and warm home, a good job and a community to belong to are just as important.

The more we consider the impact of all policies on population health, the sooner we can focus on preventing poor health instead of only dealing with its consequences, especially for those from the most deprived communities.

1. [Public Health England](#) exists to protect and improve the nation's health and wellbeing, and reduce health inequalities. It does this through world-class science, knowledge and intelligence, advocacy, partnerships and the delivery of specialist public health services. PHE is an operationally autonomous executive agency of the Department of Health. Follow us on Twitter: [@PHE_uk](#) and Facebook: www.facebook.com/PublicHealthEngland.
2. The '[Health Profile for England](#)' and '[Public Health Outcomes Framework: Health Equity Report, Focus on ethnicity](#)' are available on PHE's website.
3. The 'Health Profile for England' report's 7 chapters are:
 - life expectancy and healthy life expectancy
 - major causes of death and how they have changed
 - trends in morbidity and behavioural risk factors
 - European comparisons
 - inequality in health
 - social determinants of health
 - current and emerging health protection issues
4. The 'Public Health Outcomes Framework: Health Equity Report, Focus on ethnicity' was also published today. It provides analysis and commentary on how different ethnicities compare on 18 indicators and determinants of health.
5. The indicators have been chosen by PHE's Health Equity Board, to help it monitor how PHE performs against its duty to reduce health inequalities and ensure it considers the needs of all individuals in day to day work in shaping policy and delivering services.

Contact:

[Press release: UK Government urges Welsh businesses to export](#)

In 2016 there were more than 3,800 businesses exporting in Wales with an annual combined value of £12.4bn exports. Now, Ministers are urging other business to take up the support on offer including financial incentives and online matching services.

To mark the anniversary Secretary of State for Wales Alun Cairns has announced that he will be writing to 26,000 Welsh businesses that have been identified as potential exporters and sending them a copy of a dedicated exporting guide for Welsh businesses.

The Wales Export Guide, sets out the full range of support available to Welsh businesses from the UK Government and contains inspiring stories of companies based in Wales that are successfully exporting. Alun Cairns hopes that businesses will recognise the huge potential available to help them invest and grow.

Secretary of State for Wales Alun Cairns said:

I want Welsh businesses to get out into the wider world, to trade and do business all around the globe. That is why we are sharing the advice, guidance and support available from the UK Government, in particular from the Department for International Trade, for businesses in our Wales Export Guide. We want to help them to build their brand abroad as we continue to increase UK exports and encourage inward investment.

DIT has helped to secure billions of pounds in export opportunities, and since its creation in July 2016, the department has also supported;

- a trade mission to India which resulted in £1.2 billion worth of business deals
- the largest ever healthcare trade mission to China which saw British organisations sign deals worth more than £250 million
- UK architecture firms to secure a contract worth tens of millions of pounds in UAE

DIT has also set up ten working groups across 15 countries to strengthen trade and commercial ties with key trading partners around the world.

International Trade Minister, Greg Hands said:

We are already a great trading nation, but as an international economic department we now want to encourage businesses to look at whether there could be a global market for their goods and

services.

By designing our own trade policy in Britain's national interest, after we leave the EU, we will be able to take advantage of growing markets around the world and further boost our export successes.

Through great.gov.uk, the department gives UK businesses access to millions of pounds' worth of potential overseas business, helping them start or increase exporting.

There's been more than 2.4 million visits to great.gov.uk and more than 3,300 UK businesses have already registered on the government's 'Find a Buyer' service to match UK businesses to worldwide demand.

Exporting support for Wales

DIT hosted the inaugural Wales Export Business Summit where more than 80 businesses came together to access advice and guidance from entrepreneurs, international business owners and export champions. The summit helped to connect firms starting out on their exporting journey with the expertise they need.

In the last year, DIT has supported almost 1,200 companies in Wales by helping them attend overseas trade shows, carry out crucial market research and develop international relationships.

One Welsh manufacturer that has benefited from government support is Pontypool-based company Flamgard Calidair. Through UK Export Finance, which operates as part of DIT, Flamgard secured a contract to provide specialist fire and shut off dampers to the Chernobyl site. The €1.5bn multinational engineering project, managed by international contractor Novarka, will be installed in late 2017. ENDS

Notes to editors

- Contact the DIT Media and Digital Team on 020 215 2000
Follow us: @tradegovuk gov.uk/dit

[Press release: Jobs boost for Welsh engineering sector](#)

Welsh Secretary Alun Cairns: CAF rail investment a 'strong endorsement' of Wales' skills base and business environment.

Spanish train manufacturer Construcciones y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles (CAF)

has today (13 July) announced plans to create 300 jobs at a new factory at the former Llanwern steelworks site in Newport where it will build trains and trams for the UK network.

The company has previously supplied trains to the UK from its factories in Spain and looked at more than 100 locations throughout the UK before choosing its Newport location due to its transport links and access to a pool of highly skilled workers.

Secretary of State for Wales Alun Cairns said:

The announcement of this new manufacturing facility is fantastic news for Newport and will be welcomed by everyone who wants to see a thriving Welsh manufacturing sector. It means up to 300 new skilled jobs created at the plant, the potential for thousands of jobs secured in the supply chain and the start of a new chapter for this important manufacturing site in south Wales.

We must continue to be ambitious for Wales, and to make this country an attractive destination for investors. CAF is the latest major company to invest in Wales and is yet another strong endorsement of the skills-base and the business environment we are cultivating here. We are very much open for business and I look forward to seeing the new facility taking shape over the coming years.

Richard Garner, CAF's UK Director said:

CAF is responding to demands made by its customers who are asking for British trains, manufactured by British workers using British based suppliers.

The new factory will be over 46,000 square metres and will employ 200 people when it opens in the autumn of 2018, rising to 300 in 2019. The facility will enable the build of a range of different trains, including trams, suburban and metro trains and high speed trains. CAF plans to start recruiting people to work at the factory in spring 2018 and will be offering training and apprenticeship schemes from autumn 2018.

[Press release: Firms urged to apply](#)

for groundbreaking cyber startup scheme

- Programme will be an integral part of developing UK cyber security capability
- UK cyber security sector is now worth more than £22bn

A groundbreaking initiative bringing together GCHQ and industry expertise to develop new cyber security technology is to be extended.

Cutting-edge cyber security entrepreneurs and start-up firms are now being invited to apply to join the second programme in the GCHQ Cyber Accelerator which will be extended from three to nine months.

The expanded programme will give start-ups more time with the world-class personnel and technological expertise of staff from across GCHQ, including the National Cyber Security Centre, enabling them to expand their capability, improve their ideas, and devise cutting-edge products.

The programme will be delivered by Wayra UK, part of Telefónica, and the selected startups will receive benefits to help them scale all aspects of their businesses, including office space, mentoring and contact with an extensive investor network.

The facility will specifically help new firms turn their ideas into commercial products and services and contribute to the booming UK cyber security sector which grew from £17.6 billion in 2014 to almost £22 billion in 2015.

The accelerator programme is a collaboration between the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), GCHQ, the NCSC, and Wayra UK.

Minister for Digital Matt Hancock said:

We are working hard to make Britain the best place to start and grow a digital business and the safest place to be online.

The GCHQ Cyber Accelerator is a vital part of this work and has already helped some of the most innovative cyber security startups develop cutting-edge new products and services.

I'm pleased to announce the programme is being extended and encourage the nation's talented entrepreneurs to apply.

The accelerator is an important element of the Cheltenham Innovation Centre

and a key commitment in the Government's five-year, £1.9 billion National Cyber Security Strategy which aims to defend the UK in cyberspace, deter our adversaries and develop our cyber security skills and capabilities. DCMS is also planning to launch a second innovation centre – in London – at the end of the year.

The facility brings together experts in this field from government, academia and industry, and is a partnership which is vital to achieving the government's aim of making the UK the best place to start and grow a modern digital business.

Earlier this year, seven start-ups graduated from the accelerator's first programme and to date they have collectively raised more than £2.7m in investment, including follow-on contracts with major companies such as Cisco.

The firms which took part were CounterCraft, CyberOwl, CyberSmart, Elemendar, Spherical Defence, StatusToday and Verimuchme.

Chris Ensor, NCSC Deputy Director of Cyber Skills and Growth, said:

Cyber Accelerator represents a massive opportunity to collaborate with cutting edge companies to drive forward the government's ambitious programme of innovation that is helping to protect the UK from evolving cyber threats.

Gary Stewart, Director of Wayra UK, said:

Improving cyber security is one of the most important challenges that we face, whether as large corporates, SMEs or individual citizens. We are eager to accelerate the growth of the next generation of cybersecurity startups, in partnership with GCHQ, DCMS and our colleagues at Telefónica. The goal is that the start-ups will scale up and we will all be more secure online.

Notes to editors

Wayra UK will deliver the accelerator programme.

Start-ups can apply via wayra.co.uk/gchq today. The closing date for entries is 9 August 2017. Successful start-ups will begin work in the accelerator in October 2017.

The accelerator programme will help start-ups boost and scale initial sales and business development with relevant partners and secure follow-on third-party investment. Start-ups will be given a grant by Wayra UK as well as a physical space to work in. Members will also have the opportunity to learn first-hand about cyber security best practices and gain Cyber Essentials accreditation.

The programme will include insights to Government procurement processes, IP management, export controls and information assurance architecture. There will be opportunities to pitch products and services to Government departments and GCHQ will also offer access to its national and international commercial partners across the cyber security sector.