

UK proposes measures on Continuous Glass Fibre from China be kept

- UK TRA proposes anti-dumping and countervailing measures on Continuous Glass Fibre from China be kept for a further five years
- It has, however, proposed that duties on a specific form, mats made of glass fibre, be revoked.
- Glass fibres are used in the creation of wind turbine blades as well as in construction and automotive applications including manufacture of electric vehicles.

In its [initial findings](#), the UK's [Trade Remedies Authority \(TRA\)](#) has today (20 April 2022) proposed that existing measures on imports of Continuous Glass Fibre from China be maintained.

The TRA's provisional findings, contained in the Statements of Essential Facts, would mean that this UK industry, predominantly based in Wigan, continues to be protected from injury caused by dumped and subsidised imports of products from China for another five years. A 30 day period for comments is now open.

Following a transition review, the TRA has recommended that countervailing and anti-dumping measures be kept on Continuous Glass Fibre products from China. Continuous Glass Fibres are used in the make-up of wind turbine blades, which are integral to the UK Government's strategy to boost the country's energy security. They are also used in such industries as transportation (automotive, marine, aerospace), building and construction, electric/electronics, as well as wider manufacturing of various consumer goods.

The TRA found that imported products from China accounted for 8.44% of total UK imports in 2020, making China the fifth largest source of imports of continuous filament glass fibre products.

The TRA has recommended that the measures on continuous filament glass fibre products be maintained at their current levels until 31 January 2026 – that is five years subsequent to the date when the measure would have expired (31 January 2021) had no transition review been initiated.

However, the TRA determined that mats made of glass fibre should be excluded from the measures. Mats are not produced in the UK, and the TRA did not receive any submissions in relation to keeping mats within the scope of the measure.

While mats of glass fibre produced in China are bought by multiple UK importers, the TRA found no evidence of UK production and there is no suggestion that mats imported from China would compete against domestically produced other forms of Continuous Glass Fibre.

Oliver Griffiths, TRA's Chief Executive, said: "Glass fibre is a vital

component in UK advanced manufacturing, used in wind turbine blades and electric vehicles. The provisional findings we are announcing today would protect UK glass fibre producers from unfair international competition.”

Following today’s publication, there will be a 30-day period in which interested parties can comment on the report. Comments can be submitted by Interested Parties to the TRA via the [Trade Remedies Service website](#).

The TRA will then consider and produce a Final Recommendation, which will be sent to the Secretary of State for International Trade who will make the final decision on whether to uphold the TRA’s recommendation.

Notes to editors:

- The Trade Remedies Authority (TRA) is the independent UK body, established in June 2021, as the first non-departmental public body of the Department for International Trade, that investigates whether trade remedy measures are needed to counter unfair import practices and unforeseen surges of imports.
- Read more about the TRA’s mission in its [Business Plan](#).
- Anti-dumping duties allow a country or union to take action against goods sold at less than their normal value, which is defined as the price for ‘like goods’ sold in the exporter’s home market.
- Trade remedy investigations were carried out by the EU Commission on the UK’s behalf until the UK left the EU. Forty-four EU trade remedy measures of interest to UK producers were carried across into UK law when the UK left the EU and the TRA is currently reviewing each one to assess whether it is suitable for UK needs.
- Countervailing measures address imports which have benefited from a government subsidy that’s countervailable in their country of origin. Trade remedies can only counter certain types of subsidies and these are known as countervailable subsidies. You can find out more in our [online guidance on subsidy investigations](#).

[Recruitment Vacancy in the Corporate Services Team](#)

News story

Details of vacancy for a Facilities and Administrative Officer in the Corporate Services Team.



This interesting job puts you at the heart of the VMD's Corporate Services Team within our Business Support Division. The team provides a range of services which support the business and its staff to deliver the VMD corporate objectives.

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Salary & Pension

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Closing Date

18th May 2022

[Scottish Secretary Alister Jack responds to February 2022 GDP](#)

News story

Our priority is a strong and steady recovery while tackling rising cost of living, says Secretary of State.



Figures for Scotland's GDP for February 2022 have been published [here](#) today.

Scottish Secretary Alister Jack said:

The UK Government-funded vaccine and booster programme is enabling us to live with Covid while protecting our most vulnerable, but we are acutely aware of the new global challenges our economy faces, including from the war in Ukraine.

Our priority remains on a strong and steady recovery and we are helping to tackle the rising cost of living.

We've introduced a package of measures worth £22 billion this financial year. That includes boosting take-home pay by raising the National Insurance threshold and ploughing £9.1 billion into our energy support package – with £290 million in Barnett Consequentials funding council tax rebates in Scotland. That's in addition to the record £41 billion per year funding settlement for the Scottish Government for next three years.

We can, and will, level up all areas of the UK and build back better from these troubled times.

Scotland saw an estimated GDP increase of 0.4% in February, and is now 1.3% above the pre-coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic levels seen in February 2020. Scottish economic output rebounded at the start of 2022 after a fall at the end of 2021.

UK GDP increased 0.1% in February and is 1.5% above its pre-pandemic levels.

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[Insolvency Service tackles further Bounce Back Loan abusers](#)

The Insolvency Service has successfully secured restrictions against a gym operator and roofer after they falsely applied for bounce back loans.

In separate applications, Junaid Dar (31), from Birmingham, and David Michael Godderidge (40), from Tamworth, falsely applied for close to £60,000 from the Bounce Back Loan scheme, intended to support businesses during the pandemic.

In Junaid Dar's case, the Insolvency Service began to investigate his conduct after his company, JDarPT Ltd, entered into liquidation in July 2021.

Investigators uncovered that Junaid Dar legitimately applied for a Bounce Bank Loan after he submitted accurate financial statements and in May 2020, received £13,000.

However, Dar also applied for additional loans by applying to two separate financial institutions. The company received in total a further £32,500 in loans which it was not entitled to.

Junaid Dar is now banned from running companies for 11 years, effective from 27 April 2022.

David Godderidge applied for his own bankruptcy in October 2021 and declared himself as a self-employed roofer.

While assessing David Godderidge's assets to make payments to his creditors, the Official Receiver uncovered in September 2020 that he had provided incorrect information to obtain a Bounce Back Loan far greater than he was entitled to.

The self-employed roofer had instructed a third party to make the loan application on his behalf using inflated turnover figures before spending the £13,000 Bounce Back Loan on gambling in just 3 weeks.

Due to the risk he posed to other creditors, the Official Receiver sought to

extend David Godderidge's bankruptcy restrictions. His bankruptcy undertaking extends his restrictions for 7 years and means he is limited to what credit he can access, and he cannot act as a company director without the permission of the court.

In both cases, the Liquidator and Trustee in bankruptcy are assessing Junaid Dar and David Godderidge's abilities to repay the funds and will pursue if they have the means.

Sue Macleod for the Insolvency Service, said:

Bounce Back Loans were made available for trading businesses adversely affected by the pandemic and were issued based on accurate financial statements.

Both Junaid Dar and David Godderidge cynically applied for loans far greater than they were entitled to and clearly thought they could get away it. Thankfully our interventions uncovered their abuse and their restrictions will prevent them from abusing their position in the future.

Notes to editors

Junaid Dar is of Birmingham and his date of birth February 1991. Company JDarPT Ltd (Company Reg no. 10690408).

David Michael Godderidge is of Tamworth, Staffordshire and his date of birth is February 1982. Details of his Bankruptcy Restriction Undertaking is available on the [Individual Insolvency Register](#).

[Further information about the work of the Insolvency Service, and how to complain about financial misconduct.](#)

Contact Press Office

You can also follow the Insolvency Service on:

[British High Commissioner meets Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif](#)

World news story

British High Commissioner Christian Turner on Wednesday met Prime Minister of Pakistan Shehbaz Sharif at PM House.



Congratulating the Prime Minister on assuming office, the High Commissioner stressed the deep people-to-people ties between the two countries, in this 75th anniversary year of bilateral relations.

The High Commissioner and the Prime Minister discussed the strong bilateral development relationship, with the High Commissioner noting that UK aid has enabled nearly 16m children (including 7.4 million girls) to attend school since 2011.

The High Commissioner and the Prime Minister looked forward to working closely together on this and other areas of shared interest, including global challenges and strengthening trade and investment links.

Notes to editors:

Since 2011, UK aid has: helped over 15.8m children in primary and second school, of which 7.4m are girls; provided training in new skills for almost 250,000 people (of which 47% are women); helped 6.6 million people (53% women) access microfinance loans; and SME loans.

For further information:

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