

## [John McDonnell responds to a report from The UK in a Changing Europe, 'A successful Brexit – four economic tests'](#)

**John**

**McDonnell MP, Labour's Shadow Chancellor**, commenting on a report from The UK in a Changing Europe, 'A successful Brexit – four economic tests', said:

"This is an important and detailed piece of work which should be looked at seriously by everyone involved in the Brexit negotiations.

"It is vital for the good of the country that we can hold the Government to account using a series of tests like this, but to do so we will need much greater openness and transparency than the Government has shown so far.

"That's why Labour's amendments to the Bill in Parliament this week will seek to require regular progress reports from the Government and full Parliamentary scrutiny."

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## [Press release: Interim Manager appointed to Sikh charity](#)

From:

First published:

30 January 2017

Part of:

Interim Manager appointed to The Central Gurdwara (British Isles) London Khalsa Jatha (258324).

The Charity Commission has appointed an Interim Manager to [The Central Gurdwara \(British Isles\) London Khalsa Jatha](#). The appointment comes as part

of the regulator's inquiry into the charity, which began in July 2015.

The inquiry is examining a range of concerns, including the trustees' failure to comply with a previous action plan set by the Commission, and concerns about potential unauthorised trustee benefit and unmanaged conflicts of interest. A statement about the investigation is available on [GOV.UK](http://GOV.UK).

The Commission has now appointed Tom Murdoch of Stone King as Interim Manager of the charity. His task is limited to determining the membership of the charity. The charity's trustees remain responsible for the day-to-day management of the charity, including its financial management.

The Interim Manager was appointed on 26 January 2016.

The Commission's investigation continues. It is the Commission's policy, after it has concluded an inquiry, to publish a report detailing what issues the inquiry looked at, what actions were undertaken as part of the inquiry and what the outcomes were. [Reports of previous inquiries](#) are available on GOV.UK.

The charity's registered number is 258324.

Ends

PR 06/17

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#### Notes to editors

1. The Charity Commission is the independent regulator of charities in England and Wales. To find out more about our work, see our [annual report](#).
2. Search for charities on our [online register](#).
3. Section 46 of the Charities Act 2011 gives the Commission the power to institute inquiries. The opening of an inquiry gives the Commission access to a range of investigative, protective and remedial legal powers.
4. The Commission's decision to announce the opening of a statutory inquiry is based on whether it is in the public interest to do so and with consideration of our objective to increase public trust and confidence in charities.

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## [Ken Skates will visit China to cement](#)

## Welsh Links

Ken Skates announced his impending visit to China at the North Wales Export Forum – one of two events being held to reinforce the Welsh Government's focus on exports and exporters as the UK prepares for life outside of the EU.

The Economy Secretary said:

“I am pleased to have attended both the South Wales and North Wales Export Forum and to have spoken directly to some of our most influential exporters as we prepare for life outside the EU.

“Increasing the value of exports and the number of exporters in Wales have been central pillars of our economic strategy for some time and at this time of change it is more important than ever that we focus on strengthening our trade relations with countries across the world.

“We already have a comprehensive range of support to help companies export and have been proactive in some of the world's largest markets for some time.

“And I am pleased to confirm that next month I will be joining 18 Welsh companies as part of their next trade mission to China with a view to expanding our trade relations and building on what is already a strong and thriving relationship.

“As part of my trip I will be visiting Chongqing and Shanghai and am optimistic that both my visit and the trade mission will enable Welsh companies to win new export business in China.

“This is borne out by experience as my visit and the trade mission to Japan last October has already resulted in £1.4m of orders and potential contracts for the businesses that travelled there.

“I think we all recognise there are challenging times ahead for businesses. I am determined to make sure that we do what we can to help businesses maintain and, indeed, grow their export business as the UK transitions out of the EU.”

One of the companies attending the February trade mission to China and Hong Kong is Wrexham based, specialist manufacturer Conren. Their company export manager, Veronica Dawson said:

“Exporting is key to our business and we currently export to over 30 markets around the world. It has greatly benefitted our

business, providing an essential source of revenue, and it has also encouraged us to be more innovative as we develop our products to meet challenges in the global marketplace.

“The Welsh Government has been key to our export success, providing support and advice as we look to new markets. The Export Forum provided a great opportunity for us to meet other exporters from across Wales and hear how other companies are preparing for the future, and we are very much looking forward to next month’s trade mission.”

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## **[News story: Chief Secretary welcomes an investment of more than £100 million creating 100 jobs in Oxford medical research](#)**

David Gauke, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, was in Oxford today (30 January 2017) to welcome global healthcare company Novo Nordisk’s announcement of an investment of more than £100 million in the city, creating 100 skilled jobs in diabetic drug discovery in a new research centre.

Laboratory facilities are being created in a new state-of-the-art Oxford University building, which has received £12 million of government funding. Two floors of the building will be occupied by Novo Nordisk and two floors by start-up companies created from ongoing Oxford University research.

Novo Nordisk's research will help discover new ways of treating type 2 diabetes, one of the world's biggest public health issues.

The Chief Secretary earlier hosted a round table with senior representatives of Oxford technology companies, covering sectors including autonomous vehicles, biotechnology and reforestation. They discussed government support, including the Industrial Strategy, as well as opportunities and challenges for the future.

Chief Secretary to the Treasury, David Gauke said:

I welcome Novo Nordisk's investment at Oxford University, which is a vote of confidence in the UK's position as a world-leader in science and research.

A thriving science and technology sector is key to supporting economic growth, and the government has committed to support further research and innovation in all sectors with an additional £4.7 billion R&D spending by 2020-21.

We are also listening to our industries about their challenges and ambitions. That's why I sat down today with representatives from some of Britain's outstanding technology companies based in Oxford.

The UK's strengths in science, research and innovation are a major focus of the [government's industrial strategy](#).

The government has announced a range of support for science and technology, including:

- an additional £4.7 billion by 2020-21 of R&D spending – the largest increase by any government since 1979
- this is in addition to existing commitments from the spending review to protect science resource funding in real terms over the parliament and spend £6.9 billion on capital infrastructure between 2015-2021 \*a new Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund, to support business-university collaboration

Meeting attendees:

- Ryan Cawood, CEO Oxford Genetics
- Dr Gordon Sanghera, CEO Nanopore Technologies
- Mike Clary, CEO Bodle Technologies
- Eliot Forster, CEO Immunocore
- Professor Andrew Harrison, CEO Diamond Light Source
- Dr Graeme Smith, CEO Oxbotica