

Autumn Statement 2023: SUMMARY OF KEY POLICY ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>MEASURE / ANNOUNCEMENT</u>	<u>DEVOLVED?</u>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Back to Work Plan' with a package of £2.5bn of new funding designed to support people back into work along with more punitive measures for those on long-term benefits – reform fit note, greater availability of home working, 500,000 offered treatment/support for mental health. Mandatory work placement after 18 months, benefits stopped after further 6 months of not engaging. <p>National Insurance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cut to 10% from 12% on January 6th <p>Occupational Health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearer guidance and support by establishing an expert group to develop a new voluntary OH framework. The government will also work with employers and business representatives to develop and promote best employment practices for employees with health and disability issues. <p>Skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> £50m funding for pilots to increase number of apprenticeships in engineering and other key growth sectors with shortages. HMRC will rewrite guidance around the tax deductibility of training costs for sole traders and the self-employed, to provide more clarity to business on what costs are deductible. Help to Grow – The government will commit to future delivery of the Help to Grow: Management programme beyond 2024-25, providing training to SME leaders. <p>National Living Wage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9.8% increase in the NLW, rising from £10.42 to £11.44 an hour from April 2024. NLW extended to 21- and 22-year-olds, which is a 12.4% increase. 18–20 year olds: increase from £7.49 to £8.60. Under 18 year old: increase from £5.28 to £6.40. Apprenticeship minimum hourly wage going from £5.28 to £6.40 an hour. <p>Domestic Abuse:</p>	<p><i>mixed</i></p> <p><i>UK</i></p> <p><i>GB</i></p> <p><i>Apprenticeships devolved in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland</i></p> <p><i>UK</i></p> <p><i>UK</i></p>

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Housing and Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase local housing allowance rate to 30th percentile of market rate, average of £800 for households next year. • From 2024, new premium planning service for major applications. Local planning authorities can recover full cost of planning applications but must provide fast service or fees will be refunded. A Local Nutrient Mitigation Fund to release stalled housing schemes. • Changes to the planning laws to allow any house to be converted into 2 flats if exterior unaffected. 	<p>UK</p> <p>England only</p>
Transport and Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A further £74m will be made available to help farmers invest in improved slurry infrastructure. • £8.3bn will be redirected from the cancelled HS2 project to resurface local roads • £53m boost to the UK's sustainable aviation fuel industry. • The government will uprate Vehicle Excise Duty rates for cars, vans and motorcycles in line with RPI from 1 April 2024. To support the haulage sector, VED for HGVs and the HGV levy will both remain at 2023-24 rates for 2024-25. • The government is commissioning the NIC to undertake a study on how connected and autonomous vehicles and mobility can deliver growth. 	<p>England only</p> <p>UK</p>
International trade and Foreign Direct Investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accept in principle all headline recommendations of Harrington review including increased funding for Office for Investment and the establishment of a concierge service. 	UK
Immigration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore further reforms to the business visitor rules in 2024, in addition to planned expansion from January 2024. • Expanding new and existing youth mobility schemes. 	<p>UK</p> <p>UK</p>
Childcare & Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £7 million to tackle antisemitism in schools and universities. 	UK
Local Growth / Devolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A third Investment Zone in West Yorkshire and extension of the Investment Zone programme and freeport tax relief from five to ten years. Funding for the programme will double to £160m. • 3 further investment zones: West Mids, East Mids, Greater Manchester. • 55 local projects will be awarded a share of almost £1bn in the third round of the Levelling Up Fund. £122m of this will go to six regeneration and transport projects in Scotland. £111m will go to seven projects in Wales, including regenerating Port Talbot town centre and upgrading cycle routes. 	<p>England only</p> <p>England only</p> <p>UK</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The government is also announcing four new devolution deals and an intention to expand Level 2 devolution to eligible councils across England that represent a whole county or functional economic area. This includes new Level 3 deals with Greater Lincolnshire, and Hull and East Yorkshire, and Level 2, non-mayoral, deals with Cornwall and Lancashire. Extending 100% Business Rates Retention for Greater Manchester and West Midlands Mayoral Combined Authorities. Welsh Freeport: initial 5 years tax reliefs offer. 	<p><i>England only</i></p> <p><i>England only</i></p> <p><i>Wales only</i></p>
Pensions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £320m to deliver Mansion House reforms. Honour triple lock, increase state pension by 8.5% from April next year, up to £900 a year. Consultation on giving workers legal right to require employer to pay into existing pot so can have one 'pot for life'. Reduce the authorised surplus payment charge from 35% to 25%. the government is confirming its intention to establish a Growth Fund within the British Business Bank. The Growth Fund will give pension schemes access to the BBB's pipeline of opportunities, crowding private capital into the UK's most promising businesses. 	<p><i>UK</i></p> <p><i>UK</i></p> <p><i>UK</i></p> <p><i>UK</i></p>
Research & Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £20m to support 'spin-out' companies created using research done in UK universities. £5million 'Fleming centre' to tackle anti-microbial resistance. R&D tax credit scheme combined (as expected). £15 million funding for calls to nurture innovation for satellite communications. 	<p><i>UK</i></p> <p><i>UK</i></p> <p><i>UK</i></p>
Digital, Culture, Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £500million over 2 years to fund AI innovation centres. 	<p><i>UK</i></p> <p><i>UK</i></p>
Industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> £4.5bn in funding for British manufacturing, available from 2025 for five years. Includes £2billion for zero emissions vehicles, £520million for life sciences. 	<p><i>UK</i></p>

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Defence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">£10million for new veterans' programme.Maintain commitment to 2% GDP on defence.	UK
Late payments	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Any company bidding for large government contracts will have to demonstrate they pay within 55 days, reducing over time to 45 and then 30 days.	UK
Business Visas	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Expand the business visitor rules to allow businesspeople to engage in a wider range of permitted activities and paid engagements, to take effect from January 2024. The government will also explore further reforms to the business visitor rules, during 2024.	UK

British Chambers of Commerce.

22 November 2023