



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

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Chemicals regulation post-EU Exit

Dear Lord Teverson,

At the Committee's evidence session on 22 October, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs undertook to write to the Committee, setting out the tariff rates that would be applicable to imports of chemicals and chemical products after 1 January 2021. I have been asked to write on his behalf.

The UK Global Tariff (UKGT) is the UK's permanent Most Favoured Nation (MFN) tariff schedule. The UKGT tariff rates will come into force on 1 January 2021, at which point the UK will transition to MFN terms with all those nations where there is not a preferential arrangement in place, such as a Free Trade Agreement. The Government intends to achieve a Free Trade Agreement with the EU by December 2020.

Under the UKGT, tariffs have been retained on some industrial products in the chemical sector in order to support UK manufacturing and maintain preferential market access for developing country exporters. In setting tariff rates on chemicals, the Government has reflected carefully on the interests of UK businesses, manufacturers and consumers, as well as the views expressed in the public consultation in February 2020.

As a result of these considerations, under the UKGT, the simple average tariff on chemical products is 3.1%. Any specific tariff rates can be found on the UK Global Tariff tool on GOV.UK.

I would be happy to relay any further questions or comments on the UKGT to the Department for International Trade, which is responsible for the policy.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Jo Bray
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Cc Office of the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Gabrielle Edwards, Deputy Director, Chemicals, Pesticides and Hazardous Waste, Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs