

20 June 2023

Mr Anthony Mangnall
MP for Totnes
House of Commons

Letter sent by email

Dear Mr Mangnall,

Thank you for your time and questions to Tracy, Syma and I, in your role as a member of the Business and Trade Select Committee last week.

As set out in the CBI's prospectus – [A Renewed CBI](#) – which was discussed and voted on at our Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM), we have committed to being more transparent as an organisation. To that end, and following your line of questioning during the session, I wanted to take this opportunity to confirm the following:

Corporate members

To confirm what was outlined to the Committee, for the first time today the CBI is publishing its membership numbers. As of today, this stands at over **1,100 corporate members**. These members collectively employ over **2.3 million private sector workers** in the UK. Approx. a third of them are SMEs, and over two thirds are based outside of London and the South East.

Trade Association members

The CBI is a unique organisation in that we speak on behalf of all business because of our confederation model, in part due to our nearly **150 Trade Association members**. Through their partnership, and the insights and evidence they provide us, this allows us to speak for nearly **170,000 businesses**.

In total this gives us over **1,200 collective members**. Following a challenging two months for the organisation, we are pleased to have retained more than three quarters of our overall membership.

We believe these figures demonstrate a strong mandate from across the business community. As outlined during the session, these members set and steer the CBI's policy positions and priorities, through our quarterly member council rounds - in every region and nation, and across our sectors – with 1,000 representatives from over 700 member companies contributing.

EGM vote

As we announced following our EGM on 6 June, the CBI received the support of 93% of those members that voted. Those members who had "paused" or "suspended" their membership were given the opportunity to vote, and there were 371 votes in total. We are deeply grateful for the faith shown in us by our members, but that vote was just the first milestone in a wider programme of change at the CBI. We will work tirelessly to repay the faith shown in us, and are committed to living the values and changes we have proposed.

I hope this letter clarifies some of your questions, and thank you again for your time last week.

All best wishes,



Rain Newton-Smith
Director General

cc. Darren Jones MP, Chair – Business and Trade Select Committee
cc. Kenneth Fox – Clerk - Business and Trade Select Committee