



Department for Business & Trade

Blair McDougall MP
**Minister for Small Businesses &
Economic Transformation**
Department for Business and Trade
Old Admiralty Building
Admiralty Place
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2DY

The Baroness Hayter of Kentish Town
Chair, Industry and Regulators Committee
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

T: +44 (0) 020 4551 0011
E: mcdougall.correspondence@businessandtrade.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/dbt

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Dear Dianne,

Thank you for your ongoing, constructive inquiry into Regulators and Growth. Following my oral evidence session on the 24 February 2026, you asked me to write to the committee to provide further detail on the following points.

List of Regulators

The Committee requested further details on whether the department has a full list of regulators. The Government, as of 4 March 2026, has published a list of bodies with statutory regulatory functions that are established in legislation. This may include the setting of standards, inspection and enforcement of compliance with regulations, licensing or grant of certification. The list can be found at [List of UK regulators - GOV.UK](#).

Growth Duty

The Committee asked whether the list of regulators identifies which regulators are subject to the Growth Duty. The Growth Duty applies to regulatory functions, not regulators. However, DBT has a working list of regulators that it considers to be in scope of the Growth Duty. This list, and a detailed explanation of the workings of the Growth Duty scope, are set out in an annex attached to this letter. We keep this list under review to ensure accuracy.

The Office for Investment's Concierge Service

You also requested the department provide further details on the Office for Investment's concierge service, which supports international firms to navigate UK regulatory frameworks.

The Office for Investment: Financial Services (OfI:FS) is a dedicated concierge service within the Office for Investment, which is partnered with HM Treasury, the Financial Conduct Authority, the Prudential Regulation Authority and the City of London Corporation. OfI:FS will act as a single front door to international financial services firms wishing to set up or expand their operations in the UK. The OfI provides regulatory assistance and wider business support in a structured, coordinated way to ensure a streamlined investor experience. By bringing together the different elements of the UK ecosystem, including the regulatory bodies, OfI:FS offers a free comprehensive, bespoke support to firms looking to establish and expand their presence in the UK.

OfI:FS has been actively engaging with a number of international financial services firms across sector and supporting them on their regulatory and wider business needs.

I would like to take this opportunity to clarify my remark at the Industry and Regulators Committee hearing on 24 February regarding the Legal Services Board. You asked me whether the Legal Services Board was one of the 16 regulators mentioned in the Regulatory Action Plan, which we consider to be core to supporting economic growth. I said that the regulator did form part of the 16 regulators in this list. I wish to clarify that the Legal Services Board is not one of the 16 regulators in this list and I apologise for any confusion caused by the above suggestion.

I hope the details provided in the letter and attached annex are satisfactory and of use to the committee.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Blair McDougall". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

BLAIR McDOUGALL MP

Minister for Small Businesses and Economic Transformation

Annex: Growth Duty Scope

1. The 2015 Deregulation Act and subsequent Economic Growth (Regulatory Functions) Order 2017 combined create the framework for the Growth Duty. The Growth Duty is set out in section 108 of the 2015 Act. Section 109 created a delegated power for ministers to specify the regulatory functions (the term “regulatory function” is defined in s.111 of the Act) to which the duty should apply (meaning the functions to which the duty applies is a matter for ministers and not Parliament).
2. The Growth Duty applies to regulatory functions – as defined by the 2015 Act, and as specified in the Schedule attached to the 2017 Order. The Schedule is set out in three parts.
 - Part 1** of the Schedule specifies regulatory functions exercisable by specified named regulators.
 - Part 2** of the Schedule specifies regulatory functions exercisable by regulators who are not named - they are included by virtue of legislation under which they exercise regulatory functions. In practice these are currently the Drinking Water Inspectorate; the Chief Inspector of Drinking Water; and the Financial Reporting Council (FRC).
 - Part 3** specifies regulatory functions exercisable by a Minister of the Crown.
3. The structure of the Growth Duty in law creates two complications which mean that any list of regulators in scope cannot be regarded as definitive:
 - 1) the duty only applies to ‘regulatory functions’, as defined in the 2015 Act (s.111) of the listed regulators, and functions can change or transfer to other persons; and
 - 2) Part 3 of the Schedule covers regulatory functions under various primary legislation that are exercisable by a Minister of the Crown, but in some cases the functions specified in Part 3 may have been delegated by these Ministers to regulators or other persons.
4. DBT has a working list of regulators that it considers to be currently in scope of the Growth Duty. That working list was referred to in Figure 5, page 29 of the [NAO report](#). This list stems from an exercise conducted from 2023 ahead of several workstreams aimed to improve the impact of the Growth Duty, such as issuing refreshed statutory guidance, extending it to Ofgem, Ofcom and Ofwat, and creating a Growth Duty Performance Framework.
5. Because the Duty follows regulatory functions, any list of regulators within scope of the Duty is always subject to change. However, we believe that DBT has taken proportionate steps on scope within the limitations of the 2017 legislative approach.
6. As announced in October 2025, this government plans to now create a stronger Growth Duty “so that the legal framework is clearer, more focused and ensures regulators must consider and promote growth”. This will include having a much clearer scope.
7. Regulators DBT considers to be currently within scope of the Duty are the:
 - Animal and Plant Health Agency
 - Animals in Science Regulation Unit
 - British Hallmarking Council
 - The Building Safety Regulator

- Care Quality Commission
- Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (inc. Fish Health Inspectorate)
- Charity Commission for England and Wales
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Coal Authority (now the “Mining Remediation Authority”)
- Commissioners of Irish Lights
- Companies House
- Drinking Water Inspectorate
- Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency
- Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency
- Employment Agency Standards Inspectorate
- Environment Agency
- Financial Reporting Council
- Food Standards Agency
- Forestry Commission
- Gambling Commission
- Gangmasters and Labour Abuse Authority
- Gas and Electricity Markets Authority
- Groceries Code Adjudicator
- Health and Safety Executive
- Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England
- HM Land Registry
- HM Revenue and Customs
- Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority
- Human Tissue Authority
- Information Commissioner's Office
- Insolvency Service
- Intellectual Property Office
- Marine Management Organisation
- Maritime and Coastguard Agency
- Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency
- National Highways
- National Measurement and Regulation Office (Regulatory Delivery Directorate) - now part of OPSS)
- Natural England
- North Sea Transition Authority (former Oil and Gas Authority)
- Northern Lighthouse Board (Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses)
- Ofcom
- Office for Nuclear Regulation
- Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills
- Office for Students
- Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem)
- Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation
- Office of Rail and Road
- Office of the Regulator of Community Interest Companies
- Office of the Traffic Commissioner
- Ofwat (The Water Services Regulation Authority)
- Regulator of Social Housing
- Rural Payments Agency

- Security Industry Authority
- Sports Grounds Safety Authority
- The Birmingham Assay Office
- The Edinburgh Assay Office
- The London Assay Office
- The Sheffield Assay Office
- Trinity House
- Vehicle Certification Agency
- Veterinary Medicines Directorate