



Department for
Business & Trade

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Update following round 4 of negotiations on an enhanced Free Trade Agreement with Turkey

Dear Liam,

I am writing to update the Business and Trade Committee on progress made in the fourth round of negotiations on an enhanced Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Turkey, which took place in London between 23 and 27 February 2026.

Economic growth is our first mission in government and FTAs have an important role to play in achieving this. Trade between the UK and Turkey already stands at £28.3 billion in the 12 months ending in September 2025, representing an increase of 5.8% from the previous year.

Negotiations were productive, with positive progress being made in a number of areas:

Trade in Services

Constructive discussions took place across a range of technical areas, including Investment, Digital Trade, Telecommunications, Cross-Border Trade in Services, the Movement of Business Persons and Legal Services. Both sides continued to engage productively, building on progress made in previous rounds.

Trade in Goods

Detailed discussions took place across Trade in Goods, Customs and Trade Facilitation, and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures. Negotiators continued to discuss proposals and relevant data with a view to unlocking commercially meaningful opportunities for UK exporters. On Customs and Trade Facilitation, discussions focused on strengthening cooperation between customs authorities to support predictable, transparent and efficient border procedures. On Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, both sides continued exchanges on practical cooperation to facilitate safe trade in agri-food products while maintaining and upholding the UK's high standards.

Additional areas

Substantial progress was made across a number of additional chapters, including Intellectual Property, Government Procurement, Anti-Corruption, Labour, Environment, State-Owned Enterprises and Dispute Settlement. Both sides continued constructive engagement on regulatory and institutional provisions to support the effective implementation of any future agreement.

A stronger trade relationship with Turkey will support jobs and prosperity in the UK. Nevertheless, the UK will only ever sign a trade agreement which aligns with the UK's national interests, upholding our high standards across a range of sectors.

The fifth round of negotiations is expected to take place before summer.

Ministers will update Parliament on the progress of discussions with Turkey as negotiations progress. My Chief Negotiator, Ilaria Regondi, also stands ready to attend a private briefing with the Committee, as she has done previously, if and when helpful.

Yours sincerely,

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

SIR CHRIS BRYANT MP
Minister of State for Trade
Department for Business and Trade