



Department for Business & Trade

Sir Chris Bryant MP
Minister of State for Trade
Department for Business and Trade
Old Admiralty Building
Admiralty Place
Whitehall
London
SW1A 2DY

The Rt Hon Liam Byrne MP
Chair, Business and Trade Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

T: +44 (0) 020 4551 0011

E: Bryant.correspondence@businessandtrade.gov.uk

W: www.gov.uk/dbt

23 April 2026

Dear Liam,

The UK and our allies' collective sanctions have deprived Russia of the critical components, machinery and technology needed to support their illegal war. However, as we've all seen, Russia is going to great lengths to circumvent our sanctions and obtain these goods.

Following my announcement at the Business and Trade Sub-Committee in February, I am pleased to confirm that yesterday the Government legislated to introduce Sanctions End-Use Controls (SEUC), a new power to strengthen our response to trade sanctions circumvention. This measure will come into force on 12 May 2026.

This initiative directly targets the diversion of sanctioned goods and related technology through third countries, preventing them from reaching sanctioned destinations. The controls build on our ongoing work to bolster the UK's sanctions regimes following the sanctions enforcement review last year and will go further to deny Russia and other sanctioned destinations access to key goods and technology.

These new powers will allow us to subject exports of concern that are not already captured by export controls to a licensing requirement prior to export from the UK. This means that, when we identify a risk of diversion to a sanctioned destination, we can subject that export to further scrutiny through a licensing process and ultimately prevent exports to third countries where a credible risk of circumvention is identified.

The licensing process will operate on a case-by-case basis, minimising unnecessary impact and targeting only those exports with credible risk of diversion. This will keep administrative burdens to a minimum and allow the vast majority of exports to proceed unimpeded. To further support to exporters, we have published comprehensive [guidance on exports that are a greater risk of diversion](#) to Russia and steps businesses can take to manage diversion risk, as well as publishing [guidance on the new powers and how they will operate](#).

This measure reinforces our capability to intercept potential breaches before goods leave the UK and supports exporters in maintaining compliance, as well as further expanding and strengthening our sanctions enforcement toolkit.

I trust the Committee will appreciate the significance of this measure in safeguarding UK interests and maintaining the effectiveness of our sanctions policies. I look forward to your continued support and engagement as we implement these controls.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Chris Bryant". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chris" and the last name "Bryant" clearly legible.

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