Foreign Investors *for* Britain

If higher taxes drive money away, Britain needs a better offer FIFB says reported CGT decision reinforces the case for a competitive Global Investor Visa

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Foreign Investors for Britain (FIFB) today said reports that Chancellor John Healey will reject further Capital Gains Tax increases reinforce its warning that tax policy must account for how investors respond—not simply what higher rates promise on paper.

According to Treasury sources cited in the reporting, the Chancellor has concluded that an increase could ultimately cost the Treasury if wealthy individuals defer asset sales or move assets out of the country.

Leslie MacLeod-Miller, FIFB Chief Executive, said:

“This is precisely the point FIFB has made since the proposals to remove non-dom protections for foreign income and assets: a higher tax charge does not automatically produce higher receipts.

“If people delay transactions, relocate or choose to invest elsewhere, the anticipated revenue may not materialise. Britain must take behaviour and international competition seriously.

“It has been difficult to identify a coherent, credible strategy for economic growth in recent UK Budgets. The Government’s actions have too often failed to match its rhetoric. Ministers cannot champion growth while making Britain a less attractive place to invest and build.

“Of course those with the broadest shoulders should contribute more. But the broadest shoulders often have the longest legs. If Britain does not compete, internationally mobile investors can choose Greece, Italy or the UAE.

“Recognising that investment can leave is only the first step. Giving it a reason to come here—and stay—is the next.”

Replace uncertainty with investment

FIFB urged the Chancellor to turn that recognition into a positive Budget offer through its proposed Global Investor Visa and associated investor tax framework.

The proposal would replace the four-year Foreign Income and Gains (FIG) regime prospectively with a contribution-based framework lasting up to 15 tax years. Qualifying participants would be required to:

- Invest at least £2.5 million in qualifying UK investments.
- Pay an annual £200,000 contribution to HMRC.
- Remain subject to ordinary taxation of UK-source income, gains and assets.
- Meet enhanced due-diligence, reporting and continuing compliance requirements.

In return, qualifying participants would receive defined relief for foreign income and gains, including when remitted to Britain, and proposed inheritance-tax protection for genuinely foreign assets.

The framework would include qualifying existing residents, returners and new arrivals, including eligible British citizens and people with an independent right to reside who do not need an investor visa.

MacLeod-Miller said:

“This is not a free pass. It is a substantial investment commitment, a substantial annual contribution and a clear reason to build in Britain.

“We propose replacing a short-term tax-relief window with a long-term bargain that requires participants to invest and contribute.

“Britain needs to show that it is open for business. Growth requires a competitive tax regime, predictable rules and confidence that investment is welcome. A growth strategy must be more than a speech—it must change the decisions people make.”

A stronger economy to fund Britain’s priorities

FIFB estimates that its proposal could generate more than £225 billion in investment and wider economic benefits over ten years. The estimate remains subject to validation and is not a forecast of equivalent Treasury receipts or a guaranteed return.

MacLeod-Miller concluded:

“The answer is not to abandon fair taxation. It is to design a competitive framework that secures investment, creates jobs and strengthens the revenues available for defence, social care and housing.

“The Chancellor’s reported CGT decision recognises the risk. The Global Investor Visa offers a practical response.

“Bring investment in. Keep enterprise here. Give prosperity a reason to choose Britain.”

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