Foreign Investors *for* Britain

# Foreign Investor Visa for Growth - FIFB urges Chancellor to make Wednesday's Budget a test of leadership, credibility and competitiveness

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*Britain needs a growth plan—not optimism on tap*

Foreign Investors for Britain (FIFB) today urged the Chancellor to use Wednesday's Budget to demonstrate economic leadership: protect fiscal credibility, restore investor confidence and introduce a competitive Global Investor Visa and tax framework.

Responding to pre-Budget warnings from major bond investors, FIFB said sound public finances and a credible offer for international investment must reinforce one another—not give way to optimistic assumptions about growth.

Leslie MacLeod-Miller, FIFB Chief Executive, said:

"Boring can be beautiful in the bond market. But fiscal discipline must come with a serious plan to attract investment and grow the economy.

"Against geopolitical headwinds and intense pressure on public finances, this Budget is a test of leadership. A new Cabinet must prove its competence through decisions—not declarations.

"The honeymoon is over. Open-necked optimism is not an economic strategy. Without sound policy, the beer will go flat long before the investment arrives.

"Britain needs to be as convincing in the boardroom as it is comfortable in the pub."

A partnership for investment

FIFB urged ministers to work with international investors and employers on a competitive framework that secures substantial contributions while protecting qualifying foreign income and assets.

MacLeod-Miller said:

“Of course those with the broadest shoulders should bear a fair share of the burden. But the broadest shoulders often have the longest legs.

“The answer is not to excuse contribution. It is to secure it—with an offer that encourages entrepreneurs to stay, return and build here, rather than choose Italy, Greece or the UAE.

“A government of partnership must work with the international community—not simply announce what it expects that community to pay.”

FIFB’s proposed Global Investor Visa and associated tax framework would require qualifying participants to:

Invest at least £2.5 million in qualifying UK investments.

Pay an annual £200,000 contribution to HMRC for up to 15 tax years.

Remain subject to ordinary taxation of UK-source income, gains and assets.

Meet rigorous due-diligence, reporting and continuing compliance requirements.

In return, participants would receive defined protections for qualifying foreign income and gains and genuinely non-UK assets, including inheritance-tax protection during participation. The framework would prospectively replace FIG and include qualifying existing residents, returners and new arrivals. Independent research from Oxford Economics shows that IHT on non-UK assets and income is the red-line for 85% of former non-doms - we can create the ideal tax regime that is a win-win for every working person, and stops the exodus of wealth from the UK.

FIFB estimates potential investment and wider economic benefits exceeding £225 billion over ten years, subject to validation—not equivalent Treasury receipts or a guaranteed return.

Turn engagement into action

MacLeod-Miller said:

“For the past twelve months, FIFB has offered to meet again with No.10 to help design a world-class investor framework. Special advisors seem to have vanished, now is the time to re-engage. That offer remains open.

“We cannot chase tomorrow’s arrivals while losing entrepreneurs who committed to Britain in good faith. They need confidence that the rules will not keep changing.

“Publish the findings of the Government’s investor-route engagement. Explain the decisions. Deliver a credible growth offer - work with us.

“Wealth and exit taxes are no substitute for competitiveness. Judge a tax by what it delivers after people respond—not what it promises before they do.”

MacLeod-Miller concluded:

“Social care, defence and front-line services need a stronger economy and a durable tax base. That requires investment, enterprise and confidence.

“The Chancellor’s choice is clear: make Britain a competitive home for prosperity—or let other countries welcome the people who generate it.

“Wednesday must deliver policy, not promises. Bring investment in. Keep enterprise here. Give Britain a reason to believe in growth.”

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