



UK and Global Advocacy Roundup (25 May – 8 Jul)

Over the last few months we have focused our advocacy efforts in providing Governments around the world with constructive ideas for how they can support and help businesses, maintain employment and keep cash flowing through businesses and the economy. We have focussed a lot of our efforts on advocating for SME support. We have done this with support of our members and volunteer leadership throughout the world, producing letters covering the UK, Hong Kong, South Africa and Australia.

As we now begin to exit the pandemic, we believe measures put in place by Governments are crucial to helping businesses across the world bounce back. We continue to advocate for the right measures to help navigate this recovery process.

CIMA Letters to Government

CIMA continues to call on Government to put in place measures to help small businesses and the self-employed recover from the global pandemic. We are creating tools and advocating for policies to help this recovery.

1	UK	CIMA Response to the UK Treasury Select Committee Inquiry into Covid-19 and its effects on the UK businesses, finance and economy	June
2	UK	CIMA Response to Education Select Committee Inquiry into Covid-19 and its effects on the UK education sector and schooling	June
3	UK	CIMA Response to the UK Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Select Committee Inquiry into Covid-19 and its effects on UK businesses.	June
4	UK	CIMA Submission to the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Covid-19 Economic Recovery Working Group.	June
5	Ghana	CIMA Submission to the Ghana Education Committee consultation on the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Ghana Bill 2020	June
6	UK	CIMA Policy Suggestions for UK Economic Recovery	July 1
7	UK	Letter to UK Prime Minister on CIMA 20-Point Economic Recovery Plan	July 1



Advocacy Related Media and Press Activity

(OLDEST TO NEWEST) # Title Date

1	Leaders call on Prime Minister to create socially just and green recovery from COVID-19	June 9
2	Letter to the editor: We must invest in business to create a lasting recovery	June 16
3	Long-term recovery will depend on solving the UK's productivity puzzle says CIMA	June 24
4	The Chartered Institute of Management Accountants publishes recommendations for COVID-19 recovery strategy	July 2

Government Inquiries

CIMA is currently participating in the following inquiries

UK	APPG on Apprenticeships: the impact of COVID-19 on apprenticeships and skills
UK	BEIS Select Committee Inquiry post pandemic growth
UK	Labour Party's Green Recovery Consultation
UK	House of Lords EU evidence submission on the future of UK-EU professional and business services
UK	Delivering audit reform

MP/Ministerial Meetings

CIMA has engaged with the following:

UK	MP Gillian Keegan , Apprenticeships and Skills minister & Member of Parliament Apprenticeship Levy
UK	MP John Howell OBE , Member of Parliament CIMA Policy Report on UK Economic Recovery
UK	Julie Marson MP , Member of Treasury Committee & Member of Parliament CIMA Policy Report on UK Economic Recovery



Ghana	Ghana Education Committee on Institute of Chartered Accountants (ICAG) Bill 2020 Inquiry to establish ICAG to promote the study of accountancy; to regulate the accountancy profession and practice and to provide for related matters.
UK	Women and Work All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) Addressing the gendered impacts of the COVID-19 lockdown period and recovery effort
UK	Labour Business & SERA (Labour Party's Environment Campaign) Building back better: a COVID recovery that must be big, just and green

Policy asks

Over the last couple of months, CIMA has worked with members to come up with policy suggestions on ways government can help businesses navigate recovery. On July 1, these suggestions were shared in an open letter to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson and various Ministers on State and the Shadow Cabinet, ahead of the July 8 financial statement. These policy asks will be updated in the coming weeks.

The suggestions outlined below, cover four key areas:

- providing businesses and consumers with the confidence to invest;
- reducing uncertainty for businesses;
- creating a more sustainable business environment;
- investing in skills to help generate economic growth and improve productivity

	Country	Policy Ask
1	UK	Lower the rate of VAT temporarily
2		Cut Employers' National Insurance Contributions
3		Introduce a Growth Accelerator Scheme for SMEs
4		Support UK businesses to change business or operating models to adapt to the crisis and potential future economic crisis.
5		Reduce red tape and support investment
6		Outline tax plans for businesses for at least the next two years to create a certain tax environment for businesses



7		Put on hold plans for increased business regulation until the economic crisis has passed
8		Support for businesses to diversify their supply chains
9		Introduce legislation to create a strategic national stockpile in partnership with businesses to continue delivery of key goods and services
10		Ensure the mobility of professionals and the mutual recognition of qualifications in any future trade deals
11		In the long-term, ensure business have more reserves to weather economic shocks and create an allowance for corporate equity
12		The adoption of integrated reporting should be widely encouraged by businesses across the UK
13		Consider changing insolvency and administration practices in the UK, drawing on experience from the United States and South Africa
14		Invest in green infrastructure making it easier for businesses and consumers to support a net zero target
15		The Apprenticeship Levy to be made into an “Apprenticeship and Skills Levy” where levy money can be spent by employers both on apprenticeships, but also on recognised continuing professional development for reskilling of the current workforce
16		The rules of the apprenticeship scheme to change to allow providers to be end point assessors and tuition providers, reducing complexity and cost
17		Maintain spending on higher level apprenticeships
18		Rebuttable right to retrain
19		Create and invest in skills clusters across the UK and look at models such as development corporations to help drive both public and private investment into left-behind regions
20		Look to what lessons from other countries can be learned on R&D tax incentives



These suggestions are based on evidence on what has previously worked to support economic growth, increase consumer and business confidence and increase productivity.

More on this can be found in the [CIMA Policy Suggestions for UK Economic Recovery](#) document. Below we provide an overview of suggested measures.

Events

June 17	Chairmen's Forum meeting with Sir Jon Thompson – Chief Executive, Financial Reporting Council	The Chairmen's Forum had its first virtual meeting on June 17. Sir Jon Thompson, Chief executive of the FRC, discussed the FRC's transition to the new regulatory body ARGA. Also discussed were the regulatory changes companies should expect to see in terms of corporate governance, reporting and audit, and what the new regulator expects to see from companies in how they operate and practice.
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