



## UK and Global Advocacy Roundup (September)

Over the last few months, governments across the world have worked hard to tackle the economic and social challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. During this period, we focused our advocacy efforts on providing governments with constructive ideas for how they could support and help businesses navigate the pandemic and keep cash flowing through the economy. We also focused a lot of our efforts on advocating for SME support with help from our members and volunteer leadership across the world.

As rebuilding becomes the focus and governments chart a course for economic recovery, we are advocating for longer term measures which would support economic growth and increase consumer and business confidence. We believe businesses can help stabilise the economy but need a helping hand from the government to take some uncertainty out of the system.

Introducing the right measures in the form of access to grants and schemes would allow businesses to look ahead with a degree of certainty, rebuild confidence and ultimately help the global economy bounce back.

### CIMA Letters to Parliament

CIMA continues to call on Government to put in place measures to drive long term economic recovery from the global pandemic. We are advocating for policies that will rebuild confidence, create jobs and allow businesses to look ahead with a degree of certainty. We have also written to the UK's Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Select Committee regarding their ongoing inquiry into Post-Pandemic Growth.

### Upcoming

South Africa	Letter to the South Africa Government: Suggestions for economic recovery	October
Botswana	Letter to the Botswana Government on the COVID-19 loan guarantee scheme	October

### Advocacy Related Media and Press Activity

#### Upcoming

Ghana	Advertorial: ICAG Bill 2020	October
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### Government Inquiries

CIMA is currently participating in the following inquiries

UK	<a href="#">Institute for Apprenticeship &amp; Technical Education Funding Consultation</a>
UK	<a href="#">HM Treasury – Economic Crime Levy</a>
UK	<a href="#">Recognition of professional qualifications and regulation of professions: call for evidence</a> The Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee's request for insight on the UK's approach to the recognition of professional qualifications and regulation of professions.



### Consultation responses

CIMA has recently responded to the following consultations

UK	<a href="#">2020 Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR)</a>
UK	<a href="#">Labour Party's Green Recovery Consultation</a>
UK	<a href="#">House of Lords EU evidence submission on the future of UK-EU professional and business services</a>
UK	<a href="#">Delivering audit reform</a>
UK	<a href="#">APPG on Apprenticeships: the impact of COVID-19 on apprenticeships and skills</a>
UK	<a href="#">BEIS Select Committee Post Pandemic Growth</a>
UK	<a href="#">BEIS Post-Pandemic Economic Growth – Industrial Strategy</a>
UK	<a href="#">Post-pandemic economic growth: Levelling up - local and regional structures and the delivery of economic growth</a>  This sub-inquiry forms part of the Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Committee's overall 'super-inquiry' into Post-Pandemic Economic Growth.

### Upcoming responses

UK	CIMA Economic Submission 2020
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### Upcoming meetings

UK	Gillian Keegan MP – Apprenticeships and Skills Minister
UK	Policy Exchange – one of the UKs leading think tank

### Ongoing research

CIMA is conducting the following:

UK	<b>Apprenticeship research: CIMA / No. 10 Downing street</b>  This research piece collects the experiences of employers and apprentices making use of the Apprenticeship scheme. It further examines the impact of COVID-19 on the scheme.
UK	<b>Purpose &amp; Profit research: CIMA / International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC)</b>  Research with business leaders from across the globe, which gauges how boardrooms and c-suite executives are balancing purpose and profit. This research piece provides a snapshot of how businesses are focused on creating long-term value for both their shareholders and their stakeholders through their strategy, business model and operations.
UK	<b>UK economic recovery following the COVID crisis: CIMA</b>  This research piece is targeted towards UK SMEs which have been particularly badly hit by the pandemic and will help CIMA better understand where they currently stand and what their priorities are for the foreseeable future.



## Policy asks & wins

Since the start of the pandemic, CIMA has worked with members across the world to come up with policy suggestions on ways government can help businesses navigate recovery.

### UK

Earlier this year, [CIMA Policy Suggestions for UK Economic Recovery](#) were shared in an open letter to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson and various Ministers on State and the Shadow Cabinet.

The suggestions outlined in our open letter to Government, covered 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

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

Last week, the Chancellor delivered his Winter Economy plan speech, announcing a series of economic measures with the aim of providing certainty to businesses and workers as coronavirus restrictions are once again imposed.

Below, we share an update on our policy asks and wins based on measures introduced.

	Country	Advocacy wins
1	UK	What we called for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <a href="#">Extension of self-employed income support</a></li></ul> Measures introduced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Extension of the Self Employment Income Support Scheme Grant (SEISS) until January 2021.</li></ul>
2	UK	What we called for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <a href="#">Extension of loan repayment period.</a></li></ul> Measure introduced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Introduction of Pay as You Grow Scheme: The scheme will provide flexibility for those repaying a Bounce Back Loan; allowing extension of six to ten years.</li></ul>
3	UK	What we called for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <a href="#">A phased approach</a> to changing the Job Retention Scheme with money for furloughed workers slowly being reduced and a focus on getting those jobs back working.</li><li>- A sector by sector approach adopted and for those in parts of the economy that are still unable to reopen due to health grounds, receive more support from the scheme than those who can safely reopen and resume business.</li></ul> Measures introduced: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Introduction of the job support scheme to replace the furlough scheme. Employees eligible for the scheme get three quarters of their normal salaries for six months.</li></ul>