

SCOTTISH BUSINESS GROWTH GROUP – TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose

There is a broad consensus on the rationale for more regular and focused meetings to explore the economic and business implications of the EU Referendum vote, to represent Scotland's interests, ensure a continuing relationship with Europe, and both optimise our economic performance and support businesses as they pursue new commercial opportunities as they arise. The STUC and Business organisations want to represent their members interests fully in discussions about SG/UK and UK/EU dialogue and negotiations, and that has been welcomed.

The group will ensure that the voice of business, employers and employees is ever present as together we work through all the implications of the Referendum result. It will provide space for constructive dialogue and, where relevant and agreed, partnership working about:

- overcoming economic, commercial and labour market challenges and seizing opportunities,
- post-Referendum business-related policy development within government; and
- communications.

Scope

Constitutional matters are not in scope.

Membership

The group will co-chaired by the Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Jobs and Fair Work and the Secretary of State for Scotland. Members are:

- The Minister for UK Negotiations on Scotland's Place in Europe
- Minister from the Department for Exiting the European Union
- STUC
- the Chair and Chief Executive of the Scottish Chambers of Commerce
- the Chair and Director of the Institute of Directors Scotland;
- the Chair and Chief Executive of SCDI
- the Chair and Director of CBI Scotland
- the Chair and Chief Executive of Scottish Financial Enterprise
- the Policy Convenor and Head of External Affairs of FSB Scotland.

Each organisation may, as required, also field ad hoc representatives where specialist knowledge or technical experience will enhance discussion.

Meeting arrangements

- The group will meet quarterly. Locations are to be confirmed but should be flexible to move between Edinburgh, Glasgow, and other locations.
- Summary minutes will be published online by the Scottish Government and on Gov.uk when approved by members.

Review

All aspects of the group's role and activities will be reviewed and revised after two years. The presumption is that it will be a time-limited group which will be closed down when appropriate.