Business Partnerships Team

“Building long-term partnerships between business and government to tackle the UK’s biggest social and economic challenges”
Introducing you to the Business Partnerships Team

The Business Partnerships Team sits at the heart of the Government in the Cabinet Office Government Communication Service. We work to build successful, long-term partnerships between business and government to deliver the voice of business into policy development and policy evolution. Strong and successful partnerships between business and government are crucial in addressing the UK’s biggest social and economic challenges.

The Business Partnerships Team can support you with:

1. **Navigating government**
   We can help you to navigate government and connect you to relevant Whitehall teams and projects.

2. **Delivering business expertise into government**
   We feed valuable expertise back into government to develop and shape future thinking.

3. **Creating partnerships between your business and the Government to deliver meaningful policy and campaigns**
   We want to have proactive, engaging partnerships, inspiring you to: work with us to address social and economic challenges, support government policy as appropriate and be involved in strategic campaigns.
How we engage with you

The Business Partnerships Team is always looking to engage directly with business. We create forums where representatives from businesses can meet with ministers and government officials to discuss the priority issues.

We do this through a number of different formats including bilaterals, workshops, sector specific roundtables, cross-sector panel events and receptions. Our annual ‘Business Briefing’ event takes place at the beginning of the calendar year, attracting over 100 different businesses and providing the opportunity to engage with ministers and government officials to understand government priorities for the year ahead.

If you would be interested in attending one of our future events, please email: partnerships-team@cabinetoffice.gov.uk
Delivering business expertise

The Business Partnerships Team is part of the Future Policy Network, co-ordinated by the Cabinet Office’s Economic and Domestic Affairs Secretariat.

The Business Partnerships Team and the Future Policy Network sit right at the heart of policy development. Our experience of collaboration with businesses enables us to feed the views of business into policy development at an early stage.

This innovative and collaborative approach is also used by the team so that we react, and policies adapt, to the challenges within society as and when they arise.

Our team is already working closely with business on a number of projects.

- **Age Tech.** Where we are exploring the role businesses can play in the ‘Ageing Society’ Grand Challenge, with the aim of finding solutions to the problems associated with an ageing society.

- **Returnships.** Which helps those with caring responsibilities get back into the workplace after career breaks. The Business Partnerships Team has led the collaboration of over 50 UK businesses to develop pioneering recruitment programmes.

- **Shared Parental Leave.** We are supporting the Government Equalities Office by recruiting businesses to promote shared parental leave and increase its uptake by employees.

- **Loneliness.** Assisting with a government commitment to provide employers with a guide of how to tackle loneliness amongst their own employees.
The IEP is one example of how the Business Partnerships Team works closely with business on government priorities.

As a key part of the government’s agenda for building a stronger economy and fairer society, the IEP is a partnership of businesses, civil society and government departments who are working together to solve some of society’s toughest challenges.

It helps communities and everyone within them feel they belong to and can participate in the UK economy.

Through collaboration, innovation and a shared determination to make the UK a better place to live and thrive, the IEP is part of a growing global movement that’s trying to solve age-old problems with new ways of thinking.

The spirit of the IEP is about generosity – generosity of time, ideas and support.

Our purpose is creating a society we’re proud to pass on to our children. And the only way we’ll do that is by building a new kind of inclusive economy.

Sacha Romanovitch
CEO of Grant Thornton UK LLP and Co-Chair of the Inclusive Economy Partnership Champions Group

To find out more about what we’re doing, and how you could support it, sign up to the IEP Bulletin. Visit our web page at www.gov.uk/government/groups/the-inclusive-economy-partnership for more information. You can contact us at iep@cabinetoffice.gov.uk
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The Business Partnerships Team has four priority sectors:

- Finance & Professional Services
- Retail, Food & Drink
- Manufacturing, Construction & Energy
- Technology & Telecoms
The Business Partnerships Team has been a great help over recent years, helping us to navigate and engage effectively with government departments on important public policy matters such as the development of digital skills and the creation of employment opportunities for young people. More recently, the development of the Inclusive Economy Partnership serves as a great example of the win-win nature of the relationship.

Tom McLaughlan  
Managing Director, European Government Relations  
Accenture

The Cabinet Office Business Partnerships Team continues to play a vital role in helping IBM UK navigate across the different government departments on a wide range of economic and social challenges. As the adoption of digital technology accelerates across all sectors of UK business and society, it is more important than ever that business engages effectively with government to help drive this change.

Tom King  
Director of Government and Regulatory Affairs  
IBM UK

The Business Partnerships Team in the Cabinet Office is at the coordinating centre of policy thinking in government, so it provides a valuable channel of communication and information for business. The Team helps us identify the issues and agendas that are shared priorities for government and Telefónica, around which we can then build a dialogue that offers value to both sides.

Simon Miller  
Deputy Head of Public Affairs  
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