



# Foreign & Commonwealth Office

Catherine Arnold,  
Ambassador,  
British Embassy  
Mongolia

**Deputy Head of Pacific Department**  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
Room K3.10  
King Charles Street  
London  
SW1A 2AH

09 October 2015

## **MONGOLIA COUNTRY BUSINESS PLAN: MID YEAR REVIEW 2015/16**

1. Thank you for submitting your mid-year review of Mongolia's business plan which Stephen discussed with Pacific Department colleagues during the MYR challenge session in September. This letter reflects that discussion.
2. Overall we recognised the hard work that post had put into rewriting the business plan following staff changes at post during the course of this financial year. As a result, we wanted to commend you and your team. The plan is better quality, more clearly worded, and better aligned with priorities.
3. Under UK Investment (i) you have had been some big wins this year and we agreed with the green rating: sustained engagement on OT Rio Tinto, BG group and Anglo American licences was an example of where post had made a real impact. We also agreed that post had done well to review UKB staffing roles and reinvigorate press and public affairs work. There was also a discussion of post's excellent work on improving knowledge of the UK locally, expanding work beyond the traditional focus on commercial opportunities.
4. We also noted that external factors such as the economic and political climate posed a risk to your outcomes. Mongolia's upcoming elections, **[REDACTED - International Relations - Bilateral relations; promotion and protection of UK interests abroad Section 27 (1a,c,d) ; Commercial Interests - prejudice interests of person and public authorities Section 43 (2)]** and the dip in the Chinese economy were all likely to impact on UKTI targets in Mongolia (iv). **[REDACTED - International Relations- Bilateral relations; promotion and protection of UK interests abroad Section 27 (1a,c,d) ; Commercial Interests - prejudice interests of person and public authorities Section 43 (2)]**. To this end, we recognised that post would need to keep up its ambition on trade and investment against these challenging conditions.

**5. [REDACTED - International Relations - Bilateral relations Section 27 (1a)]**

6. Please do thank the team for their hard work and ongoing determination in pushing ahead with objectives. Overall we agreed with your amber rating.
7. We look forward to working with you for the remainder of the year and please do let me know if there is anything we can be doing from here to help you achieve positive outcomes for the end of the year.

*Best wishes,*

**Deputy Head, Pacific Department**