



Foreign & Commonwealth Office

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MONGOLIA COUNTRY BUSINESS PLAN: MID YEAR REVIEW 2014/15

Thank you for your midyear review of the Mongolia business plan. Stephen Lillie chaired a meeting to discuss this at the end of last week. This letter reflects that discussion. Firstly, very many thanks for the hard work this update represents. We're very grateful for all that you and the team have been doing to move towards the delivery of your objectives.

We were particularly struck by your good work on prosperity (i and ii); **[REDACTED: International Relations – bilateral relations, promotion and protection of UK interests abroad. Section 27 (1a, c, d); Commercial Interests – prejudice commercial interests of any person and public authorities Section 43 (2)]**. The UKTI uplift sounds good news and I hope that this can be used to exploit further commercial opportunities. We were also impressed by the success of your consular work, which we realise might often be in difficult circumstances. We also thought that your results on your Diplomatic Excellence work were really strong – with good evidence of that bearing fruit.

[REDACTED: International Relations – bilateral relations, promotion and protection of UK interests abroad. Section 27 (1a, c, d)]. I believe this could potentially be an increasingly important focus for the second half of the year, and one that we should look at in more depth. **[REDACTED: International Relations – bilateral relations, promotion and protection of UK interests abroad. Section 27 (1a, c, d)]**.

On the trade, projects and defence objectives (iv, xi, xii, xiii) it would have been good to see clearer outcome evidence to back up your ratings. For example, **[REDACTED: International Relations – bilateral relations Section 27 (1a)]**. Similarly on trade, do you have concrete outcomes or statistics that help highlight your progress, **[REDACTED: International Relations – bilateral relations, promotion and protection of UK interests abroad. Section 27 (1a, c, d)]**. Otherwise, these seemed a bit over-marked. We also felt, as we looked through the MYR, that there could be an even clearer focus on outcomes in the explanation – which we'll be interested to see at year end too, of course.

Taking all this into account, we agreed with your overall amber rating, **[REDACTED: International Relations – bilateral relations, promotion and protection of UK interests**

abroad Section 27 (1a, c, d)]. I hope the second half of the year is a positive as the first. Well done to you and the team – please pass our thanks to them. Of course, if we can ever be doing anything differently to help you achieve your objectives, don't hesitate to let me know.

Richard Morris
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