

Role

Alex Depledge MBE is appointed as the Chancellor of the Exchequer's Entrepreneurship Adviser.

Context and ambition

High growth, innovative firms are a key driver behind the Growth Mission. At the Autumn Budget, the Chancellor reaffirmed the government's commitment to creating a positive environment for entrepreneurship where businesses can thrive and drive growth across the UK. The Chancellor and team of Treasury Ministers committed to working with leading entrepreneurs and venture capital firms to explore how existing policy support that, and what more can be done.

Alex Depledge will be responsible for providing expert and strategic advice to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and other HM Treasury Ministers, in collaboration with other senior civil servants and advisers, on the government's entrepreneurship landscape and the key barriers faced by businesses seeking to scale up in the UK. This will include a particular focus on:

- Exploring options beyond current government reforms to unlock further sources of capital for scaling companies
- Pushing forward changes to government procurement so innovation and innovative companies are placed at the centre of what the public buys
- Changing how the government works with founders and scaling firms

Alex should work with Ministers, SpAds and officials to strengthen stakeholder relationships as well as engage with other relevant government departments to ensure cross-government coherence.

Governance and ways of working

The appointment will begin on Monday 23 June 2025 and will conclude in summer 2026.

The postholder will work closely with officials on a confidential basis, as well as conduct structured stakeholder engagement, targeted roundtables and 1:1 sessions with industry bodies, founders and investors.

Conflicts of interest

A full declaration of interest process has been conducted in the usual way for direct ministerial appointments and mitigations have been agreed to minimise any potential, actual or perceived conflicts. The postholder will comply with the measures and mitigations set out by HM Treasury's Permanent Secretary, with support from the Propriety and Ethics Team if required.

The postholder will remove herself from the discussion or determination of matters in which she has a financial interest.

The postholder will not directly advise Ministers on changes to the tax system, but may provide supporting evidence to officials where requested.