



UK Government

THE UK'S MODERN
**INDUSTRIAL
STRATEGY**

Regulation Action Plan Progress Report

July 2026

Progress Update

Over the past year, guided by the vision and commitments set out in the Regulation Action Plan¹, the Government has acted to overhaul the regulatory landscape so that it better supports growth. The programme is modernising regulation to drive growth, innovation and investment and support the Industrial Strategy²; and at the same time maintain essential protections for consumers and deliver the positive outcomes communities across the country want to see.

Where appropriate, we are working with the devolved governments in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to support growth and innovation across the UK.

Our three pillars – how we are delivering change across the system

1

Complexity: tackling complexity and duplication

Overlapping regulatory regimes, particularly in sectors such as water, energy and infrastructure, have created inefficiency and delay. Our reforms are simplifying the system:

- Action following major independent reviews spanning nuclear, water and the environment is addressing risk aversion, duplication and delay.
- Improved coordination between regulators and more proportionate, risk-based approaches.
- Set out a clear plan to reduce administrative burdens on business by 25% (£5.6bn) by the end of Parliament³.



2

Uncertainty: faster decisions and infrastructure delivery

Delays and uncertainty have held back major projects and increased costs. Our reforms accelerate delivery and unlock investment.

- Landmark Planning and Infrastructure Act⁴ to speed up major project approvals
- New powers to give Parliament the authority to approve critical energy schemes and better protect infrastructure projects from judicial review
- A reset of environmental regulation to fast-track homes, transport and clean energy

3

Risk aversion: more effective, accountable regulators

Fragmented accountability and risk aversion have held back progress. Clearer direction and stronger oversight are improving performance.

- New Growth Goals setting out how regulators should support economic growth
- Minister-led performance reviews and a Regulator Sponsorship Charter strengthening accountability
- A public Regulation Performance Dashboard⁵ increasing transparency and focus on delivery

Progress Update

Progress against the 61 Action Plan Commitments

As of [May 2026](#), of the [61 commitments](#) made by regulators:



30

Key commitments delivered



25

Key regulator commitments on track⁶

In parallel:



24

Departmental commitments have been delivered



61

Departmental commitments on track

A more agile and globally competitive system

Against the backdrop of an evolving and complex geopolitical landscape, the UK is strengthening its relationship with Europe to [reduce barriers to trade](#), [restore competitiveness](#) and [drive growth](#):

- Reaffirming our commitment to strengthening the UK-EU relationship, protecting the UK Internal Market and delivering the agreements set out in the Common Understanding.
- Agreeing a new food and drink deal to cut red tape for businesses, and an emissions trading agreement to link our carbon markets⁷.
- Announcing the [European Partnership Bill](#) to facilitate the implementation of new deals agreed with the EU now and in the future.

The UK will continue to work with businesses, both here and across Europe, to [align](#), [drive long-term growth](#), support [shared policy goals](#), and [strengthen economic](#) and [national security](#).

Spotlight on:

AI medical devices, unlocked: The MHRA's AI Airlock sandbox, set up with support from DSIT's Regulatory Innovation Office, now has multi-year funding⁸, opening the door to bigger, bolder testing. The result: a clearer, future-ready route to market for AI-powered medical devices - without compromising safety.

Establishing in the UK made easier: The Office for Investment: Financial Services⁹ is live and fully operational. International financial services firms can now access dedicated support to navigate the UK's regulatory rulebook alongside wider business support on visas, skills and planning - making it easier to establish or grow their UK presence.

Regulation Reset

The upcoming Regulating for Growth Bill will embed this approach in legislation, [strengthening the Growth Duty](#) and introducing new [cross-economy sandbox powers](#) to support innovation and investment.

Alongside this, a broader programme of legislative reform will go further to modernise the regulatory system:

- The [Competition Bill](#) will support the transformation of the Competition and Markets Authority;
- The [Enhancing Financial Services Bill](#) will update and streamline financial regulation;
- The [Clean Water Bill](#) will simplify oversight of the water sector;
- The [Nuclear Regulation Bill](#) will modernise the framework for nuclear projects;
- The [Energy Independence Bill](#) will strengthen Ofgem's role as an effective consumer champion; and
- The [Civil Aviation \(Consumer Protection and Regulatory Reform\) Bill](#) strengthening air passenger rights while modernising aviation regulation.

In parallel, targeted taskforces and regulatory deep dives, including on [licensing](#), [farming](#) and [small business](#), are tackling persistent barriers and identifying further opportunities to reduce burdens and improve outcomes.

Regulating for Growth Bill

The Government has announced a new [Regulating for Growth Bill](#) to modernise regulation for a fast-moving economy, ensuring it supports growth, investment, and innovation while maintaining strong protections.

The Bill will better align regulators with [economic priorities](#) and introduce new [cross-economy sandbox powers](#) so businesses can safely test, refine, and scale cutting-edge products faster - addressing evidence that regulation is holding innovation back, with over four in ten innovative businesses reporting barriers in 2024¹⁰.

The powers will [allow temporary rule changes to test products or innovative approaches](#) to regulating in real-world markets, faster recognition of trusted international approvals to cut duplication, and clearer routes from successful pilots to permanent change.

Reforms will speed up access to new products and services, from medicines and medical technologies to autonomous and security-critical systems, ensuring regulation works for people, businesses, and the wider economy.

The Bill will also [strengthen](#) the existing [Growth Duty](#) to require regulators to actively support [economic growth](#) alongside their core responsibilities. It will create a clearer legal obligation, backed by statutory ministerial steers and new reporting requirements to improve transparency and accountability.

These steers will be tailored to sector-specific needs, replacing one-size-fits-all guidance and helping regulators apply the Duty in practice.

Regulating for Growth Bill Case Studies

Sandbox	Overview: what will the sandbox do?
<p>Advanced Manufacturing/ Defence</p> <p>Unlocking autonomous maritime innovation:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maritime autonomy is a transformative opportunity for the UK. The UK is home to some of the most successful operators and builders of autonomous and remotely operated vessels, complemented by world-class assurance and classification services, and a globally respected R&D base. • A regulatory sandbox for maritime autonomy would serve as a powerful tool to enable rapid, real-world innovation, generate robust evidence on safety, security and environmental protection, and provide a clear and credible route to scale the sector. • From defence readiness to decarbonisation, a regulatory sandbox can provide a clear and credible route to scale the sector and meet Government ambitions. This novel approach will support early-stage deployments, inward investment, UK IP exports, and high-value jobs, while helping to cement our leadership role in developing international regulatory standards; most prominently, the IMO MASS Code.
<p>Digital & Technologies</p> <p>AI Growth Lab</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new powers will enable a new 'AI Growth Lab', a pioneering cross-economy sandbox that would enable responsible innovation and adoption of AI-enabled products and services that our current regulation hinders. • From productivity to public services: In almost every sector – from professional services to public services and from banking to education - AI-enabled products have the potential to transform the economy and our everyday lives. • Transformative AI demands a cross-economy approach: but prioritising some sectors over others will be essential if we are to move quickly. Initial AI Growth Labs would prioritise applications delivering maximum strategic value for the UK. This includes those which align with the UK's Sovereign AI strategic priorities and the Industrial Strategy
<p>Life Sciences</p> <p>Medicines and medical devices</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accelerating early innovation: Early-stage innovation requires more agile and responsive regulatory approaches, as existing medicines and medical devices regulatory frameworks can be challenging to apply to rapidly evolving healthcare products, creating regulatory uncertainty. • Faster innovation pathways: MHRA statutory sandboxes could enable real-world testing of regulatory approaches, helping to surface and address regulatory challenges early, and supporting innovators to bring safe, high-quality healthcare products to patients more quickly with robust oversight. • Scaling success for growth: Building on initiatives like AI Airlock, statutory sandboxes could accelerate innovation, boost investment, and grow the UK life sciences sector.
<p>Advanced Manufacturing</p> <p>Pavement Robots</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with DSIT's Regulatory Innovation Office, creating a clear, lawful route to the UK market for pavement delivery robots which will expand services to new contexts, new areas and with new businesses. • It has the ability to drive productivity gains in our NHS, by connecting medical goods around hospitals, maximising the benefits of aviation drones and boosting productivity so staff can focus their time where delivery robots are not suitable. • It will also facilitate low carbon, last mile delivery services in 'delivery deserts', giving people more options where getting to the shops may be difficult. • Careful trialling through a controlled sandbox will give local leaders control over the services in their area, whilst national government ensures the vehicles are safe by design. Maintaining safety and ensuring people, particularly disabled people, are not negatively impacted will remain a top priority.

Growth Goals: ensuring regulators prioritise growth

The Government is strengthening how regulators [support economic growth](#), with a sharper focus on outcomes for businesses alongside their core statutory responsibilities.

This includes clearer expectations for faster, more proportionate and business-friendly decision-making, alongside reforms to the [Growth Duty](#) and strengthened accountability. Performance is increasingly transparent, enabling departments to hold regulators to account for how effectively they support growth.

To underpin this, [outcome-focused Growth Goals](#) have been agreed. These goals set out how regulators are expected to contribute to economic growth and the Industrial Strategy in practice. They are published on the [Regulator Performance monitoring page](#), with regular progress updates, to improve clarity, transparency and delivery.

Growth Goals - Key themes	
Digital and technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ofcom will support digital growth by promoting competition and investment in full fibre networks, improving evidence on mobile coverage and maximising spectrum access and sharing to unlock innovation. Including decisions on expanding spectrum for satellite broadband on planes and ships. • Ofgem will accelerate electricity connections for strategically important projects such as data centres, whilst the Environment Agency will simplify rules for back up power at these sites. • Together, this supports the ambition to connect at least 6GW of data centre capacity by 2030¹¹.
Advanced Manufacturing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CAA will help the UK's world-class aerospace sector seize opportunities for growth across aviation, future of flight and space. It will support Heathrow expansion, helping unlock investment and jobs– for example, it published draft early cost decisions in April 2026 and will publish its preferred regulatory models in summer 2026. • Delivery will continue on the CAA and DfT's joint Future of Flight programme, with priority drone use cases enabled. • By the end of 2026, the CAA will recommend legislative changes for DfT to implement in 2027 to enable commercial eVTOL flights by 2028. • The CAA will also deliver key actions for Airspace Modernisation so new technologies and routes can be introduced safely and efficiently. On spaceflight, it will deploy new metrics in 2026/27 to understand regulatory pinch points and pilot more flexible approaches. • In parallel, the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) will publish guidance on how health and safety law applies to AI, robotics and autonomous systems, giving businesses greater certainty to innovate.

Growth Goals: ensuring regulators prioritise growth

Growth Goals - Key themes continued	
<p>Clean energy industries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ofgem will help unblock investment by awarding the first long-duration energy storage cap and floor scheme by Q3 2026 and tackling grid connection delays. • Natural England and the Environment Agency will speed up major projects through expanding the use of strategic solutions, strengthening capability and capacity and reducing the time required for planning, licensing, and permitting. • The HSE will also update regimes for Carbon Capture, Utilisation, and Storage (CCUS) technology, hydrogen and fusion, providing clarity that supports safe growth and inward investment.
<p>Life sciences</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building on a successful pilot, NICE and the MHRA have rolled out an integrated scientific advice service in April 2026, which can be accessed through a single entry point, as well as parallel approvals for suitable products. This will cut average end-to-end timelines by three to six months and help medicines and medical technologies move faster from approval to NHS use. • A seamless end-to-end regulatory / NHS uptake pathway will be a unique strength of the UK system, making it a more attractive market for launching innovative products, supporting exports and high-value jobs, and enabling patients to benefit earlier from breakthrough healthcare technologies.
<p>Effective regulation AI adoption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Across the board, major regulators are testing and embedding AI to speed up approvals and reduce regulatory costs. • Regulators are also supporting AI adoption in their sectors to boost innovation, productivity and the UK's international competitiveness.



Modernising Regulators to deliver growth

From Oversight to Outcomes: Strengthening Regulator Performance

We are continuing to deliver and build on this area of the Action Plan, including through reviewing regulators and ensuring regulator accountability. A new [Regulator Sponsorship Charter](#) codifies the expectations on sponsor departments for their role in achieving this, aided by a dashboard to allow transparent tracking and scrutiny of improved regulator KPIs¹².

This matters because businesses are not getting the support they need. In 2024, only 41% trusted regulatory advice and 36% could easily find guidance, both down since 2022¹³. The Government is therefore acting to deliver a more predictable, responsive system that reduces burdens and supports growth.



Judge Review- Independent review of Office for Rail and Road

This review, led by Dr Richard Judge, is now being finalised. It is part of a programme of independent expert performance review for key regulators to help them tackle challenges that prevent growth and seize opportunities to promote it.

Ofgem Skills and Capability Review

As set out in the Government's review of Ofgem, the regulator will work closely with DESNZ and DBT to assess the skills and capability it needs for the future. The [Terms of Reference](#) for this work have now been published- is being led by an independent advisory panel of experts, chaired by Guy Newey.

A Joined-Up Regulatory Service

Defra's independent [Corry Review](#) identified duplication across environmental regulators as a source of delays and inefficiency for major projects. In response, Defra is piloting a [Lead Environmental Regulator \(LER\) model](#), under which a single regulator coordinates activity across multiple bodies to streamline planning, permitting and licensing. The model aims to speed up delivery and improve the developer experience through clearer, more proportionate advice, with escalation routes to the Defra Infrastructure Board where needed. Seven pilots are underway, including Lower Thames Crossing, Falmouth Docks and Sizewell C, with further projects being considered.

Performance Reviews and KPIs

All key regulators have now completed an initial round of [minister-led performance reviews](#). The next review period is now underway, moving to a biannual cycle going forward. These reviews provide a structured opportunity for ministers to hold regulators to account against their key performance indicators (KPIs), including progress on delivery, outcomes and priorities.

Performance Dashboard

Launched in October, the [Regulator Performance Dashboard](#)¹⁴ provides a clear, publicly accessible view of regulator performance, bringing together key metrics to improve transparency, strengthen accountability, and drive earlier action where risks, delays, or performance issues emerge.

Regulator Sponsorship Charter

To deliver on the Action Plan, a whole-of-government approach is needed to strengthen the model of regulator accountability and improve strategic alignment with government where appropriate. We have therefore published a [Regulator Sponsorship Charter](#)¹⁵ setting out clear commitments from sponsor departments on the practical approaches for doing this.

Administrative burden reduction

In March 2025, the Government committed to reducing the annual administrative burden of regulation by 25% by the end of the Parliament¹⁶.

Strong progress is already being made; **£2bn in net annual admin savings** have been identified, with **£1.5bn delivered** and **£0.6bn in progress** - putting us over a third of the way towards the **£5.6bn target**¹⁷.

Reducing admin burdens will save businesses time and money, allowing them to focus on growing and innovating.

Delivered and future gross savings, gross burdens and net annual administrative savings estimates (£million, 2024 prices)

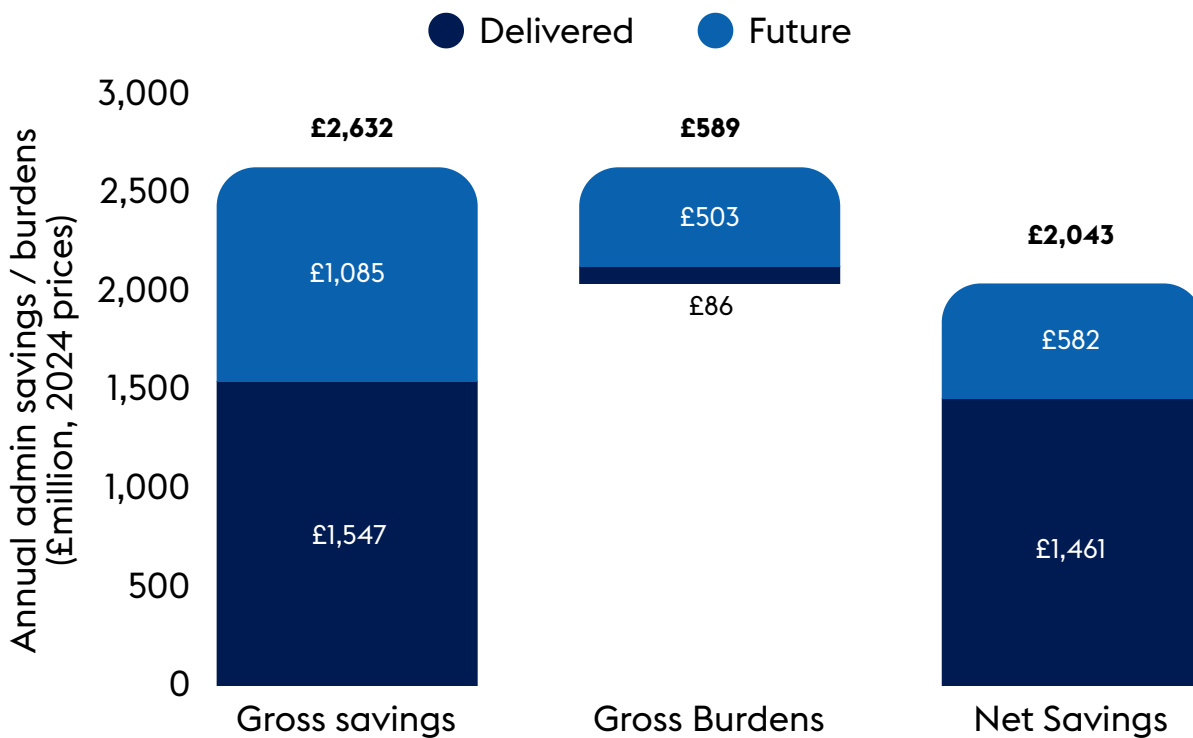


Figure 1: Delivered and future gross savings, gross burdens and net annual admin savings estimates (£million, 2024 prices)¹⁸

A waterfall chart which shows the total value of delivered and future gross annual admin savings, gross annual admin burdens and net annual admin savings. Each of these categories are split (using a 100% stacked chart) by the value of those measures which are delivered and those which are identified as delivery impacts in the future. The horizontal axis shows gross savings, gross burdens and net savings. The vertical axis shows annual admin savings/ burdens in £million, 2024 prices.

Administrative burden reduction in action

This is just the start. Too much regulation remains duplicative and burdensome, and further action is being taken to reduce unnecessary costs and make it easier for businesses to operate and grow.

Digital transformation is reducing regulatory burdens

, with flagship programmes already delivering results. A single National Underground Asset Register is replacing fragmented systems, saving businesses around £207m a year¹⁹. Automated Land Registry processes are cutting backlogs and reducing costs by a further £3m annually, while digital identity services are expected to deliver additional savings of £496m per year²⁰.

Transforming how businesses interact with government services online

DBT, in partnership with the Government Digital Service's new Business Unit, is leading cross government digital transformation to offer businesses a 'front door' to simpler, more proactive, personalised digital services. It will reduce time spent searching for information and accessing services, saving time and money so businesses can focus on the things that really matter.

Modernising corporate reporting

Reporting requirements have grown over time, increasing costs without always improving value. A new consultation will set out practical reforms to streamline the framework, reduce duplication and make reports clearer and more useful. These changes build on earlier reforms delivering over £423m in annual savings, including lifting up to 51,000 companies from unnecessary reporting requirements and enabling a further 132,000 to benefit from lighter-touch obligations²¹. Further updates include Companies House reforms to make publication of profit and loss accounts optional for small and micro-entities, delaying implementation to April 2028, and supporting businesses transitioning to mandatory software filing.

Making regulation easier to navigate

Too many businesses still struggle to find and keep up with regulatory requirements. In 2024, only 36% said guidance was easy to locate (down from 47% in 2022), while 65% found it burdensome to stay up to date²². Government is improving digital regulatory guidance, licensing services and user journeys to create a clearer, more joined-up experience.

Simpler digital licence applications

Targeted upgrades to licensing services will introduce clear, digital application journeys for priority licences such as temporary events notices, taxi licences and alcohol sales. This will replace paper and PDF-based processes, reduce errors and make applications quicker and easier, starting with a group of local authorities and expanding over time. We are also replacing the outdated SPIRE licensing system with a modern, user-friendly digital service. This will make it easier to apply for licences and certificates, while cutting processing times and improving reliability.

Pensions Scheme Act

This Government is reforming the pensions system, including through the recent Pensions Scheme Act, which has the potential to unlock tens of billions of pounds for the UK economy and billions to employers through pension reforms. Alongside these wider economic benefits, the Pension Schemes Act is estimated to deliver significant administrative burden savings by simplifying requirements, reducing duplication and making the system easier for schemes and employers to navigate.

Our Tax Update 2026

[Our Tax Update 2026](#) and [Transformation Roadmap](#) set out measures that will modernise and simplify the tax and customs systems, reduce paper-based processes, and help businesses to understand and meet their obligations more easily and efficiently.

Regulation in focus: Deep dives

Listening to business is at the heart of the Government's regulatory reform agenda. Our approach is rooted in what businesses tell us is getting in the way of investment, innovation, and growth.

We have drawn on multiple sources of evidence to understand how regulation is experienced in practice, including: the initial Government sprint into the Industrial Strategy key sectors that identified potential regulatory reforms; the Business Perceptions Survey²³; and direct engagement through the Unlocking Business: Reform Driven by You business questionnaire²⁴ which was complemented by 27 roundtables held across the country, bringing together businesses of all sizes and sectors to identify where regulation is holding them back.

This evidence is driving action to cut red tape, modernise regulation, and strengthen how regulators deliver as well as informing the creation of sector-focused deep dives and taskforces to tackle the most significant barriers to growth. These deep dives and taskforces have focused on priority areas such as licensing and , farming and agri-tech. By bringing together businesses, regulators, and robust evidence, this work has already moved quickly from diagnosis to identifying practical, targeted reforms that support investment and delivery. We will also apply the Nuclear Regulatory Review's²⁵ five principles to reduce regulatory burdens and support the Industrial Strategy, focusing on fragmented oversight, disproportionate decisions, flawed legislation, government indecision, and weak incentives to cut costs or challenge unnecessary regulation.



Small Business Taskforce

SMEs report that the complexity, duplication and uncertainty of regulation can impose disproportionate burdens for small businesses²⁶. In June, we launched a new industry-led taskforce co-chaired by the Minister for Small Business and Tina McKenzie MBE. The taskforce will identify opportunities to remove or streamline regulatory and administrative costs faced by SMEs in order to develop recommendations that cut unnecessary red tape in high-growth areas for SMEs, supporting the delivery of the Government's 25% burden reduction target and building on our commitments in the Plan for Small Businesses.



Licensing

A report published in summer 2025 set out ten recommendations to transform the licensing system, with strong backing from industry bodies including UK Hospitality and Greene King²⁷. In November 2025, the Government published the first National Licensing Policy Framework²⁸ and is currently looking how to improve its effectiveness alongside taking forward wider reforms, including the number of Temporary Events Notices that can be applied for each year.

Regulation in focus: Deep dives



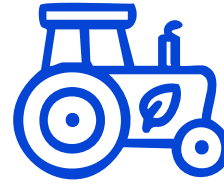
Local Authorities

Local regulation: Work is underway to reduce administrative burdens locally through better guidance, digital services, the promotion of more joined-up inspection regimes, and reforms to food regulation via the planned future of food regulation programme, alongside improved coordination and data-sharing between councils.



Defence

MOD and wider Government have already been taking steps to reduce regulatory burdens. Building on the recommendations of the Nuclear Regulatory Review²⁹, MOD is engaging with ongoing work to review the application of ALARP in the defence sector. The recently launched Uncrewed Systems Centre will also have a prominent role in addressing regulation and autonomy, with the aim to establish a regulatory pathway for Defence innovation in this area. This will enable acceleration in the use of drones and autonomous systems across the Armed Forces, as envisioned in the [Defence Investment Plan](#). This is complemented by the earlier launch of the UK Maritime Innovation Hub³⁰ in the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), supporting the development of maritime autonomous capabilities that are a key part of the UK's future defence.



Agri-Tech and Farming Deep Dive

Working with Defra and the Regulatory Innovation Office, we are helping agri-tech businesses bring new agricultural robotics to farmers faster and more confidently. By making the rules clearer and easier to navigate, we aim to boost adoption of innovative technologies on farms.

Central to this work will be a new GOV.UK hub that brings agri robotics regulation together in one clear place from early 2027. Alongside this, we are piloting a new approach to data sharing across Defra from April 2026 and conducting a review of farming guidance to make it simpler, clearer, and up to date. This includes the first formal review of the rules for farmers landing page and using AI digital tools to identify improvements that make practical guidance easier to find, helping farmers focus on what they do best, farming.

Innovation

Innovation is how new ideas are turned into better products, stronger public services and new sources of growth. But for businesses to invest and bring new technologies to market, they need regulation that is clear, proportionate and easy to navigate. The Regulatory Innovation Office (RIO) supports this by working with businesses, regulators and departments to remove barriers, improve understanding of regulation, and build a more pro-innovation culture across the system.

Space

RIO is working with DBT to support proportionate regulation for the UK's space sector, which generated £18.6 billion in income in 2022/23³¹. Global space and satellite services supported industrial activities which contributed to 18% of UK GDP (£454 billion)³². Building on the Prime Minister's response to the Nuclear Regulatory Review, RIO will ask the Regulatory Horizons Council to look at how the ALARP principle is applied in the space sector, exploring how safety rules can support responsible growth and innovation.

Drones

RIO is helping make drone approvals faster and simpler, working closely with the DfT and the CAA on their joint Future of Flight programme. Since RIO engaged, the first direct-to-consumer drone delivery operation began in Darlington in May³³. RIO will continue work on dual-use autonomous technologies like drones through its defence work and has agreed milestones with the CAA to track the progress of key changes, including the introduction and scaling of a UK Light UAS Certificate, a regulatory pathway that allows safe drone operators to approve some operations. Following the CAA commitment, the first 'one to many' operators to drones operation has successfully been launched. We expect progress on the rest of the measures by the end of 2026.

Artificial Intelligence and Digital in Healthcare

RIO is helping regulators to make the UK one of the best places to develop and adopt AI in healthcare. Building on previous work with the MHRA on AI medical devices, including the AI Airlock sandbox and the National Commission into the Regulation of AI in Healthcare, RIO is collaborating with the MHRA on a new sandbox to explore how AI can safely speed up the development of new medicines while reducing animal testing.

Engineering Biology

RIO is helping businesses understand regulation and addressing the fundamental challenges companies using engineering biology techniques face so they can develop products in areas like food, fuels, environmental clean-up and medicines. RIO has agreed outcomes on novel foods successfully delivered through the FSA's innovation research programme, innovative cosmetics and novel engineered bacterial therapeutics, and will track these outcomes through the Regulators Performance Dashboard. By spring 2027, we will publish a regulatory map for companies developing engineered bacterial therapeutics to give innovators a clearer route through the system.

Defence tech

RIO is working with the MoD to help innovative autonomous defence technologies reach the Armed Forces faster, which includes air, land and underwater uncrewed systems which could be transformative in modern conflict. We've engaged with over 100 businesses in 2026 about barriers they face. RIO's focus will be to improve the navigability of the regulatory system, particularly for companies who need approval from civilian and military regulators, as well as helping smaller firms and start-ups bring forward new ideas that keep Armed Forces personnel safer.

Robotics

Since January, RIO has engaged with over 40 stakeholders in the robotics ecosystem. We have identified several key areas where regulatory clarity would improve robotics adoption - including robotic inspections and collaborative robots, which we are starting to tackle with our new partnership with the HSE to provide guidance on safe robotics adoption. We are also delivering greater clarity for agriculture robots by improving GOV.UK guidance for businesses developing or supplying robots that scout and monitor crops.

End notes

- ¹ HMT (2025), [A new approach to ensure regulators and regulation support growth](#)
- ² DBT (2025), [Industrial strategy](#)
- ³ HMT (2025), [Technical Annex – 25% Target Methodology \(Annex A\)](#), DBT (2026) [Technical Annex](#)
- ⁴ MHCLG (2025), [Guide to the Planning and Infrastructure Bill](#)
- ⁵ [DBT \(2025\), Regulator dashboard](#)
- ⁶ HMT (2025), [A new approach to ensure regulators and regulation support growth](#)
- ⁷ Prime Minister's Office (2025), [PM Secures new agreement with EU to benefit British people](#).
- ⁸ MHRA (2026), [MHRA expands AI Airlock programme with a £3.6 million funding boost over three years - GOV.UK](#)
- ⁹ HMT (2025), [Chancellor's new investment fast track to make Britain top destination for global investors - GOV.UK](#)
- ¹⁰ DBT (2025), [Business regulation: business perceptions survey 2024](#) - GOV.UK p.59
- ¹¹ DSIT (2026), [UK Compute Roadmap](#)
- ¹² [DBT \(2025\), Regulator Dashboard](#)
- ¹³ DBT (2025), [Business regulation: business perceptions survey 2024](#) - GOV.UK p.54
- ¹⁴ [DBT \(2025\), Regulator Dashboard](#)
- ¹⁵ [DBT \(2026\), Regulator Sponsorship Charter](#)
- ¹⁶ HMT (2025), [New Approach to Ensure Regulators and Regulation Support Growth](#)
- ¹⁷ [DBT \(2026\), Admin Burden Reduction Technical Annex- numbers do not sum due to rounding. See technical annex for further detail.](#)
- ¹⁸ [DBT \(2026\), Admin Burden Reduction Technical Annex](#)
- ¹⁹ DBT (2026), [Admin Burden Reduction Technical Annex](#)- Note, estimates for NUAR have been revised due to a methodological change to the appraisal period over which impacts have been measured – further information is contained in the technical annex.
- ²⁰ [DBT \(2026\), Admin Burden Reduction Technical Annex](#)
- ²¹ DBT (2026), Admin Burden Reduction [Technical Annex](#)- This includes £231m identified future annual admin savings from streamlining corporate reporting requirements and £192m delivered annual admin savings from revising Companies Act company size thresholds, rationalising the Directors' Report and Director's Remuneration Report and Policy, HMT (2025), [Technical Annex](#)
- ²² DBT (2026), [Business Perceptions Survey 2024](#), p.54
- ²³ DBT (2026), [Business Perceptions Survey 2024](#)
- ²⁴ DBT (2026), [Response to the Business Questionnaire](#)
- ²⁵ DESNZ (2025), [Nuclear Regulatory Review 2025](#)
- ²⁶ DBT (2026), [Business Perceptions Survey 2024](#), p.35
- ²⁷ DBT (2026), [Licensing taskforce report and government response](#)
- ²⁸ DBT (2026), [National Licensing Policy Framework for the hospitality and leisure sectors](#)
- ²⁹ DESNZ (2025), [Nuclear Regulatory Review 2025](#)
- ³⁰ Dft (2026), [UK Maritime Innovation Hub](#)
- ³¹ UK Space Agency (2025), [Size and Health of the UK Space Industry 2024](#)
- ³² UK Space Agency (2025), [Size and Health of the UK Space Industry 2024](#)
- ³³ BBC (2026), [Amazon delivers its first UK parcels by drone](#)



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