



Government Affairs UK

Our UK Government Affairs team of political and legal advisors has a wealth of experience advising on parliamentary and public policy unrivalled by our competitors.

We offer a wide range of integrated services to commercial clients, sovereigns, and international organisations looking to understand and navigate the complex domestic political and regulatory landscape. We provide comprehensive UK and international coverage, including from our Brussels and Washington D.C. offices, and can deploy quickly to deal with our clients' issues.

Whether you are looking to sharpen the impact of your government affairs and public policy operations; interested in engaging with parliamentary select committees; seeking to understand the impact of Brexit; or looking for strategic advice on how best to do business in a highly regulated sector, our team is here to help you drive forward your business.

- Government Affairs - UK
- Engaging with Select Committees
- Diplomatic Services
- Navigating your Business Through Brexit

DLA Piper UK LLP is registered on the UK Register of Consultant Lobbyists and regulated by the Office of the Registrar of Consultant Lobbyists.

Publications

Understanding the UK's new Economic Crime Act

16 March 2022

The Economic Crime Act received Royal Assent on 15 March. This article summarises the three key developments in the Act.

Global Sanctions Update

8 March 2022

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- UK Parliamentary Select Committees

GLOBAL SANCTIONS ALERT

Our International Trade team have summarised the latest developments in global sanctions and how to navigate the implications on your business.

Focus on the technology sector

25 January 2022

[UNDERSTANDING THE UK NATIONAL SECURITY & INVESTMENT REGIME PODCAST](#)

What is the impact of the regime on the technology sector? Sarah Smith is joined by competition partner, Alexandra Kamerling, and DLA Piper's tech sector specialist, Kit Burden, to analyse which activities are likely to be caught with a focus on AI and computer hardware.

A legal overview

4 January 2022

[UNDERSTANDING THE UK NATIONAL SECURITY & INVESTMENT REGIME PODCAST](#)

In episode 2 of our podcast series we discuss the legal context of the regime: how it will operate and the implications for businesses. In particular, the legislation - which comes into force today, 4 January - has wide reaching implications for M&A involving businesses or assets connected with the UK.

What's driving the new National Security and Investment Regime

12 December 2021

[UNDERSTANDING THE UK NATIONAL SECURITY & INVESTMENT REGIME PODCAST](#)

Episode 1 of our new Podcast series discusses what is driving the new National Security and Investment Regime. What is the political context for the new regime? Who and what is driving the pressure to strengthen investment screening both in the UK and internationally? Sarah Smith, Partner in DLA Piper's Competition practice is joined by Lord Gavin Barwell, Strategic Advisor and former Chief of Staff to Teresa May and Paul Hardy, Head of UK Government Affairs at DLA Piper to discuss the context of the new regime.

Solutions to the impact of Brexit on Northern Ireland trade

29 October 2021

[DLA PIPER TRADE TRUTHS](#)

The Northern Ireland Protocol (the Protocol) has been back in the headlines recently as politicians in the UK, Ireland, and EU try to ease the difficulties faced by many businesses as they move their goods between Great Britain (GB), made up of England, Wales, and Scotland; Northern Ireland (NI) and Ireland, which is an EU Member State.

Why anti-suit injunctions may be on the rise after Brexit

27 October 2021

The departure of the UK from the EU is expected to lead to a rise in the number of anti-suit injunctions sought in the English courts. In this article we consider the four main reasons why that is likely to be the case.

Export controls: the EU's new dual-use regime

27 September 2021

DLA PIPER TRADE TRUTHS

The EU has amended numerous aspects of the export control regime by implementing the Recast Dual Use Regulation which governs EU exports of dual-use items. We summarise the key changes and what you'll need to know about dual-use items.

The UK Bribery Act: A Perfect 10 or an uninspired 5/10?

1 July 2021

From its conception, the UK Bribery Act 2010, which came into force on 1 July 2011, presented itself as a radical and comprehensive overhaul of UK anti-bribery and corruption law. So, a decade on, what does the score card look like?

High fat, sugar or salt food and drink regulation changes

25 May 2021

In the UK plans to ban the advertising of High Fat, Salt and Sugar (HFSS) products will now go ahead. It is expected to hit food manufacturers hard and they need to be prepared for the changes. In this guide we explore what businesses can do to respond and prepare, as well as what stage each proposal has reached.

The Queen's Speech 2021 – the new UK legislative programme

13 May 2021

On 11 May 2021, the Queen officially opened Parliament and delivered her Queen's Speech outlining the government's priorities and the laws that ministers intend to pass in the new parliamentary session. Short summaries of the key Bills are set out in this article.

The UK Government adopts the National Security and Investment Act on 29 April 2021

10 May 2021

With the adoption of the National Securities & Investment Act, the UK is embarking on a serious journey to toughen foreign investment rules in line with other major economies in a move prompted by concerns surrounding foreign investment in critical or sensitive sectors.

Establishment of new freeports in England

29 April 2021

DLA PIPER TRADE TRUTHS

England announced the location of eight new freeports with the hope they will act as national hubs for global trade and investment across the UK; promote regeneration and job creation as part of the Government's commitment to "levelling up"; and provide hotbeds for innovation.

Postponement of post-Brexit border checks in Great Britain

23 March 2021

[DLA PIPER TRADE TRUTHS](#)

The UK Government introduced a Border Operating Model for a phased introduction of full customs and regulatory checks on imports from the EU into Great Britain. It gives supply-chain managers six months more to ensure affected EU imports are ready for the new SPS checks which will be put in place from October.

What happens when trade goes wrong? Understanding trade remedies and what they mean for you

7 January 2021

[DLA PIPER TRADE TRUTHS](#)

Trade remedies have previously been assessed and implemented by the EU on behalf of the UK under the multilateral WTO framework. From 1 January 2021, the UK has implemented an independent trade remedies framework; the aim being to defend UK business interests from potentially injurious market distortion.

The new three-tier system: A summary of the English coronavirus restrictions in force from 2 December

2 December 2020

On 2 December 2020, The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (All Tiers) (England) Regulations 2020 come into force. These govern the transition from a full lockdown to lighter restrictions until 2 February 2021.

Brexit: Choice of Law, Jurisdiction, Enforcement, and Service

27 November 2020

This article looks at the impact of reaching the end of the Brexit transition period (at 11pm on 31 December 2020) on governing law, jurisdiction, enforcement, and service in contracts between UK entities and EU member state entities.

Continuity or Change? Procurement Rules after Brexit

12 November 2020

[DLA PIPER TRADE TRUTHS](#)

This weeks edition of DLA Piper Trade Truths, we look at how the UK's accession to the WTO's plurilateral procurement agreement is likely to change the UK's procurement regime at the end of the Transition Period.

Lockdown 2.0: a summary of the latest English Coronavirus Restrictions Regulations, published on 5 November 2020

12 November 2020

On 5 November 2020, the Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (England) (No.4) Regulations 2020 came into effect. These new regulations are the UK government's response to a second wave of COVID-19 cases and enforce a new national lockdown for England until 2 December 2020.

A "Global Britain" – the UK's changing role at the World Trade Organisation

29 October 2020

DLA PIPER TRADE TRUTHS

This edition of Trade Truths looks at how Brexit will change the UK's relationship with the WTO and sheds light on the election of the new WTO Director-General, and what this means for the UK's post-Brexit future.

State aid: Levelling the playing field or moving the goalposts?

21 October 2020

DLA PIPER TRADE TRUTHS

The European Commission unveiled plans on 17 June 2020 to take a tougher line on subsidised foreign companies in the EU market. Under this proposal, the Commission seeks to "safeguard critical EU companies" in strategic industries such as pharma and agri-food so that they do not fall victim to "hostile takeovers conducted by large dominant player".

Rules of Origin - what you need to know

9 October 2020

DLA PIPER TRADE TRUTHS

With less than two months before the end of the Brexit Transition Period, importers and exporters of goods between the UK and both the EU, and the rest of the world, are preparing for the impact of significant changes to UK and EU trading arrangements upon their businesses and operations. Recent articles in the DLA Piper Trade Truths series have examined the realities of trading on so-called 'World Trade Organisation (WTO) terms', should there be no deal at the end of the Transition Period, including the impact on customs procedures and tariffs on goods, together with the UK's post-Brexit trading landscape.

Beyond the EU-UK Negotiations: Planning for trade with the rest of the world after Brexit

30 September 2020

DLA PIPER TRADE TRUTHS

Whilst clients are rightly focused on the current status of negotiations between the UK and EU, some 12 weeks before the end of the Transition Period, it is easy to lose sight of the impact of Brexit on the UK's trading relationship with the rest of the world and the commercial consequences of this for businesses.

Face coverings, self-isolation and hospitality restrictions: Further tightening of English coronavirus regime

28 September 2020

New lockdown regulations came into force in England on 23, 24 and 28 September 2020 to address rising cases of COVID-19. We discuss the new regulations and what it means for businesses.

The Northern Ireland Protocol and the UK Internal Market Bill

15 September 2020

DLA PIPER TRADE TRUTHS

The second article in the DLA Piper Trade Truths series explains why the Internal Market Bill has attracted such controversy, and what it could mean in terms of preparing your business for trade between Great Britain and Northern Ireland from next year.

COVID-19: Preparing to return to work

14 July 2020

Many employers have adapted their working arrangements to ensure that employees have been able to work from home safely.

However, following recent changes in legislation on gatherings, employers should now turn their attention to what is permitted, and what steps should be taken so employees can continue to work safely.

UK imposes targeted human rights-based sanctions in first autonomous move

9 July 2020

On 6 July 2020, UK Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab announced the first autonomous sanctions designations since the UK formally left the European Union on 31 January 2020.

A successful s67 challenge: Silence did not confer authority to enter into an arbitration agreement

7 July 2020

The case *MVV Environment Devonport Ltd v NTO Shipping GmbH & Co. KG MS 'MV Nortrader'* was one of the few successful challenges to an arbitral award which we have seen before the English courts in recent years.

NEWS

DLA Piper appoints new partner to head up UK Contentious Public Law team

25 April 2022

DLA Piper has appointed Emma Dowden-Teale as a partner to head its UK wide Contentious Public Law team, that sits within the wider Litigation and Regulatory practice.

DLA Piper bolsters UK Government Affairs practice with the appointment of Lord Tyrie

10 December 2020

DLA Piper has further strengthened its UK Government Affairs practice with the appointment of Lord (Andrew) Tyrie, former Chair of the Competition and Markets Authority, as a political consultant.
