

Purpose:

- Reaction to budget & Covid-19 measures
- Feedback on other BEIS related measures
- Feedback that twice weekly calls to get live feedback on individual measures / sectors – yes would be helpful

Budget measures feedback

- CBI – 2 budgets – positive about short term Covid-19 – concern about people helped with sick pay, action on business rates beyond what expected. Would like to see more for larger firms – strong watching brief for supply chains e.g. from China; Covid-19 regulatory change with joint task force suggestion. Infra and investment – W Yorkshire deal – want to see investment go in ASAP. Skills & apprenticeship levy noticed – needs more in the near future
 - Seen balance sheet moment – don't see budget as that's it – when circumstances change then could see more action
 - Joint task force idea will be taken forward
- National Care Association – good to hear measures for NHS funding; disappointed social care position hasn't received any support for looking after vulnerable; local authorities and NHS will need to support in worst case scenarios – seeing some challenging circumstances. Looking for how we can react with more agility – recognition of challenge social care will face; broader impact on NHS and LA budgets. Need containment moment on what steps will be in worst case scenario. PS to refer to NHS colleagues. NS watching brief on sectors which may come under pressure due to increases in exposure e.g. health / tourism / aviation will be reviewed separately for how support will change
- Aviation – airport operators – welcome longer term infra investment but aviation notable in its absence – significant drop in traffic (15%) and will get worse – disappointed – double impact from flybe and Covid-19. Investment shelved, no recruitment, asking staff to go part time or take leave – will impact on supply chain – feel largely ignored by measures – would be good to have some business support. PS – seen \$113bn hit to airline – most difficult situation across all markets – unprecedented that ignored in budget – will pass messages to DfT colleagues.
- UKH – would have been positive budget without Covid-19 threats. Hotel bookings & travel down, restaurants and bars down 30-50%; London restaurants running at 30% capacity. Estimate significant numbers will not benefit as above £51k thresholds
- IOD – overall welcome measures taken but about communication – 2 points – many of support measures available from 2020/21 so what happens in meantime; many members falling outside of support areas; need clarity around what will happen immediately – panic stirred up by communications – WHO pandemic announcement will cause more impacts
- UK Finance – Banks doing their best to come forward with statements of support - £12bn committed already – welcome loan scheme – looking for govt – loan scheme needs to be fast, non-bureaucratic, diligence required but encouragement required for “all hands on pump” that monies made available quickly – Italy example will require fast hard work to be made available
 - £3000 per business will be distributed same way as flood compensation
 - BEIS will work with local govt to make available quickly
- BCC – businesses already saying “how do we get, where do we apply” – requires clear communication and offered to work with communities to get communication. Covid-19 missing area – businesses working on public contracts who may not be able to access work