



This report shows written answers and statements provided on 19 August 2016 and the information is correct at the time of publication (02:38 P.M., 19 August 2016). For the latest information on written questions and answers, ministerial corrections, and written statements, please visit: <http://www.parliament.uk/writtenanswers/>

CONTENTS

ANSWERS	2	■ Renewable Energy: Feed-in Tariffs	3
BUSINESS, ENERGY AND INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY	2	HOME OFFICE	3
■ Iron and Steel: Manufacturing Industries	2	■ Counter-terrorism	3

Notes:

Questions marked thus **[R]** indicate that a relevant interest has been declared.

Questions with identification numbers of **900000 or greater** indicate that the question was originally tabled as an oral question and has since been unstarred.

ANSWERS

BUSINESS, ENERGY AND INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY

■ Iron and Steel: Manufacturing Industries

Michael Dugher: [\[42472\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, if he will make an assessment of the effect of the recent change in the value of the pound on the purchasing power of British steel companies.

Mr Nick Hurd:

My Department regularly reviews the impact of changing economic conditions on business including in specific sectors such as steel. We also talk regularly to companies to understand their view on market conditions including in formal meetings such as sector councils.

Steel companies are impacted differently by exchange rates depending on the balance of raw materials they import from outside the UK and the location of their export markets.

Anna Turley: [\[42967\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, what his Department's policy is on including the steel industry in its industrial strategy.

Anna Turley: [\[42968\]](#)

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, what his Department's responsibilities are on developing and implementing an industrial strategy.

Mr Nick Hurd:

Responsibility for developing and implementing an industrial strategy clearly sits within the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. We will be working closely across Government and with a range of organisations – including regional representatives, businesses, trade and research bodies, universities, and trade unions - to deliver this, to help ensure that the economy grows strongly in all parts of the country, and to support the UK's global competitiveness.

We will be engaging with all sectors, including the steel industry through the Steel Council, to understand issues common to multiple sectors, and where Government needs to focus its effort to support UK businesses.

■ Renewable Energy: Feed-in Tariffs

Ronnie Cowan:

[[37603](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, what the average length of time is that feed-in tariff applications have been queued since applying for full accreditation; and what steps his Department is taking to increase the timelines of that accreditation process.

Jesse Norman:

Ofgem aims to approve applications in under 12 weeks where all the necessary information has been provided. Those applications still in the process after 12 weeks are likely to be complex or require further clarification from the applicant. The average time that full accreditation applications have been in the queue since applying is currently five and a half months.

Ofgem is committed to continuous improvement of accreditation processes and works with applicants to get applications approved as quickly as possible. In order to accomplish this Ofgem has now doubled the level of staffing in this area and made process improvements.

HOME OFFICE

■ Counter-terrorism

Diana Johnson:

[[43436](#)]

To ask the Secretary of State for the Home Department, if she will ensure that the UK continues to have access to EU security agreements and policing protocols used to combat terrorism following withdrawal from the EU.

Mr Ben Wallace:

The Government continues to work closely with European partners, as with other international allies, to combat the threat from terrorist groups. That includes strong bilateral cooperation and the continued use of a range of EU tools that contribute to keeping our citizens safe. Following the referendum, the UK retains its rights and obligations as a full member of the EU, up to the point at which we exit.

The Government is clear that effective cooperation with EU Member States on security and policing in order to combat terrorism will continue to be a UK priority, and key partners have confirmed their commitment to continue to work closely in an area where the UK has played a key role in advancing European capability.

As part of the exit negotiations, we will need to consider the full range of options to ensure effective cooperation after the UK leaves the EU. This will include taking into account the evolving nature of the terrorist threat we face.