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28 October 2019

Dear Business Leader

I write on behalf of the Scottish Government to promote our ambition to create the right conditions to help business grow and prosper. We want business in Scotland to thrive. To support this agenda I launched the [Economic Action Plan](#) last October, to provide both stimulus and stability for the Scottish economy. This action plan will be further updated in November.

We want Scotland to be a leader in the technological and social innovations of the future, and to harness that innovation to boost productivity and business competitiveness. We can improve lives for the better across Scotland whilst exporting our goods, services and solutions to the rest of the world. For further information on our export action plan see [Scotland: a trading nation](#).

Competitive, innovative businesses focused on best practice, leadership and management are vital to delivering our vision. They support sustainable jobs, fair work, household incomes and our quality of life.

We understand that Brexit continues to present real challenges for Scotland's people, businesses and communities with the ongoing uncertainty around the UK's future relationship with the European Union. The Scottish Government and our agencies remain committed to helping business prepare for any outcome.

We want to support businesses as they work through the challenges they may face, and the Prepare for Brexit Campaign is at the heart of that. It brings together a range of support for Scotland's businesses, including a toolkit to help you assess how ready your business is for whatever comes next. If you haven't already done so, I encourage you to review the website: www.prepareforbrexit.scot and access all the information and advice it contains.

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Industry has told us how important it is to retain our workforce. That is why the First Minister launched the Scottish Government's [‘Stay in Scotland’ campaign](#). It provides practical advice and assistance to the EU Citizens living in Scotland, including information and guidance on the EU Settlement Scheme application process.

I hope you find this information useful, as together we can make Scotland the best place to live, work, invest and do business.



DEREK MACKAY

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