Call for Input on trade negotiations with Israel

Overview
In February 2019, the UK and Israel signed the UK-Israel Trade and Partnership Agreement which provides the basis for our trading relationship with Israel and is a platform from which we can begin the process of negotiating a new and more ambitious trade deal.

UK businesses currently benefit from our comprehensive trade deal with Israel, but there are significant opportunities to upgrade this deal. Opportunities include:

- a. Removing and lowering tariffs for major UK exports such as food and drink
- b. Facilitating increased Trade in Services, complementing the UK and Israel’s Services based economies and cementing the UK as an international services hub
- c. Making it easier for UK companies to do business with Israel and deepening our bilateral relationship in important sectors

We are preparing to open negotiations with Israel to upgrade our existing trade deal. Ahead of agreeing a UK mandate for these negotiations, the Department for International Trade is seeking input from members of the public, businesses, and other interested stakeholders to inform our negotiation objectives and understanding of the economic, environmental and social impacts of an enhanced Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with Israel.

Areas of interest in our call for input
This call for input provides stakeholders with the opportunity to express their views about an enhanced UK trade agreement with Israel. We are particularly interested in views about:
• Which areas do you want the UK government to prioritise in trade talks with Israel when negotiating an enhanced FTA?
• Are you facing challenges or constraints when attempting to trade or invest in Israel, and if so, how significant is this on your business activity?
• How do you expect your business to respond if restrictions were removed on services trade with Israel?
• Is your business trading innovative goods and services with Israel?