

Message from the CEO

New UKTI Regional Director

Roadshow and Trade Services

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Message from British Chamber CEO, David Dawson

Dear Member

The Chamber has taken some significant steps forward in 2016's first quarter. We've received full accreditation from the British Chambers of Commerce. We've established a Trade Services team with a compelling offering for UK companies exploring the SA market. We've also engaged with around 200 UK companies as a result of the Africa Roadshow I participated in across all regions in the UK in February. This quarter, we will observe with interest the UK's referendum on EU membership – remember if you're an ex-pat you may be eligible to vote.

An assessment of their total SA workforce reveals that Chamber member companies represent over a quarter of a million jobs in this country. We are an increasingly significant voice in the South African business environment, as evidenced by the recent invitation extended to the Chamber to join high-level conversations with President Zuma and Cabinet ministers. So please – engage with us and get others in your network involved so we can accurately represent your views.

Best Wishes





New UKTI Regional Director

Emma Wade-Smith arrived in South Africa in February to take the helm as Regional Director of UK Trade & Investment, as Andy Henderson reached the end of his term and returned to the UK. Emma's South African posting follows stints in Washington D.C., Mexico, New York (United Nations), Chile, a secondment to the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills and the European Commission in Brussels. Her foreign policy experience spans the globe and she has also been recognised for her expertise in crisis management, having been honoured with an OBE for leading the

FCO's Crisis Department.

As UKTI Regional Director, Emma will sit on the Chamber's Board of Directors, and members will have the opportunity to regularly engage with her at our events. UKTI is a hugely important partner for us in South Africa and all signs point to continued positive collaboration.



UK Roadshow Supported by new Chamber Trade Services Desk

Chamber CEO David Dawson was again promoting Africa in general, and South Africa in particular, to UK companies in February. He participated in what was billed an **Africa Roadshow**, which saw him travel, along with colleagues from the British Chambers in Nigeria and Kenya, to all regions including East and West Midlands. The roadshow led to engagement with around 200 companies, both through presentations to large audiences and one-on-one meetings. David encouraged potential exporters to view Africa in regions, with SA as the natural choice of distribution base for the rest of southern Africa. The event was facilitated by the regional Chambers in the UK, with whom our relationship grows ever stronger.

Back in Johannesburg, the Chamber's Trade Services Desk is now well-equipped to engage with UK contacts and manage our increased volume of activity. Trade Services Manager Nicola Kelly brings a wealth of experience in foreign investment, business development and brand management to the team. Nicola is joined by Hellen Adogo, Trade Services Advisor, who was originally seconded from her position at UK Trade & Investment and now joins us full-time.

The EU Referendum: are you eligible to vote?

Did you know that British nationals living in SA can take part in the June 23rd referendum on the UK's membership of the European Union? Voter registration is already under way. To register as an overseas elector, you must have been registered to vote in the UK in the last 15 years. Register online to vote at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote - it takes less than five minutes.



Save the Date:

Johannesburg

Members' Business Briefing with JSE CEO Nicky Newton-King, 13th April, [Inanda Club](#).

Save the Date: Cape Town

Members' Briefing and Panel Discussion on Mobility and Diversity, 20th April, [Cape Town Club](#).

New BA Flights

From November 2016 there will be 3 additional flights per week from **London-Gatwick to Cape Town**.



UK Export Leads

Are you aware of export opportunities in SA for UK Companies? Please share with our [Trade Services Team](#).



Accreditation

Good news! We've met the stringent requirements to become part of the British Chambers of Commerce Global Accredited Chamber Network.



Cape Town VIPs

Check out [photos](#) of the recent [Eve of Parliament reception](#) held at the High Commissioner's Residence and attended by Chamber members.

The British Chamber of Business in Southern Africa



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