



WIG

The Whitehall & Industry Group
connecting the sectors



'Economic Growth & Prosperity' Series

Industrial Strategy Council: Approaches to the UK's Sectoral Landscape

Expert Insight

We were joined by Andy Haldane, Chair, Industrial Strategy Council and Chief Economist, Bank of England, Charlie Mayfield, Member, Industrial Strategy Council and Chair, Be the Business and Rebecca Riley, Director, The Economic Statistics Centre of Excellence. They discussed the UK's Sectoral Landscape and focused on areas, such as:

- For any industrial strategy to be successful, it needs to be relevant both to the nearer term challenges that we face but also an ambitious response to future opportunities.
- Next steps include: to review the current sectoral elements of the Industrial Strategy; to reframe the purpose of each sectoral intervention; choose which strategic and defensive priorities will be the focus for the next 10 years; and establish appropriate leadership and governance structures.
- The need for a services-focused intervention is now more necessary as manufacturing and service industries are more interdependent than ever before.
- An example of this is technology - technology is now so integral to competitiveness that there are few manufacturing or technology interventions that don't have a strong services dimension.
- Sectors are interlinked so to complement the sectoral lens, a task focused lens and an occupational lens will be important to help understand where the UK sits in global value exchange.
- This is a true collaboration between government and industry, and will require mutual understanding on both sides.



Our members' questions

Attendees from WIG's cross-sector membership tuned in live, and posed a number of important questions. Some of the key issues raised included:

- The links between the current thinking around the industrial strategy and other key priorities such as FTAs under negotiation and the levelling up agenda
- Sector strategies agreed for retail and hospitality and the challenges in agreeing these strategies
- Speaking to sectors that are not currently included and how this can be changed
- Mechanisms that can be deployed to drive stronger leadership, engage business in scale, support co-investment and build capacity in the system given sometimes weak local infrastructure

WIG members can listen to this presentation [here](#)
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