



**Aberdeen &
Grampian
Chamber of
Commerce**

Rishi Sunak

10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AB

Dear Prime Minister,

On behalf of the business community of the North East of Scotland I wish to congratulate you on your appointment and wish you every success in the role.

When visiting our region over the summer you gave our world-leading energy sector a vote of confidence in recognising the pivotal role it plays in powering the UK economy, providing energy security for the entire country and leading the world in our transition to net zero.

As Prime Minister we trust that you will continue to recognise these core strengths and help our region to prosper. Indeed, I would like to extend a warm welcome to you to visit Aberdeen in the coming weeks to hear from our members first-hand how we maximise the relationship between business and government.

As you will appreciate, the industries we represent expect more certainty and confidence in the economic outlook over what will be a challenging period ahead.

Our members hope to see action and support from government as they grapple with rising costs.

They also want to see guaranteed relief beyond next Spring on spiralling energy bills.

Aberdeen and Grampian is the region above all others which can provide the UK with the energy security it needs in the here and now, and is home to world-class people and supply chain that can deliver our transition to Net Zero in the years ahead. However, we need a stable fiscal regime, not cash-grab windfall taxes which disproportionately hammer an industry powering change. In transition, our domestic oil and gas sector should be supported, not stigmatised, for the central role it will continue to play in our energy mix for many years to come.

Among the very first acts of your administration, we hope to see the announcement of a Green Freeport for the North East of Scotland, to unlock innovation, create 32,000 high quality jobs and secure the Aberdeen city-region's strategic position as the Net Zero Capital of Europe.

Finally, our members wish to see a stable fiscal regime, which give the markets confidence in the government's stewardship of the economy, in contrast to the turmoil we have seen in recent weeks.

Yours sincerely,

Russell Borthwick

*Chief executive
Aberdeen & Grampian
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