



Foreign, Commonwealth
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Sir Sherard Cowper-Coles
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Dear Sherard,

Thank you for your letter of 15 July. It is the honour of my life to be appointed as Foreign Secretary.

The economic relationship between the UK and China is important for both countries, and I welcome the China-Britain Business Council's work in support of UK prosperity interests in China. This Government will take a consistent, long term and strategic approach to managing the UK's relations with China, rooted in UK and global interests. We will co-operate where we can, including on global net zero, health and growing trade, compete where we need to, and challenge where we must. Across all our work, it is a strategic necessity that we keep channels of communication with China open.

As you note, the UK Government will carry out an audit of the bilateral relationship with China to improve our ability to understand and respond to the challenges and opportunities China poses. This will guide a consistent and coherent approach to China. My officials will keep you and the CBBC updated as this work progresses.

Yours ever,

THE RT HON. DAVID LAMMY MP
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs