

CAVENDISH

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Weekly Monitoring

Friday 29th

November



EIA Update

This week, the EIA were pleased to secure a meeting with Caroline Dinenage, Chair of the Culture, Media and Sports Committee. We hope to use the meeting to build upon our previous good relationship with her in the previous Parliament and hope to contribute towards her committees work of the course of this Parliament. This is in addition to our upcoming meeting with Committee member Jo Platt which will take place in Parliament next month.

The EIA are looking forward to attending to attending the Creative Industries Growth Summit next week where both Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, Lisa Nandy, and Creative Industries Minister Sir Chris Bryant will be in attendance.

We sent out a survey this week to our AEO and AEV members to ask you about the impact of Brexit, this builds upon the survey that ESSA members have already filled out.

Please find a link to the [survey here](#) if you wish to fill it out, this will be useful information and will help to form our policy asks of this new Government.

Political Update

The Government published their Get Britain Working White Paper this week which sets out plans for welfare reform and major employment reforms aimed at achieving an 80% employment rate in the UK. It includes significant investments in Jobcentres, mental health support, and youth training programs to address unemployment and economic inactivity. More on this can be found below.

The CBI Annual Conference 2024 took place this week gathering hundreds of business leaders to discuss and promote a positive vision for the future. Key topics included economic growth, innovation, and sustainability, aiming to shape the UK's business landscape for the coming years. However, there was criticism of the government's recent budget, with CBI CEO Rain Newton-Smith warning that tax hikes and increased National Insurance contributions could harm profits, investment, and overall economic growth. Chancellor Rachel Reeves defended the Budget by saying that there is “no alternative”.

Today, Parliament debated for five hours and then subsequently voted on the Assisted Dying Bill which passed onto the next legislative stage. The Bill, proposed as a private members Bill by Labour MP Kim Leadbeater, aims to legalise assisted dying for terminally ill adults with less than six months to live, but its outcome remains uncertain as MPs are split on the issue. MPs were given a free vote which means they do not need to vote in line with their party.

The polls have opened for the Irish general election, with voters able to cast their ballots until 22:00. This election will determine the 174 Teachtaí Dála (TDs) in the 34th Dáil, with 88 TDs needed for an overall majority. Vote counting begins on Saturday morning and is expected to continue over the weekend, with the first sitting of the new Dáil scheduled for 18 December.

News

[Sir Chris Bryant spoke at the Tourism Alliance Conference](#)

In his speech at the Tourism Alliance Conference, Tourism Minister Sir Chris Bryant announced an ambitious goal of 50 million annual visits to the UK by 2030. He emphasised the vital role of tourism in driving economic growth and fostering local pride. Bryant discussed plans to support the sector through initiatives such as skills development, permanent business rates relief, and the establishment of a new Visitor Economy Advisory Council. He also addressed the challenges posed by Brexit and the need for better career pathways in hospitality. Highlighting the UK's rich cultural heritage and diverse attractions, Bryant stressed the importance of making the UK a top visitor destination. He called for a collaborative effort between the Government and the tourism industry to achieve these goals, expressing optimism for the future of the UK's visitor economy and the positive changes on the horizon. Bryant concluded by thanking industry stakeholders for their dedication and commitment.

[Baroness Shriti Vadera appointed as new co-chair](#)

Baroness Shriti Vadera has been appointed as the new co-chair of the Creative Industries Council, succeeding Sir Peter Bazalgette next summer. Until Bazalgette stands down next summer, they will lead a taskforce together to develop the Government's creative industries growth strategy, aiming to unlock significant growth in the UK's creative sectors, which are valued at £125 billion. The Council will focus on boosting exports, increasing investment, and supporting job creation across the country. Baroness Vadera brings extensive experience in business and the arts, and

her leadership is expected to drive innovation and economic growth in the creative industries. The taskforce will publish a Sector Plan in the spring.

UK Government look to appoint a new negotiator to help reset 'UK-EU' relations

It has been speculated that Michael Ellam, Gordon Brown's former communications chief and former Treasury official, has been offered the job as 'EU sherpa'. His role would be to lead reset talks with the Brussels. The job has been [advertised](#) on civil service jobs and would report to the Cabinet Secretary.

This comes as a new unit has been set up in Government under Minister for European Relations, Nick Thomas-Symonds, who will handle the EU reset negotiations.

Investment into creative industries in Merseyside and the West Midlands

The Government has announced a £13.5 million investment to boost creative industries in Merseyside and the West Midlands. This funding aims to enhance training, research, and development in these regions, focusing on sectors like live music, VR, and immersive technology. The Liverpool City Region's MusicFutures cluster and the West Midlands' CreaTech Frontiers will benefit, promoting innovation and economic growth. The initiative is part of the Government's broader strategy to support creative clusters across the UK, fostering collaboration and competition among creative businesses to drive regional and national growth.

DCMS published Gross Value Added figures up to September 2024

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) released its latest economic estimates, showing a 1.0% fall in GVA for DCMS sectors in September 2024, compared to a 0.1% decline for the UK economy. Quarterly growth for DCMS sectors was 0.2%, slightly above the UK's 0.1%. Since February 2020, DCMS sectors' GVA has grown by 2%, compared to 3% for the overall UK economy. Revisions are expected in December. This is excluding tourism.

Get Britain Working White Paper

The Government unveiled its Get Britain Working White Paper on Tuesday, aiming to boost employment and education opportunities, "ensuring no young person is left behind". Significant welfare and out-of-work support reforms were announced to curb rising benefit expenditure, with over nine million people currently economically inactive.

Key initiatives include a £240 million investment to transform Jobcentres into a National Jobs and Careers Service, focusing on skills and careers. Addressing long-term sickness, a major cause of economic inactivity, is also a priority, with plans to reduce NHS waiting lists, expand mental health support, and emphasise preventive health measures.

Young people aged 18-21 in England will have access to apprenticeships, quality training, or education opportunities. The reforms also empower local authorities to tailor support to community needs and encourage employers to hire and retain

individuals with health conditions and disabilities. The ultimate goal is to achieve an 80% employment rate, positioning the UK among the global leaders.

Chancellor Rachel Reeves defends her Budget at the CBI conference

Chancellor Rachel Reeves defended her tax-raising budget at the CBI conference, stating critics have offered “no alternatives.” Labour’s first budget in 14 years includes a £25bn increase in employer national insurance contributions, sparking concerns from business groups about job cuts and price hikes. Reeves emphasised the need for businesses and the wealthy to contribute more to address the economic challenges left by the previous government. She highlighted investments to fix the NHS and rebuild Britain, while ensuring working people don’t face higher taxes. Reeves also pointed to Labour’s pro-growth policies and plans to stabilise public finances.

CBI Director General warns that investment will be affected by the Budget

UK businesses are scaling back growth plans following Budget tax rises, warns the CBI, Director General Rain Newton-Smith. Nearly half of surveyed businesses plan to reduce headcount, and almost two-thirds are cutting back on hiring. Newton-Smith criticised Chancellor Rachel Reeves’ decision to raise employer national insurance contributions, stating it has placed a heavy burden on businesses. She emphasised that profit is essential for investment and urged the government to ease pressures on businesses to foster growth.

Parliament

House of Commons

Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill

The report stage of the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Bill has been announced as the 9th December and the third reading and debate will take place at the same time. These stages give the chance for the whole house to discuss and amend the Bill now that it has been scrutinised by the Committee.

Once concluded the Bill will then move into the House of Lords for its next round of legislative scrutiny.

Creative Industries Debate

Three MPs, Samantha Niblett, Labour MP for South Derbyshire, Jo Platt, Labour MP for Leigh and Atherton, and Dan Norris, Labour MP for North East Somerset and Hanham all asked the Culture Secretary, Lisa Nandy, what steps her Department is taking to help support the creative industries.

Lisa Nandy, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, highlighted the Government’s commitment to the creative industries, pointing to the announced £13.5 million for new clusters in Liverpool and the West Midlands. Samantha Niblett (Lab) praised local initiatives in South Derbyshire and asked about support for young people in creative careers. Nandy responded by highlighting the £3 million expansion of the creative careers programme. Jo Platt (Lab/Co-op) raised concerns about funding for grassroots artists, to which Nandy assured support for smaller organisations.

Wera Hobhouse (LD) sought updates on easing EU performance barriers for musicians. Nandy acknowledged the issue and ongoing negotiations and said that the Minister for the Cabinet Office, Nick Thomas-Symonds, is already undertaking these negotiations.

Max Wilkinson (LD) raised concerns about small music venues facing closure due to economic pressures and the recent Budget. Nandy acknowledged the issue, highlighting the Government's support for a voluntary levy on arena and stadium tickets. She warned that if the levy is not implemented, the Government will take action, with further communication from the Minister for Creative Industries, Arts and Tourism.

Oral Question on Creative Industries

During DCMS Oral Questions this week Ben Goldsborough, Labour MP for South Norfolk asked:

"In 2021, the UK exported £9.1 billion-worth of creative goods and £45.6 billion-worth of creative services, but we can and must do better. May I press the Secretary of State on what she is doing to support the creative industries' co-ordinated strategy for growth?"

Culture Secretary, Lisa Nandy, responded:

"We are championing at the bit to support the creative industries. As my hon. Friend the Member for South Norfolk (Ben Goldsborough) will know, we have announced a series of measures over the last few months to support these industries, including tax credits for independent film and special effects. We are broadening the curriculum to ensure that there is a pathway enabling young people to work in the creative industries, and we have held an international investment summit, to which the industries were central. We will be announcing more in due course."

**For any queries regarding this round-up
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