



The National Audit Office (NAO) recently published a briefing on the Department for International Trade (DIT)'s preparation for future trade negotiations. The briefing describes the development of an overarching UK government trade policy, how DIT is opening up new and existing markets, and how DIT is preparing to negotiate and implement Free Trade Agreements.



**£665**  
Billion

Total UK imports in 2018. Top imported goods include cars (£33bn), medicines (£25bn) and clothing (£20bn).

**£634**  
Billion

Total UK exports in 2018, contributing around 30% to UK GDP.



**50%**

50% of all food consumed in the UK is imported, of which around two-thirds is from the EU.

**£55.1m**



2018-19 budget for Trade Policy Group within Department for International Trade (DIT).



**1,300**

Approximate number of staff employed by DIT in its overseas network, working in 108 different countries.

**34**



Number of trade agreements the UK currently has with non-EU countries through its membership of the EU, representing 11% of UK trade, and which government is seeking to continue after EU exit.



**164**

The number of members of the World Trade Organisation (WTO).

**27**



The number of WTO members that the UK currently trades on WTO terms for tariffs, including the US, China, Brazil and Australia. In 2018 around 30% of UK total trade was accounted for by these 27 WTO members.



**4**

The number of proposed trade agreements the DIT has already consulted on, covering the USA, Australia, New Zealand, and the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

*Reference: National Audit Office, June 2019. <https://www.nao.org.uk/press-release/preparing-for-trade-negotiations/>*

