



The CIBUK Clear Water Partnership

Newsletter

Welcome!



From: [Ben Philips](#) Communications Director
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Partnership Newsletter

Week commencing 6 June 2022

In this, Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee Week, it is entirely appropriate to raise three cheers for our capital city which has been hosting these celebrations.



Summary

- In that spirit, we begin our round-up with an authoritative report on London's position as a pre-eminent financial city whose power and influence across a range of indices far outweigh its nearest European rivals and is matched only by New York.
- Elsewhere we feel honour-bound to bring the relentless rise in EU and overseas migration to the urgent attention of our influencers.
- The long-standing failure to address the problem is corrosive to public trust in a system which many believe has broken down entirely. Urgent action is required.
- Finally, we offer a hearty endorsement of the government's new Procurement Bill - a simpler, more flexible system for public procurement free of costly EU entanglements and a spur to greater economic growth.

Brexit Britain beats EU easily in latest Global Financial Centres Index

In its latest survey, the Global Financial Centres Index - the world's most authoritative comparison of the competitiveness of the world's leading financial centres - places London at the top of Europe's Capital cities, and number two in the world.

Not one EU city made it into the Top 10

1. New York
2. **London**
3. Hong Kong
4. Shanghai
5. Los Angeles
6. Singapore
7. San Francisco
8. Beijing
9. Tokyo
10. Shenzhen

In fact, **only four EU cities** managed to make it into the **top 25** - Paris at number 11, Frankfurt at number 16, Madrid at number 18, and Amsterdam at number 19.

Also strikingly, four out of the eight European financial centres in the top 25 are outside the EU - London, Zurich, Edinburgh and Geneva.

How wrong can you be?

This was NatWest Chairman and arch-Remainer Sir Howard Davies in an interview with the Observer only ten days ago:

*"I am quite pessimistic actually. **Brexit was a significant mistake.***

"You don't solve the problems of the left-behind by damaging the one area of the country that's been writing the cheques. London is paying large amounts of tax and will be damaged by Brexit over time."

Smart Cities Index

The development of technologies such as the **Internet of Things (IoT)**, **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**, **Blockchain** or **Geospatial Technology** is key to the growth of smart cities around the world.

And here too London leads the way in the annual index, holding the top position since

2017.

The full report can be found here: <https://cibuk.org/global-brex-it-britain-finance/>

‘Controlling immigration? What control of immigration?’

The government’s abject failure to establish a credible immigration policy despite repeated assurances to the contrary over many, many years, must rank as one of the worst political betrayals in recent history.

The headline figures, based on assiduous research by Facts4EU for the Clear Water Partnership, are sobering:

HEADLINE DATA

- In 2021 alone, the UK population increased by almost **250,000**.
- Net migration 2020-21: **240,000**

VISA APPLICATIONS UP ACROSS ALL CATEGORIES

- Work-related: 277,000 to March 2022, up 129% on y/e March 2020
- Study: 466,000 to March 2022, up **58%** on y/e March 2020

ASYLUM APPLICATIONS

- 55,000 to Y/E March 2022, up **56%** since pre-Covid Y/E March 2020
- **Higher than the peak of the EU Migration Crisis (36,000) in June 2016.**

IMMIGRATION DETENTION:

25,282 people entered immigration detention in the year ending March 2022, almost double the previous year (when there was a large fall following the COVID-19 outbreak) and 9% higher than pre-pandemic levels in the year ending March 2020 (23,118).

The report’s conclusions are alarming:

“If the Office for National Statistics “is confident” in saying the UK population increased by almost 240,000 in the year to June 2021, we can be certain the figure is in fact much higher.

To give but one example, in all the years when the Government (and the EU Commission) were saying that “only” three million EU nationals had moved to the UK, Facts4EU.Org very conservatively estimated the figure to be at least five million. We did so based on our

analysis of HMRC National Insurance numbers and other information.”

We will continue to monitor developments as they unfold and provide further analysis and breakdown of figures in the weeks ahead.

The full article can be read here: <https://cibuk.org/immigration-revealed-open-doors-britain/>

The bonfire of the EU's vanities – a Brexit bonanza for the UK's small employers

Over 350 EU regulations are being slashed in one new UK law

Finally, and on a more positive note, we offer our full support for the government's proposed legislation to create a simpler and more flexible system for public procurement which is set to come into force next year.

The Government hopes the new bill will make the procurement regime simpler and significantly more transparent, bringing in a new way of working that reduces costs for business and the public sector alike.

“350 EU rules are being ditched, creating a much simpler, more flexible and transparent procurement system. The new Bill will do away with the overly-bureaucratic EU rules that are complicated, time-consuming, and too expensive for most firms to navigate.”

As the biggest single purchaser of goods and services in the UK (worth £300bn per year), the government's decision to overhaul its own procurement criteria in the interests of open competition is to be thoroughly welcomed.

The Importance for Business

Notwithstanding the recent announcement, the importance of public procurement to the private sector has been growing substantially in recent years:

- New figures show public sector spending with small businesses rose to a record **£19.3 billion** in 2021/22.
- Spending through SMEs **grew by £3.7 billion** on the previous year, with **£10.2 billion** of the total spent with SMEs directly and a further **£9.1 billion** through supply chains

CBI Endorsement

Even the CBI, a vocal supporter of the EU, was forced to acknowledge the new Bill's potential:

"From the streamlining of complex procurement processes, to the new digital supplier registration system that will slash the administrative burden facing suppliers, the Bill sets out proposals to cut red-tape, promote transparency, and encourage great public-private collaborations."

- Liz Crowhurst, CBI Deputy Director for Policy, Monday 30 May 2022

Common Law vs the Napoleonic Code

Regaining control over our laws from the strait-jacket of the EU's Napoleonic code is the key to the UK's new-found freedom and prosperity. We should never again allow our lawmakers to compromise our sovereign rights in the pursuit of a pan-European political experiment.

The full article can be read here: https://cibuk.org/eu_regulations_uk_law/

About CIBUK: The Campaign for an Independent Britain ([CIBUK](https://cibuk.org)) is a non-party political campaigning organisation of people from all walks of life. It is the UK's longest-running membership organisation for freedom, democracy and independence.

Founded in 1969, for over 50 years the CIBUK has made a significant contribution in campaigning on issues important to the majority of our population and in securing our exit from the European Union. Now it's time for the next chapter.