



Derry City & Strabane District

Dual Market Access & Windsor Framework Advantages



Unique Geographic Advantage

Dual market access and the NI protocol ensures the NW city region can become a gateway for the sale of goods to two of the world's largest markets and the only place where businesses can operate free from customs declarations, rules of origin certificates and non-tariff barriers on the sale of goods to both GB and the EU. Dual market access and the Windsor Framework means NI could avail of the largest combined purchasing power in the world. This is a unique proposition for manufacturers based in Northern Ireland as well as those seeking a pivotal location from which to service GB and EU markets, recalibrate supply chains, or design, develop and sell products across key industries. We are now one of the few English speaking City Regions within Europe with a seamless EU/non-EU international frontier cut across it.



Provides Lasting Certainty & Predictability

The Windsor Framework provides the certainty and predictability requested by businesses. It avoids any unintended consequences of EU VAT and excise rules applying in Northern Ireland¹; addresses custom issues for trusted traders; ensures a sustainable supply of medicines; provides clarity regarding state aid rules for NI businesses. 1 in 4 NI manufacturers see the Protocol providing them with an opportunity now and in the future.²



Reduced Customs Bureaucracy

Manufacture products using EU inputs without having to 'import' them. The agreement expands the definition of 'not at risk' to cover a wider range of businesses that will be able to use a 'green lane'. Trusted traders are subject to simplified customs paperwork. Online retailers will face no customs requirements when sending goods to NI consumers. Traders selling pre-packaged agri-food goods from GB-NI for final consumption in NI, e.g. supermarkets, retailers, wholesalers and caterers, will be able to join a scheme that would allow them to move goods with simplified paperwork.



Provides Competitive Edge

Allows companies to improve efficiency by having both manufacturing and distribution operations in Northern Ireland that can serve both markets.



Unrestricted Market Access to the European Union

For goods moving between Northern Ireland and the EU there are:

- No checks or processes
- No customs duties or tariffs
- No customs border between Northern Ireland and the EU
- No requirements to register for VAT in each EU member state
- Northern Ireland maintains regulatory alignment on goods with the EU

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International Trade Deals

Companies can benefit from international trade deals signed by the UK Government.



Access to Labour

The Common Travel Area remains in place between the UK and Ireland. This allows a degree of mobility of labour, with Irish citizens able to work freely in Northern Ireland and arrangements for non-Irish frontier workers to work on a cross-border basis.



Regulatory Alignment

Northern Ireland maintains regulatory alignment on goods with EU regulations. EU conformity markings continue to be used to show that goods meet EU rules. No additional approvals are required to place qualifying goods on the market in GB.³



Common Values & Standards

NI produced goods will continue to meet the common values and standards of the EU. Customers can trust that the products and services they buy across the EU are safe and meet agreed performance requirements; and that companies respect rules on labour and environmental protection (which are becoming increasingly important when purchasing decisions are now being made).



Facilitates Business Growth & Protects Supply Chain Shocks

Protects companies from possible shocks to their supply chains, by making it easier for them to find new suppliers and partners from across the EU.

¹ The EU's new VAT scheme for small enterprises will not apply in NI.

² <https://www.manufacturingni.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Traders-Experience-of-the-NI-Protocol-1-year-on.pdf>

³ There are limited exceptions to this for high-risk goods. However, even where there is a requirement to share information with a GB regulator, it is less than is required for EU businesses selling to GB