



Dear [MP Name],

I am writing on behalf of the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce to share growing concerns from businesses across our manufacturing, engineering and construction sectors regarding the recently announced steel and stainless material tariffs.

We fully recognise and support the Government's intention to protect and strengthen British industry and to support a resilient UK steel sector. However, feedback from businesses across Shropshire highlights a significant risk of unintended consequences that could undermine wider UK manufacturing and construction supply chains.

The concern being raised is that increased tariffs on raw materials, without equivalent consideration for finished imported goods, may create an uneven playing field. UK manufacturers could face significantly higher input costs, while overseas competitors continue to supply finished components into the UK market at competitive rates.

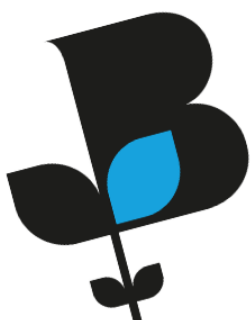
There is also growing concern that tariffs may be applied to certain materials and products that are not currently available from UK manufacturers in the range or volume required by industry demand. Businesses are warning this could unintentionally increase costs for UK manufacturers whilst offering no viable domestic alternative in some areas of the market.

In addition, concerns have been raised regarding fabricated steel products that appear to fall outside the tariff regime. In practice, this could create an unintended incentive for steel processing and fabrication work to move overseas in order to avoid tariff costs, potentially undercutting UK fabricators and weakening domestic supply chains.

The result may be a shift of work abroad, leading to a loss of domestic value creation, tax revenue, investment and skilled employment within the UK. This risks reversing the positive progress many businesses have made in reshoring manufacturing activity and strengthening local supply networks.

Businesses are also highlighting a mismatch between policy intent and market reality. In several sectors, projects continue to require steel products that UK producers are currently unable to supply in sufficient specification, range or volume, meaning imports remain essential to maintaining production and delivery.

As highlighted in recent Chamber insights, manufacturers are already navigating rising energy costs, increasing employment costs, supply chain pressures and the ongoing need to



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invest in innovation and technology to remain internationally competitive. Additional cost pressures at this time risk further reducing competitiveness across the wider manufacturing ecosystem.

We would therefore welcome your support in raising these concerns within Government, seeking clarification on the potential unintended impacts of the current proposals, and supporting a more targeted and balanced approach to the application of tariffs.

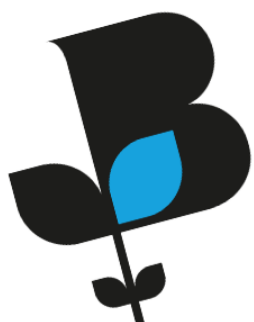
It is important that the emerging Steel Strategy strengthens the entire UK manufacturing and construction supply chain, whilst avoiding unintended consequences for businesses already operating within challenging market conditions.

Thank you for your continued engagement on behalf of Shropshire's business community. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss these concerns further.

Yours sincerely,



Ruth Ross
CEO
Shropshire Chamber of Commerce



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