

Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy

The then Business and Industry Minister, Andrew Stephenson MP, signed the UK Steel Charter at an event in UK Parliament on behalf of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. We are extremely pleased that the current Minister, Nadhim Zahawi MP is equally supportive of the Charter. With UK public procurement accounting for a massive 14% of UK GDP each year, buy-in from Government is essential in setting the direction of procurement across the public and private sectors.

BEIS actions in support of steel procurement and the UK Steel Charter include, but are limited to:

- Annual publication of the Steel Procurement Pipeline, detailing upcoming major government construction and infrastructure projects and their likely steel content.
- Annual publication of department-by-department compliance with the steel procurement guidance, detailing steel consumption and origin for the previous financial year, where known.
- Encouraging other Government departments to sign the UK Steel Charter.

On news of BEIS' support, UK Steel Director General, Gareth Stace, said:

"This initiative, and BEIS's support for it, will encourage as many organisations as possible to take a more proactive and thoughtful approach to their procurement of steel in the future, and importantly publicise the exemplar approach that many organisations are already taking."

"UK public procurement accounts for a massive 14% of UK GDP each year, its decisions are therefore a hugely important policy tool and perhaps the most significant intervention the Government makes in the economy. Government procurement decisions are important in themselves but also as a driver and catalyst for positive change elsewhere in the economy. It is therefore essential that a more strategic and long term approach to procurement is developed, sitting at the heart of the Industrial Strategy."



Further information:

On UK Government steel procurement, see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/steel-public-procurement>

On the UK Steel Charter, email GSkelton@MakeUK.org