

*Think*

*new things*

*Make*

*new connections*

## Programme

# Great British Growth: how do we take the UK's economy forward in a period of geopolitical competition?

30 January – 1 February 2025

*Participants and observers are reminded of the private and confidential basis on which Ditchley Foundation conferences are held. All those participating do so in their personal capacities, not as spokespeople for any country or institution. All proceedings take place under the 'Ditchley Rule', whereby all contributions are unattributable and interventions are made in strict confidence; this also applies to exchanges that take place outside the formal sessions. Those present are free to draw afterwards on the substance of what has been said, but not under any circumstances to reveal to any person not participating in the conference who it was that said it. The Rule will be scrupulously observed in any Note later produced on the conference by Ditchley. The verbal discussions will **not** be recorded.*

**A note about the programme:**

An in-person Ditchley conference

**Legend:**

**GMT**                  Greenwich Mean Time

DITCHLEY

Day 1	Thursday 30 January	
	<b>Arrivals:</b> Guests arriving by train will be collected from the <b>1053</b> service from <b>London Paddington</b> , arriving at <b>Charlbury Station</b> at <b>1205</b> .	
1245 GMT	Lunch	
1355 GMT	Participants take their seats in the <b>Library</b> .	
	<b>In-person participants</b>	
1355 GMT	Participants take their seats in the <b>Library</b> .	
<b>BRIEFING</b>	<b><i>What's different now: Understanding 'growth' for 2025 (global context, drivers and structural challenges).</i></b>	
1400 GMT	<b>Welcome</b> Director, James Arroyo, opens the conference and explains how the conference will unfold.  <b>Introductions</b> Director introduces the Speakers. Professor Melinda Mills MBE FBA Dr Gillian Tett OBE Ms Jen Hartley MBE	
	After introductory remarks from the Speakers, interventions are invited from the participants.  Please use your nameplate if you are in the room, to indicate that you would like to speak. <i>Your active participation in the discussion is encouraged.</i>	
1520 GMT	Closing remarks	
1530 GMT	Tea in the Saloon	
1555 GMT	Participants take their seats in the <b>Library</b> .	
<b>PLENARY I</b>	<b>Opportunities for economic growth in the UK</b>	
1600 GMT	<b>Introductions</b> Director introduces the Speakers  The Rt Hon Michael Gove Mr Andrew Goodman	
	After introductory remarks from the Speakers, interventions are invited from the participants.  Please raise your nameplate if you are in the room, to indicate that you would like to speak. <i>Your active participation in the discussion is encouraged.</i>	
1720 GMT	Closing remarks	

1730 GMT	Coffee in the Saloon	
1755 GMT	Participants take their seats in the <b>Library</b> .	
<b>PLENARY II</b>	<b>Priorities, trade-offs and sequencing</b>	
1800 GMT	Director introduces the Speakers. Mr Nigel Topping CMG	
	After remarks from the Speakers, comments and questions are invited from the participants.	
1925 GMT	Closing remarks	
1930 GMT	Close Drinks in the White Drawing Room	
2000 GMT	Dinner <i>Seating plan displayed in the Hall.</i>	
2215 GMT	For those guests who will have been notified that they will be accommodated at The Bell, transport leaves Ditchley for the hotel.	
2245 GMT	Second and final vehicle leaves Ditchley for The Bell.	

<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Friday 31 January</b>	
0815 GMT	Transport leaves The Bell for Ditchley.	
0830-0910 GMT	Breakfast	
0915 GMT	Participants take their seats in their <b>breakout rooms</b> .	
<b>Working Group discussions – Session One</b>		
0920 GMT	Participants separate into three working groups. <b>Group A</b> The 51 <sup>st</sup> state: a closer economic relationship with the United States. <b>Group B</b> Edging towards the Single Market: a closer economic relationship with the EU. <b>Group C</b> Sensible pragmatism or a doomed attempt to have cake and eat it?	
1030 GMT	Coffee break	
1100 GMT	Participants take their seats in their <b>breakout groups</b> .	

<b>Working Group discussions – Session Two</b>	
1105 GMT	<p><b>Group A</b> The 51<sup>st</sup> state: a closer economic relationship with the United States.</p> <p><b>Group B</b> Edging towards the Single Market: a closer economic relationship with the EU.</p> <p><b>Group C</b> Sensible pragmatism or a doomed attempt to have cake and eat it?</p>
1235 GMT	Working Group discussion closes.
1245 GMT	Buffet lunch
1405 GMT	Participants take their seats in the <b>Library</b> .
<b>PLENARY III</b>	<b>Reports from the Working Groups</b>
1410 GMT	<p><b>Welcome</b> Director, James Arroyo, welcomes everyone back.</p> <p><i>The Rapporteur and Chair of each working group will provide the main points, as they see them, to have emerged from their discussion, before the remaining members of that group are invited to add their comments.</i></p> <p><i>Each session will last approximately 30 minutes.</i></p>
1415 GMT	<p><b>Presentation of Group A's discussions</b> Chair: Ms Sally Jones Rapporteur: Mr Matthew Holehouse</p>
1445 GMT	<p><b>Presentation of Group B's discussions</b> Chair: Tom Scholar Rapporteur: Ms Kitty Ussher</p>
1515 GMT	<p><b>Presentation of Group C's discussions</b> Chair: Mr Rupert Harrison CBE PhD Rapporteur: Mr Ravi Gurumurthy</p>
1545 GMT	Group photo followed by afternoon tea
1615 GMT	Participants take their seats in the <b>Library</b> .
<b>PLENARY IV</b>	<b>Conference Rapporteur presentation</b>
1620 GMT	The Conference Rapporteur will provide his/her reflections on the discussions over the course of the conference, identify unresolved questions or areas

	where agreement was not reached; and highlight any conclusions or concrete recommendations that may have emerged.  Brief final interventions from the participants.	
<b>1655 GMT</b>	Director's closing remarks	
<b>1700 GMT</b>	<b>Conference closes</b>	
<b>1700 GMT</b>	Tea/Coffee available in the Saloon	
<b>1715 GMT</b>	Transport leaves Ditchley for The Bell for those who wish to change for dinner	
<b>Conference Briefing</b>		
	The following session will bring an invited audience from the wider Ditchley community, via Zoom, to hear a presentation of the of the main findings, lines of discussion and conclusions (if any) from the conference, and to participate in a Q&A, all subject to the Ditchley Rule.	
	<b>In-person participants</b>	<b>Remote participants</b>
<b>1715 GMT</b>	Panellists, and those wishing to participate, take their seats in the <b>Library</b> for a post-conference presentation to a wider Ditchley audience.	A Zoom Waiting Room will be in operation until the formal start time of 1730 GMT. <i>You will be sent a separate Zoom link for this briefing.</i>
<b>0930 PST</b> <b>1130 CST</b> <b>1230 EST</b> <b>1730 GMT</b> <b>1830 CET</b>	Briefing for an invited Ditchley audience, followed by a Q&A:  Panellists: TBC	
<b>1030 PST</b> <b>1230 CST</b> <b>1330 EST</b> <b>1830 GMT</b> <b>1930 CET</b>	Briefing closes	
<b>1900 GMT</b>	Transport leaves The Bell for Ditchley.	
<b>1910 GMT</b>	Optional House tour will leave from the White Drawing Room.	
<b>1915 GMT</b>	Drinks in the White Drawing Room	
<b>2000 GMT</b>	Black-tie Dinner and overnight  <i>Seating plan displayed in the Hall.</i>	
<b>2230 GMT</b>	Transport leaves Ditchley for The Bell.	
<b>2300 GMT</b>	Second and final vehicle leaves Ditchley for The Bell.	

Day 3	Saturday 1 February
	<b>Guests accommodated at The Bell:</b>
<b>0800 GMT</b>	Breakfast at The Bell
<b>0955 GMT prompt</b>	Transport leaves The Bell for Charlbury station for the <b>10.11 GMT</b> service to London Paddington, arriving at <b>12.23 GMT</b> .
	<b>Guests accommodated at Ditchley:</b>
<b>0800 GMT</b>	Breakfast ( <i>please place your luggage outside your door <b>before</b> you go to breakfast</i> )
<b>0950 GMT prompt</b>	Transport leaves Ditchley for Charlbury station for the <b>10:11 GMT</b> service to London Paddington, arriving at <b>12:23 GMT</b>
	The House will remain open <b>until 11.00 GMT</b> for those who would like to take a walk in the grounds or continue their conversation.
	Anyone extending their stay past 09.00 and who will require transport to the station should please confer with staff on <b>Friday</b> .
	Transfers to Heathrow Airport are arranged according to need, with final departures by 11.30 GMT.

**NOTE 1: Luggage**

It is helpful if your luggage is labelled with your name, so that your luggage may more easily be directed on arrival and departure.

**If you are staying at The Bell:**

On Thursday afternoon, your luggage will be transferred to the hotel, and our Staff will arrange your check in. You will receive your room key on Thursday afternoon and will have immediate access to your room on arrival after dinner on Thursday evening.

**If you are staying at Ditchley:**

Please place your baggage (other than hats, coats and hand luggage) outside your bedroom **by 8am** on Saturday, so that it may be collected and brought to the Hall ready for departure. Individual arrangements will be made should anyone need to leave earlier.

Please note: Luggage will be arranged in the Hall according to whether you are travelling by train, to the airport or by car. Please check that your luggage is in the correct place prior to your departure and avoid placing belongings in the vicinity of luggage destined for the station or airport if that is not where you are travelling.

**NOTE 2: Internet Access**

Wi-fi is available throughout the main house and Lower House. The network name is 'Ditchley Guest' and no password is required.