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Government seeks business input on Covid-19 recovery

Business Secretary Alok Sharma has launched five<u>new business-focused working groups</u> to help unleash Britain's growth potential as it looks for a speedy recovery post Covid.

Focused on five key themes, each group will explore how business can work with government to deliver economic growth and jobs:

- 1. The future of industry: How to accelerate business innovation and leverage private sector investment in research and development
- 2. Green recovery: How to capture economic growth opportunities from the shift to net zero carbon emissions
- 3. Backing new businesses: How to make the UK the best place in the world to start and scale a business
- 4. Increasing opportunity: How to level up economic performance across the UK, including through skills and apprenticeships
- 5. The UK open for business: How to win and retain more high value investment for the UK

The membership of the five working groups will be published in due course.

Face coverings mandatory on public transport

Government <u>guidance on staying safe outside your home</u> and <u>FAQs on what you can and can't do</u> during the Covid-19 outbreak have been updated to reflect the fact that, from Monday 15 June, everybody will be required to wear face coverings when using public transport.

Transport Secretary Grant Shapps said: "People should continue to avoid public transport wherever possible. So, while respecting social distancing and maintaining good hand hygiene remain the most important steps we can all take to stay safe, wearing a face covering can play a role in helping us to protect each other."

The latest Office for National Statistics figures on Coronavirus and the social impacts on Great Britain: 5 June 2020 show that almost 3 in 10 adults (28%) reported that they had used face coverings outside of their home in the past week, a similar proportion to last week (29%). The most common use was when people were shopping.

Public Health England has published guidance on how to wear and make a face covering.