



Sir Keir Starmer  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1A 2AB

14 February 2025

Dear Prime Minister,

We are writing to express our concern about the Government's recent statements regarding regulation.

A strong regulatory system is essential for delivering inclusive growth that makes everyone, not just a few, better off. It is the mechanism that ensures that we minimise the risks of the free market, while unleashing its potential to deliver greater prosperity and better living standards.

Well-designed regulation is not a barrier to growth. It is the foundation of fair markets, consumer protection, and investment in key areas such as clean energy, infrastructure, and skills development. These are the very building blocks of a fair and dynamic economy.

Experience shows that we weaken the regulatory system at our peril. An economy without checks and balances puts at risk decent livelihoods and basic safety; it benefits those who are prepared to put profits ahead of people. In some instances, as in the Grenfell Tower tragedy and the 2008 financial crash, these risks materialise suddenly. In other cases, such as pollution and worker exploitation, the harm is gradual, but no less tragic and costly.

We need to ensure that the lessons of the past are brought to bear on the future. Crude deregulation has proven to be little more than fool's gold, compounding inequalities and damaging our economy, our society, our democracy and our environment.

Huge issues are at stake, in addition to our shared prosperity - the viability of the NHS, the safety and opportunities of our children, the future of our planet. Rather than challenge regulators to get out of the way, the government should work with them to build a robust system that can meet these challenges and deliver inclusive growth that improves living standards for all.

Yours sincerely,

Will Snell, Chief Executive, Fairness Foundation

Phoebe Clay, Director, Unchecked UK

Julian Richer, Retailer, Philanthropist and Author, and Chair, Fairness Foundation

Charlie Adlard, Trustee, The Adlard Charitable Foundation

Robin Beal, Director, Emmica Holdings

Sir Vince Cable, Former Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills

Julia Davies, Impact Investor, We Have The POWER

Professor Simon Deakin, Professor of Law, University of Cambridge

Paolo Fresia, Founder, 100% Sustainability

Graham Hobson, Founder, Photobox

Emma Howard Boyd, Chair, ClientEarth and former Chair, Environment Agency

Professor David Howarth, Professor of Law and Public Policy, University of Cambridge

Professor Ian Loader, Professor of Criminology, University of Oxford

Harry Longman, Founder, askmyGP

Louisa Mann, Patriotic Millionaires UK

Nick Marple, Patriotic Millionaires UK

Giorgiana Notarbartolo, Patriotic Millionaires UK

Jennifer Perry, Panahpur

James Perry, Panahpur

Martin Stanley. Former Chief Executive, Better Regulation Executive

Tim Stumpff, Patriotic Millionaires UK

Suzanne Wise, Non-Executive Director and Trustee

Willem van Hoorn, Co-founder, Exscientia

Vicki Wilkinson, Patriotic Millionaires UK