



26 January 2026

Lloyds Banking Group announces £2 billion of trade finance to support SMEs trade abroad and expand into international markets

- In 2026, Lloyds Banking Group will make over £35 billion of new finance available to companies operating and investing in the UK.
- £2 billion of trade finance will be available to help businesses invest and expand abroad as part of the Government's £11 billion exporter initiative.

Lloyds has reaffirmed its commitment to backing British businesses, announcing that it will make up to £2 billion of trade finance available to support growth for SMEs and mid-corporate exporters, allowing them to invest, scale and expand into international markets.

This forms part of Lloyds Banking Group's plan to make over £35 billion of new finance available to companies operating and investing across the UK in 2026. The £2 billion trade finance pledge includes lending via UK Export Finance (UKEF) backed facilities, as part of the Government's £11 billion package to help UK firms compete and grow in international markets.

Backing SMEs and mid corporates across the UK

This trade finance commitment, along with our International Trade Portal, will support SMEs - the backbone of the UK economy - while also equipping mid corporate clients with the working capital and trade solutions they need to invest in productivity, supply chains and export growth.

Helping Britain Prosper

By continuing to provide access to new finance and by supporting the UK's exporter base, Lloyds is helping to stimulate regional investment, create jobs and drive sustainable growth. Helping businesses thrive and supporting their growth ambitions creates opportunities in regions and communities across the UK, and achieving it requires a clear and committed strategy.

Paul Kempster, Managing Director, Commercial Banking Coverage, Lloyds Banking Group, said:

"Working alongside UKEF demonstrates how banks and government can come together to unlock the full potential of UK businesses to help them compete and win on the global stage. This dedicated trade finance support will enable more firms to seek new export opportunities, scale internationally and drive investment and jobs back into the UK."

ENDS

Contact

Nicola Hammond | nicola.hammond@lloydsbanking.com | 0207 356 2374

Notes to Editors

- Lloyds Banking Group is a leading UK based financial services group providing a wide range of banking and financial services, focused on personal and commercial customers.
- As part of the Group, Lloyds provides expert financial support and guidance to the households, businesses and communities of Britain.
- We help businesses from all parts of the UK, and across all different sectors and sizes, giving them the funding and support they need to grow both at home and abroad.

Our support for businesses

- We're proud to support around one million UK businesses with leading digital and relationship banking services, as they start up, grow and thrive.
- In 2024 we helped 100,000 small businesses and charities with new banking.
- Through a network of relationship teams based across the UK, as well as internationally, we deliver a mix of local understanding and global expertise necessary to provide long-term support to our clients to help them fulfil their growth aspirations.
- We offer a broad range of finance beyond term lending, spanning import and export trade finance, structured and asset finance, securitisation facilities and capital market funding. Our [Lloyds International Trade Portal \(ITP\)](#) helps firms develop their trading plans, providing a range of valuable resources. Helping to identify new suppliers, tariff details, country profiles, and support in acquiring tenders.
- Our product specialists provide bespoke financial services and solutions, including tailored cash management, international trade, treasury and risk management services.
- To see the latest factsheet setting out how we support UK businesses please visit: [Supporting British businesses - Lloyds Banking Group plc](#)

All Lending is subject to status. Eligibility criteria apply.

Businesses can find out more about UKEF support at: <https://www.gov.uk/uk-export-finance>

Contact