



**Aberdeen &
Grampian
Chamber of
Commerce**

Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
Westminster
London
SW1A 2HQ

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The Hub
Exploration Drive
Aberdeen Energy Park
Bridge of Don
Aberdeen
AB23 8GX

—
T 01224 343900
E info@agcc.co.uk
www.agcc.co.uk

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Dear Chancellor,

I am writing to express the grave concern of the North-east business community following the publication of our latest Quarterly Economic Survey, produced in partnership with Gilson Gray.

The data shows one in four firms across Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire have cut jobs in the last quarter, up from just 12% two years ago. Note that this is across the whole economy, not just the energy sector.

This morning, the Port of Aberdeen has also reported that oil and gas activity is down 10% so far in 2025, and a hugely concerning 25% during the key summer months when offshore projects and maintenance traditionally peak.

There has been no uplift in renewable energy work of a scale to replace this, which means fewer vessels, fewer supplies and less equipment heading offshore. This translates directly into less work for the region's world-class supply chain.

The Energy Profits Levy is accelerating this decline, driving away investment, undermining confidence and now threatening jobs across the whole economy, not just the energy sector. The North-east remains the engine room of the UK's energy economy. But that engine is running on empty.

We urge you to use the forthcoming Budget to abolish the Energy Profits Levy and replace it with a stable, long-term fiscal framework that encourages investment, sustains employment and restores confidence.

Without decisive action, we risk plunging over the very cliff edge that ministers have repeatedly said we must avoid.

I have attached a full copy of the Quarterly Economic Survey, alongside our recent pre-Budget submission, for your consideration as you prepare for what is a make-or-break Autumn Budget for our region.

Yours sincerely

Russell Borthwick
Chief Executive



Registered in Scotland as a company limited by Guarantee
Registration number SCO 000 791
VAT Number 265 3165 59
Registered Office: The Hub, Exploration Drive, Aberdeen
Energy Park, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen, AB23 8GX