

To become a truly “Global Britain” then we ...

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The Times [had an article by Margaret Hodge MP and David Mitchell MP](#) (Labour and Tory respectively) yesterday in which they said:

As debate turns to who will shoulder the cost of the pandemic, we must ensure global corporations are paying their fair share. Stricter enforcement of existing tax rules, fewer sweetheart deals with HMRC, and tougher action on the advisers who enable companies to avoid tax are just some of the steps the government should take before it considers tax increases for ordinary people.

To become a truly “Global Britain” then we must show leadership on international tax reform. But until a global agreement is reached, the government must increase corporate tax transparency by implementing public country-by-country reporting.

Lifting the veil of secrecy on corporate tax affairs would lead to less profits being siphoned offshore, raise billions for the public purse, and make the UK a world leader in financial transparency. After all, sunshine is the best disinfectant.

Unsurprisingly I agree. I created the idea of country-by-country reporting as we now have it in 2003. It's been a demand of the tax justice movement ever since it began. And it would be transformative.

Which is why I also [called for it for Starbucks](#) this week.

It's good to see cross-party support for it.