

Brexit has failed. MPs are admitting it. When will the ...

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The [Public Accounts Committee](#) has published a new report this morning on the lack of apparent benefits from post-Brexit trade deals. The press release says:

In a report today the Public Accounts Committee says “there is no guarantee” that the new international trade agreements being negotiated by the Department for International Trade “will deliver actual economic benefits” and it remains opaque and secretive about the deals it is negotiating – publishing its own “impact assessments” of new trade deals prior to implementation but not setting any associated targets or providing the information to Parliament and the public to allow them to assess the practical, real-world impact of the new deals, or if the interests of businesses and the public are actually being served.

They added:

Sir Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, Deputy Chair of the Public Accounts Committee, said: “The Department for International Trade seems to have forgotten that its first and core duty is to deliver for UK consumers, business and our environment - to create deals that will deliver real economic benefits while offering the choice of food, goods and services at the standards and prices they expect and have long enjoyed. The PAC has previously expressed concerns that our consumer protection system is unable to deal with the new arrangements, and recent reports of tax fraud and modern slavery breaches cast doubt on capability in other critical parts of the trade system. ”

Sir Geoffrey is, of course, a Tory. These reports are always issued with cross-party consent.

What is being said here is that MPs cannot find the benefit in the UK being able to negotiate its own trade deals. Given that membership of the EU was a trade deal, at its core, this matters. What they are saying is that they cannot find a benefit from Brexit. And they are saying the government won't name that benefit. That's because, I rather strongly suspect, they think there are no benefits from Brexit.

When will this finally be admitted by the government?

And when can we talk about the only post-Brexit trade deal which really matters, which is our readmission to the EU?