

I have devoted much of my time and effort over the past year and a half to encouraging trade with and investment in Northern Ireland. I have met with many of you, some many times, and many others all across Northern Ireland.

That experience has provided me with first hand knowledge of the importance of peace to economic growth and the creation of jobs. It has also left me with the conviction that there is enormous potential in Northern Ireland for economic growth and broadly-shared prosperity.

We have no interest - no interest whatever - other than to help make possible that promising future for Northern Ireland. We pledge our total commitment to that effort.