



The Rt Hon Jonathan Reynolds, MP
Secretary of State for Business and Trade
Department for Business and Trade
Old Admiralty Building
Admiralty Place
London
SW1A 2DY

14 August 2026

Dear Secretary of State,

Business Rates and the Storage Industry

Between them, our two associations represent the large majority of the professional and self storage industries in the UK. Our members provide a vital service to households and businesses, enabling them to store items away from their homes or business premises, nurturing start-up businesses, and facilitating economic growth, domestic house moves and company relocations.

We have been following the development of policy on business rates in recent months, especially with regards to the rates to be charged on large warehouses that serve the e-commerce sector. We have been concerned that such a policy, implemented without consideration for the storage sector, might create as an unintended side-effect a significant extra cost burden for our industries. We understand the Government's aim to re-balance the rates burden between the High Street and the e-commerce sector but would urge the Government to ensure that such a re-balancing takes into account the position of the storage industry.

Our members operate in an entirely different market to e-commerce retailers, their customer base, income streams and profit margins are totally dissimilar. A blanket policy based on floor area risks burdening professional and self storage facilities with an impossible rates burden, leading to the closure of facilities and disruption to businesses and homeowners alike.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet you to discuss the contribution that our industries make to the UK economy and the potential risks of over-taxing the UK storage market. We look forward to receiving your response.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Large
Director General
British Association of Removers

Simon Forrester
Chief Executive
Self Storage Association UK