The UK Economy & Brexit: what does it mean?

Christian Spence

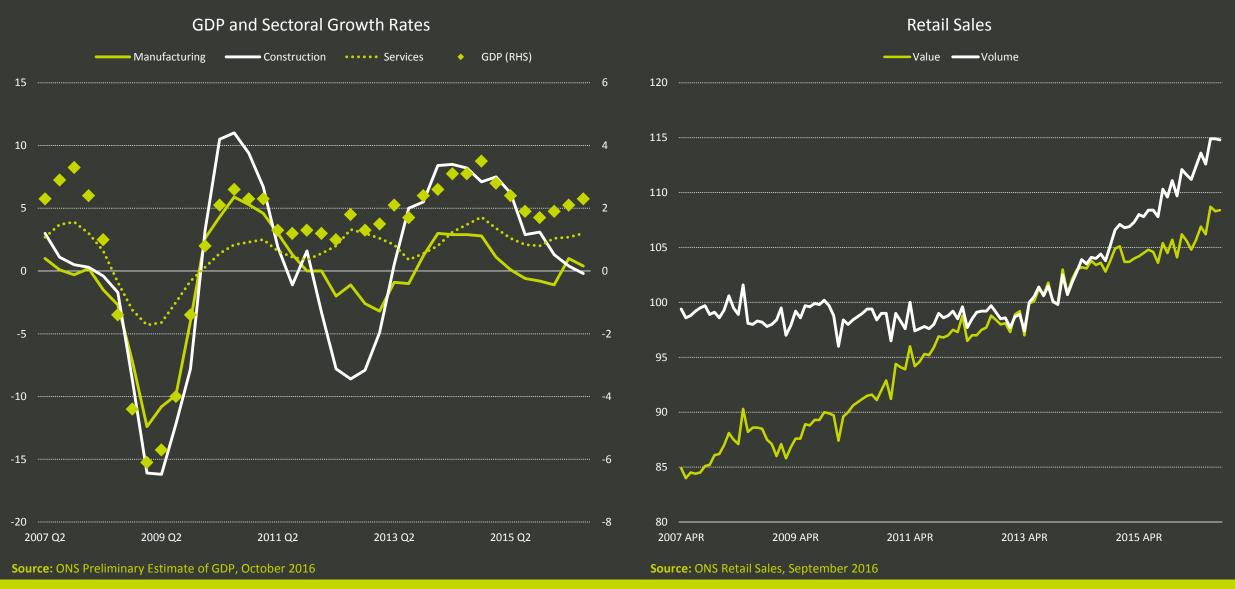
Head of Research & Policy

Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce



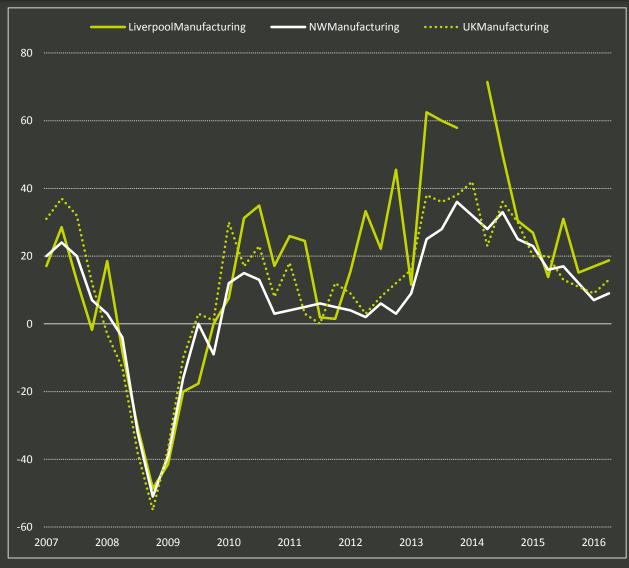


UK Output and Consumer Demand ONS data





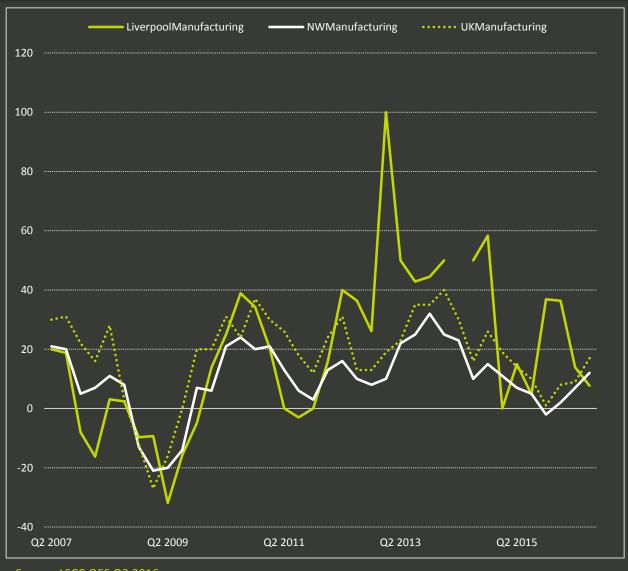
UK Demand QES UK Sales

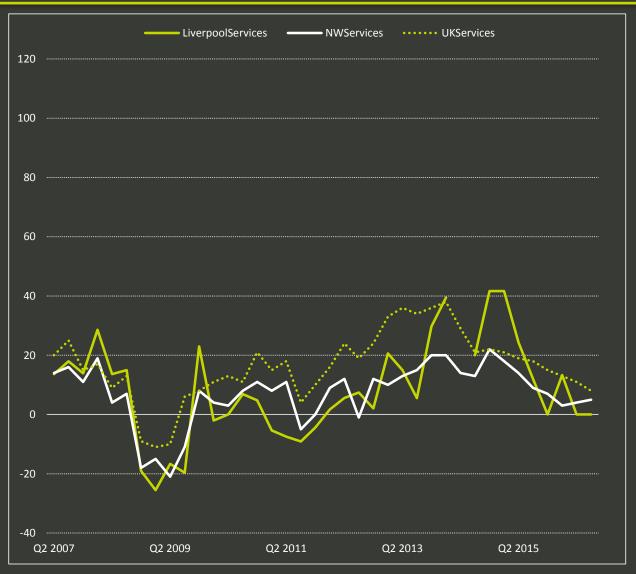






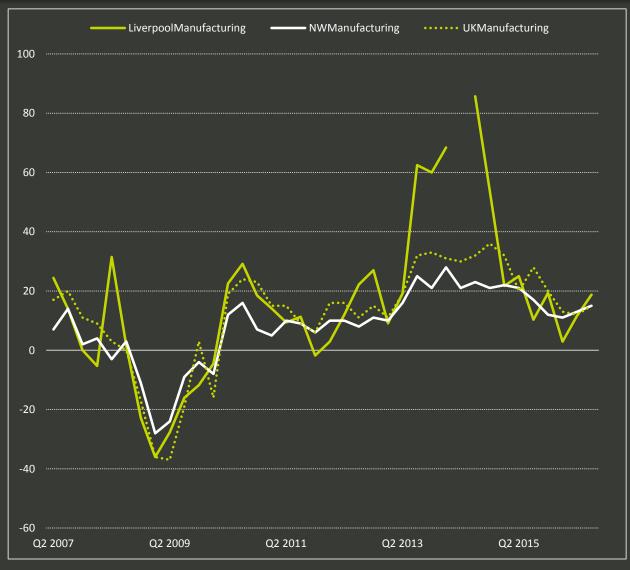
International Demand QES Export Sales

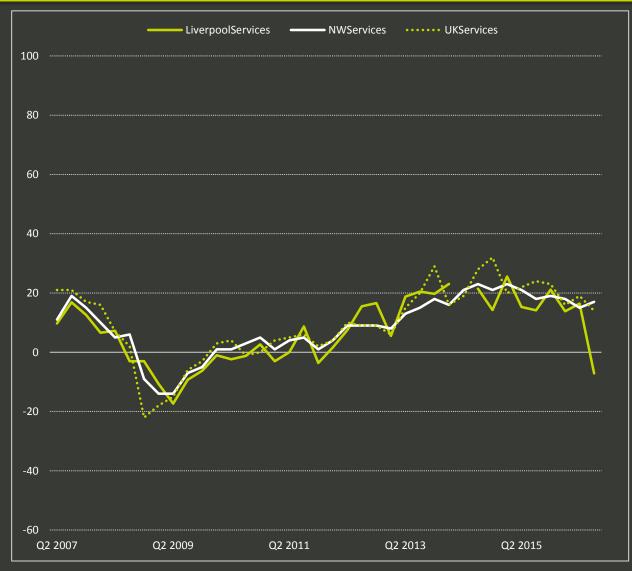






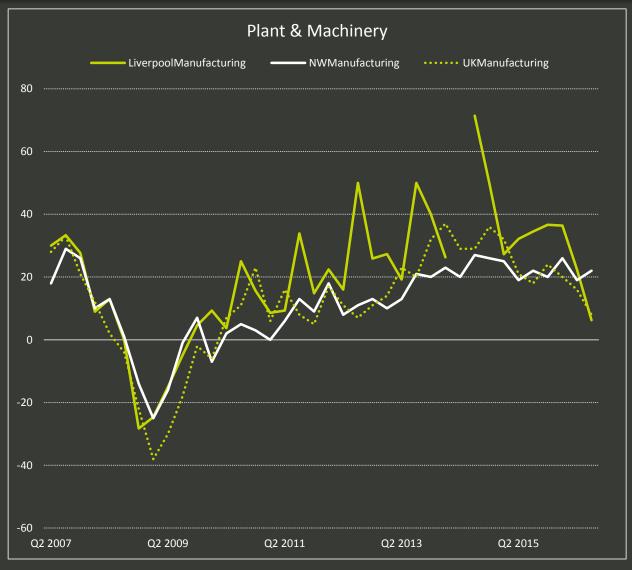
Labour Market QES Employment (this quarter)

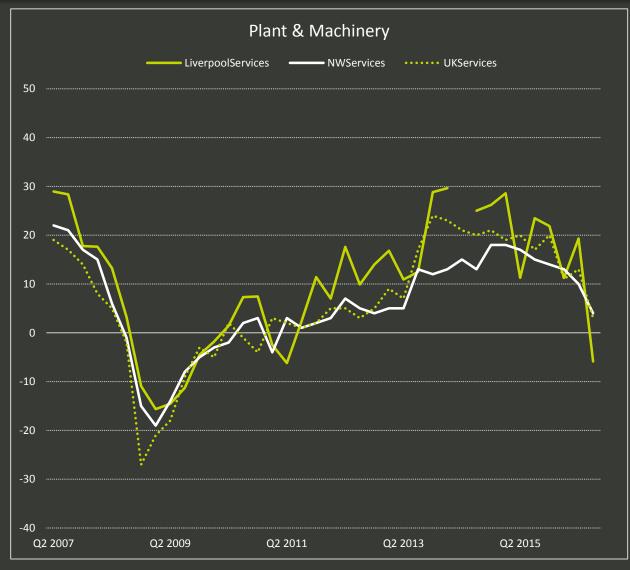






Confidence & Investment QES Investment

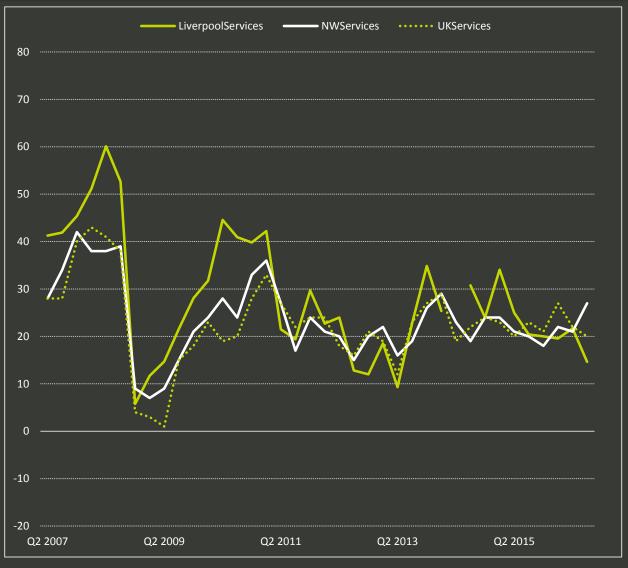






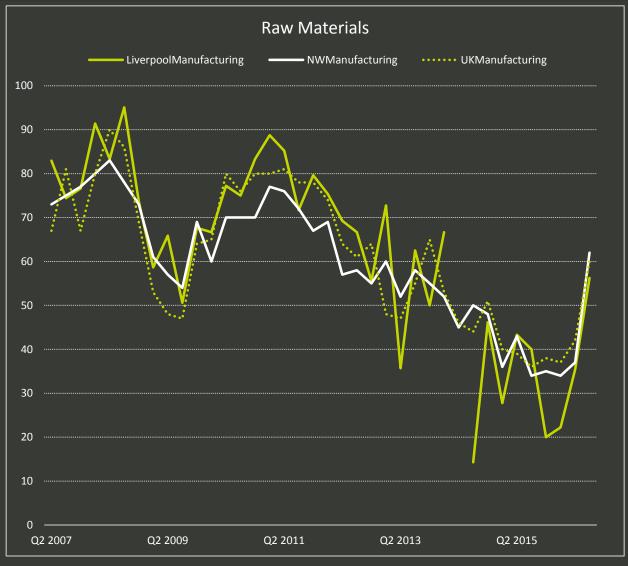
Costs & Prices QES Price Intentions

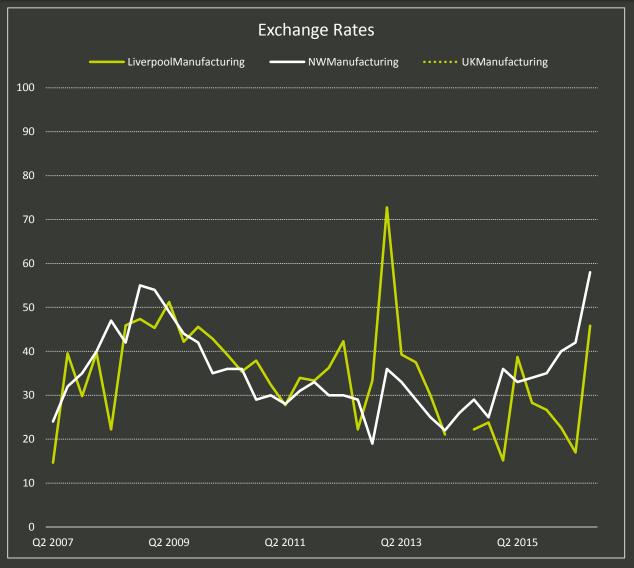






Costs & Prices QES Price Pressures







Sefton Economic Forum

Brexit and the Future of International Trade



Brexit and the Future of International Trade

1. Continuing relationship with the EU

- Article 50 negotiations
- Exit options
- "Soft" and "Hard" Brexit?

2. The future of international trade

- Tariffs vs. Regulations
- Bilateral vs. Multilateral



1. Continuing Relationship with the EU

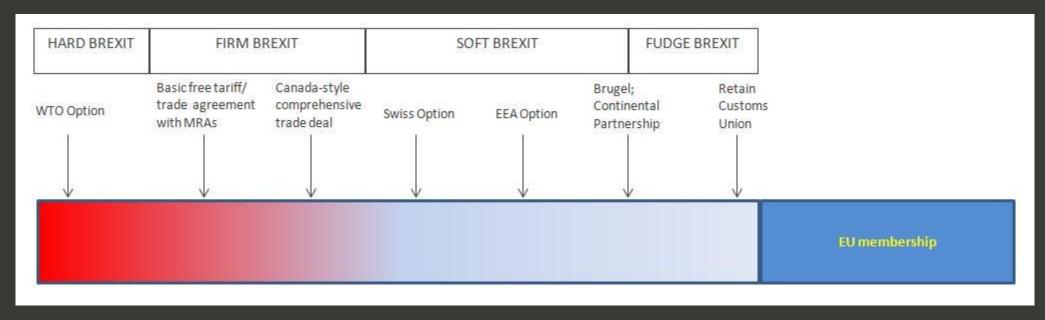
What are the options?

- EEA/EFTA based-option (Something similar to Norway)
 - Full participation in single market nothing much changes in terms of trade.
 - No direct say over EU matters, but we would gain a seat on global regulatory bodies.
 - The framework required is already in place (an "off-the-shelf" option)
- Bilateral Deals (Something similar to Switzerland)
 - Multiple bilateral deals with the EU on specific aspects of trade.
 - More scope to tailor specific arrangements.
 - Must accept some EU law in return bargaining involved.
 - Time and effort intensive would be a start from scratch.
- Something more bespoke
 - Could be significantly time and effort intensive
 - Would likely be based upon existing framework
 - Could be difficult to negotiate
- World Trade Organisation all ties with EU severed



1. Continuing Relationship with the EU

"Hard" Brexit? Or "Soft" Brexit?



- Not particularly useful terms no clear definitions.
- Government seems to be leaning towards "hard" at this point.
 - But are they increasingly seeing it as the finishing line instead of a first step? Transitional arrangements are key.



2. The Future of International Trade

Tariffs Vs. Regulation

- What do we mean by "trade deal"?
 - The trade deals we keep hearing about only deal with monetary tariffs.
 - These are the 53 that the EU has with non-EU countries.
 - These are the ones being spoken about by Liam Fox (mostly).
- Non-tariff barriers (NTBs) are the real issue...
 - The EU has around 38 NTB deals with the USA and 63 with China, but none specifically on tariffs.
 - The WTO option would see us lose these agreements, WTO rules alone are not enough.
- If you are not talking about regulation, you are not talking about trade...



2. The Future of International Trade

Bilateral Vs Multilateral

- Bilateral trade deals (between two countries) are increasingly outdated
- Globalisation is increasingly multilateral (agreements that apply to all who are signed up)
- Through global regulatory bodies, a global single market is taking shape.
 - United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)
 - Codex Alimentarius setting global food and agriculture standards
 - International Labour Organisation (ILO)
- The EU is increasingly a rule-taker not a rule-maker
- The future of trade is in International Regulatory Cooperation
- Britain can be at the forefront of this movement outside the EU a real opportunity to lead global trade.



Final Thoughts

- Brexit is a process, not an event...
 - Article 50 gives us an initial negotiation of 2 years
 - Where should we be at the end of this?
 - What would the next steps be?
 - Can a bespoke arrangement be achieved in this time?
- Securing EU Trade relations is vital
 - We need a solid footing from which to progress...
- International trade is changing...
 - Britain could become the leader in International Regulatory Cooperation...
- It's time to think big...
 - What other opportunities are there to be had?



Stay up to date!

For weekly updates and reading lists see our "Last Week In Brexit" blogs at:

WWW.GMCCEUREF.CO.UK

Follow our EU specialist, Alex Davies, on Twitter: @GMCC_Alex



Sefton Economic Forum

The UK Economy & Brexit: what does it mean?

Christian Spence Head of Research & Policy
Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce
christian.spence@gmchamber.co.uk | @GMCCResearch



