



FORUM of
PRIVATE BUSINESS

For our members, not for profit



GET BRITAIN TRADING

Forum campaign objectives

fpb.org

A 1% increase in productivity

achieved across the UK macro economy
would **add** almost

£20 billion

to our national output.

It would **reduce** the annual government
deficit by around

£8 billion

It would **increase** the average
wage packet by

£250 a year

It would **increase** annual profits
across the country by almost

£3.5 billion

Small rises in **business productivity** have a

massive impact

Get Britain Trading: Aims of the campaign

It is becoming increasingly clear that the government, ministers and MP's do not fully understand how a small business works. All businesses have their challenges, opportunities and motivations but small businesses make up the largest part of the UK economy.

The Forum of Private Business would like to try and help the government get closer to these businesses and understand the needs of the owners as well as the impact of their actions on their business. We, therefore, are encouraging our members to sign up to the "Get Britain Trading" campaign and to open their doors to welcome ministers and MP's to spend time working with them and to get to fully understanding this highly entrepreneurial sector. The Forum of Private Business want's to encourage the UK to "Get Britain Trading".

The Get Britain Trading campaign is not only for our members but will benefit civil servants who want to understand the impact of changes the government are making to small businesses. As the regulatory policy committee pointed out "too often departments have failed to provide relatively basic evidence such as the proportion of those affected by the regulation that is likely to be small or micro businesses".

Finally, education establishments are being encouraged and funded to fill the skill gaps that exist, many will be able to get closer to small business and see where the needs are first hand.

We, the Forum of Private Business pledge:

- To work with our members to improve business performance and productivity, as well as making it simpler and fairer to do business in the UK. This means taking the opportunities to trade with our European neighbours and throughout the world.
- To maintain the trust, reputation and value in British companies. The Forum's existing "Hall of Shame" will be re-launched, to encompass any bad behaviour that damages trust in British business. We aim to highlight this behaviour in the "Hall of Shame", and share this with the government, the press and encourage the guilty parties to change their behaviour for the benefit of the UK economy.
- To make sure that our member's businesses are setting a good example by behaving in an ethical and compliant manner. We have developed an ethical workbook and a compliance handbook that will be made available all Forum of Private Business members.
- To take the headline ideas from our post-Brexit Plan to ensure that we have an economy that makes it simple for our member's to do business and gives them a level playing field to operate on.
- The Forum expect BEIS and the government to continue to share the general direction their negotiations will take and to communicate a clear direction of travel in order to maintain business confidence.
- The Forum will help to make the UK a good place to do business, to retain those companies that are already based here, to attract new companies into the UK economy and to encourage sustainable start-up businesses.
- The Forum will encourage the government to reward entrepreneurs and small business owners, to help them increase their performance and productivity, driving the UK economy to new heights.
- The forum will fight on our member's behalf to see a simplification of our over complicated tax system and to see it applied consistently across all businesses.
- By working closely with government departments, the Forum will work to remove unnecessary red tape and regulation and to take some of this burden of compliance from our members, while ensuring new regulation is simple and effective.
- The Forum ask that we have a skilled workforce available for business, be it skilled employees from other countries, (reassuring those who are already here and contributing to the UK economy) or by better education and training, within our schools and colleges to fill these skill gaps.
- The Forum will champion the good things our member's businesses do, for example providing good preventative health care for employees. A business can do a lot to help government initiatives and we will highlight and promote them.
- The Forum wants to see a rebalancing of the UK economy away from London to be better distributed throughout the UK. The government can drive this through relocation of existing departments and support of infrastructure projects like the Northern Powerhouse and Midlands engine so spending and development that benefits the whole of the UK.
- Provide government and their agencies with clear direct feedback of our member's views and fight injustice on their behalf. We will work with our government to make sure that initiatives are kept simple. We will make sure that any changes are communicated clearly to our members along with any action that they need to take in their business.
- Many MP's and civil servants express their concerns about the rift between Westminster and London and the rest of the UK and the wider economy. As part of the 'Get Britain Trading' campaign, Forum members can register for our Business Partner Scheme, where they can open their doors to Ministers, their local MP, civil servants and education establishments to come and work in their business for a few hours.



The principles of 'Get Britain Trading' underpin everything that we do to help our members.

Get Involved and sign up today to 'Get Britain Trading'

For our members not for profit

For more information and to be a part of the **Get Britain Trading** campaign please contact our team on **01565 626001**, or email us: **marketing@fpb.org**

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