

The Local Economy

13.0 From the perspective of your business or organisation, how have economic conditions changed over the past two years?

- improved
- stayed the same
- deteriorated

13.1 Unemployment is low in the Cheadle constituency. Has your business or organisation had difficulties recruiting to fill vacancies?

- Yes No

13.2 In your experience which skills are in short supply locally?

- finance
- general management
- IT
- legal services
- sales and marketing
- skilled labour
- other (please specify).....

13.3 Has your business or organisation ever considered relocating to an area with lower labour and property costs?

- Yes No

If you have any other comments that are not covered by the rest of this survey please write them here:

Confidential

Name.....

Position in Company.....

Name of Company.....

Address.....

..... Post Code.....

Tel no:..... Fax No.....

E-mail.....

Return to:
Mark Hunter MP
FREEPOST NWW14172
Cheadle
SK8 7LE

The Liberal Democrats would like to use the information above to contact you from time to time to keep you informed of campaigns we may think of interest to you. Please write to us if you do not want to be contacted in this way.

Mark Hunter's Business Survey



It matters to us what you think...

It would help me to serve you better if you could take just a few minutes to complete this survey and return it to me in the FREEPOST envelope provided....

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Profile

1.0 How many people does your company/organisation currently employ locally?

- 1 - 10
- 11 - 50
- 51 - 100
- 101+

1.1 What line of business are you in? Please tick one of the following options:

- Agriculture
- Business Services
- Communications
- Construction
- Distribution
- Education
- Energy
- Finance
- Health, Social
- Hospitality
- IT
- Manufacturing
- Personnel Services
- Retail
- Other (please give details).....

The Issues

2.0 What are the most pressing concerns which affect your business or organisation?

Please indicate which of the following issues you are concerned about and rank them in order of importance with 1 against the most important.

- business rates
- national business taxes
- government red tape
- late payment
- local transport
- crime/security
- skills/labour shortages
- insurance
- other (please state).....

Rates

3.0 Do you benefit from the Government's upper threshold for business rate relief?

- Yes No

3.1 Do you feel that the Uniform Business Rate is a fair way to collect business taxes?

- Yes No

3.2 Is there an alternative system of local business taxation that you would prefer?

- Yes No

If yes, please specify.....

.....

.....

Transport

4.0 From the perspective of your organisation/ business what is your view of the adequacy of local transport links and infrastructure?

- very good
- good
- adequate
- poor
- very poor

4.1 How many car parking spaces are provided by your organisation?

4.2 Does traffic congestion have any adverse effect on your business?

- Yes
- No

4.3 What measures would you like to see implemented to reduce local traffic congestion?

- the completion of the A555 relief road
- more car sharing
- integrated park & ride
- bus lanes
- more car free zones
- better public transport
- other (please specify)

Local Council

5.0 Are you aware that the Council has a business centre that can offer support to local businesses?

- Yes
- No

5.1 What additional services that would be most useful to you could the council could provide?

.....

Top Priority

6.0 If there was one thing that could be changed to improve your business prospects what would be your top priority?

.....

Europe

7.0 In terms of your business, is Britain better or worse being a member of the European Union?

- better
- does not make a difference
- worse

7.1 Do you think Britain should join the Euro?

- Yes, when economic conditions are right
- No

7.2 Is there any issue you would like my European colleagues to be campaigning for in Brussels?

Red Tape

8.0 Approximately how many hours per week is your business obliged to devote to government bureaucracy and form filling?

- hours

Insurance

9.0 Has the cost of Employer's Liability Compulsory Insurance (ELCI) increased substantially for your business over the last 12 months?

- Yes
- No

9.1 Have you experienced difficulty in obtaining ELCI cover for your business over the last 12 months?

- Yes
- No

9.2 Has your business implemented any form of risk management over the last 12 months in order to try to reduce the cost of ELCI cover?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please give details:

.....

9.3 Has the cost of ELCI, or difficulty in obtaining it, had any long-term effects on your business?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please give details:

.....

9.4 Has your business experienced difficulty in obtaining any other form of insurance?

- Yes
- No

If yes, please give details of the type of insurance, and the problems experienced:

.....

Fuel Costs

10.0 Has your business been seriously affected by rising fuel costs in the last 12 months?

- Yes
- No

10.1 Has your company invested in any energy saving practices?

- Yes
- No

If yes please give examples.....

.....

New Legislation

11.0 Are you aware that the Disability Discrimination Act came into force on 1 October 2004?

- Yes
- No

11.1 Has your company been involved in a lot of work in order to comply with the Act?

- Yes
- No

Promoting Your Business

12.0 Have you used any of the following to promote your business within the last twelve months?

Please tick any of the following:

- TV
- Radio
- Local newspapers
- National newspapers
- Online
- Flyers

12.1 Are there any issues you would like me to promote in Parliament?