

From: South Wales Chamber [rachel@centreforbusiness-co.ccsend.com] on behalf of South Wales Chamber [info@southwaleschamber.co.uk]

Sent: 07 April 2010 12:35

To: Rachel Nowell

Subject: April - Vol 1: Policy News - QES Results

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)



In This Issue

[QES Results](#)

[NI Contributions](#)

[Small Business Rate Relief](#)

[Budget v NRP](#)

[General Election](#)

[Political Events](#)

Greetings!

Welcome to the latest Policy Update from the South Wales Chamber. Results of the latest Quarterly Economic Survey were published today and are included below. Plus details on the rise in NI contributions and Small Business Rate relief.

If you have any queries please contact Natalie Taylor on 01633 242722 or email: policy@southwaleschamber.co.uk.

→ Quarterly Economic Survey

The Quarterly Economic Survey results for Quarter 1 2010 were published on 7th April 2010. The results for the South Wales Chamber of Commerce and a summary report can be downloaded here:

[South East Results](#)
[South West Results](#)
[Summary](#)



→ National Insurance Contributions

Member support needed to prevent damaging NICs rise!

In last months' Budget, the Government kept its commitments to raising employer National Insurance Contributions from April 2011. Yesterday, the Conservatives announced a commitment to roll back some - but not all - of this increase. We must keep the pressure up, and reverse the NICs rise entirely.

If you have not done so, please sign the petition against the NICs increase at www.no-nics-rise.co.uk as soon as possible. We need thousands more signatures from Chamber members to use the petition to get the NICs rise rolled back in full.

→ Small Business Rate Relief

Cut in Small Business Rate Relief for Wales

The Small Business Rate Relief measures outlined in the Chancellor's Budget 2010 will apply in Wales.



The Government has agreed to fund a temporary increase in the level of small business rate relief so that eligible small businesses occupying properties with rateable values up to £6,000 will pay no business rates for one year from October 2010. Businesses with a rateable value between £6,001 and £12,000 will also receive significant reductions.

→ Chancellor's Budget 2010 v National Recovery Plan for Wales

Please take a look at the [Budget Document](#) comparing issues addressed in the Chancellor's Budget 2010 to the proposals set out in the SWCC National Recovery Plan for Wales.

→ General Election



THURSDAY 6TH MAY

Polling stations open between 7am and 10pm

→ Political events...

16th April, 12noon - 2pm at UWIC, Llandaff Campus

Pre-Election Question Time

Hosted by the South Wales Chamber and CBI Wales, the event is designed to give businesses the opportunity to engage with politicians directly and influence their thinking of the future of the Welsh economy.



The panel will comprise Wayne David MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State; Jenny Willott MP, the first ever Liberal Democrat MP for Cardiff Central; Jonathan Evans, Welsh Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for Cardiff North and Dafydd Tristan Davies, Plaid Cymru Parliamentary Candidate for Cynon Valley. The question and answer session will be chaired by Scott Waddington, CEO of Brains and Chair of CBI Wales.

[Download booking form](#)

21st April, 7.30am for 8.00am - 9.30am at the

Hilton Cardiff
Business Breakfast with Stephen Hester, Chief Executive, RBS

Sponsored by Watts Gregory LLP

Stephen Hester was appointed to the Board of the Royal Bank of Scotland Group on 1 October 2008, and to the position of Group Chief Executive on 21 November 2008.



Hester has held a number of high profile roles at Abbey National plc, Credit Suisse First Boston and The British Land Company plc. Whilst he is first and foremost a banker, he is a shrewd businessman and a leader, silencing critics and gaining the City's respect with his actions including:

- Issuing a profits warning at Abbey - investors could no longer complain about a lack of disclosure previously experienced;
- Moving British Land's HQ from palatial premises to an ordinary office building and being more forthcoming about the company's affairs;
- Setting out a six point plan for his new role at RBS.

Stephen Hester will be talking about "Changing the way we do business and the business we do".

Limited places available, [book yours today!](#)

To book places at the events or for any further information, please use the links provided or email info@southwaleschamber.co.uk.

[Forward email](#)

✉ [SafeUnsubscribe®](#)

This email was sent to rachel.nowell@southwaleschamber.co.uk by

info@southwaleschamber.co.uk.

[Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Email Marketing by



Centre for Business | Enterprise Way | Newport | NP20 2AQ | null