

From: [Rachel Nowell](#) on behalf of [Marketing](#)
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Subject: South Wales Chamber - January: Policy Update
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January Policy Update

Quarterly Economic Survey

The Quarterly Economic Survey for Quarter 4 2009 was published on January 12th 2010. The results of the survey for the South Wales Chamber of Commerce and a QES overview report produced by the British Chambers of Commerce can be found using the links below.

[South Wales Chamber Results](#)

[BCC Overview of Results](#)

National Recovery Plan

The South Wales Chamber of Commerce launched a document called the 'National Recovery Plan' at the State of the Nation event on January 12th 2010. The document highlights the key challenges faced by the Welsh business community during this recession and provides recommendations to key influencers on what we believe are the solutions to stimulate business and reduce business demise throughout the upturn.

[Download National Recovery Plan](#)

Regulation and Tax

Business Rates

A collective campaign between the various lobbying organizations, including the South Wales Chamber of Commerce, has helped towards the Welsh Assembly Governments decision for more rate relief for small businesses.

Recent announcements include: (1) an increase to the thresholds to ensure more businesses receive a rate reduction and (2) a reduction in the multiplier that is used in calculating business rate bills from 0.489 to 0.409. These recent announcements will be put into action in April 2010.

Bridge Toll Petition

Below is a link to a petition about the Severn Bridge Tolls, requesting that the Bridge receives the same Government financial support as the Humber Bridge. Please take a moment to sign the petition. **Deadline:** 02 August 2010.

<http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/helpWelsheconomy/>

If you have any queries on any of the topics included in this month's eshot, please contact [Natalie Taylor, Policy & Lobbying Executive](#).