



NEWS RELEASE

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BUSINESS WANTS STABLE GOVERNMENT TO EMERGE FROM POLITICAL NEGOTIATIONS

ELECTION SNAP POLL AMONG 500 BUSINESSES

Commenting on the results of a British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) snap poll of 500 businesses on the election, Gill Edinburgh, Deputy Chief Executive at North Hampshire Enterprise, says:

“Businesses have been watching negotiations between the parties since the election result. This poll shows that business’s overwhelming priority for the new administration is to focus on reducing the UK’s budget deficit. The clear message from business is that the single goal for Government to focus on in its first ninety days would be to sort out the UK’s unsustainable budget deficit. This will make the greatest inroad to build business confidence.”

The British Chambers of Commerce’s (BCC) snap poll of 500 businesses revealed that a majority of companies (58%) want a new Government to prioritise reducing the UK’s budget deficit once ministers are in place.

Asked how the result of the election would impact on the UK’s ability to cut the deficit, 49% stated it would make it “somewhat harder” or “much harder”. This compares with just 17% that suggested it would make it “somewhat easier” or “much easier”.

Respondents were also asked what form of Government they would now consider to be the best for UK business. Nearly half (45%) selected a Conservative-led coalition, given the



outcome of the election. 19% suggested a Conservative minority would be the best option, while 15% opted for a Labour-led coalition.

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Notes to Editors:

1. North Hampshire Enterprise is the chamber of commerce for **the Basingstoke and Deane, Hart, Rushmoor, Winchester** and Test Valley areas. Accredited by the British Chambers of Commerce it exists to help Hampshire businesses prosper and develop by providing expert business help and advice. As a membership organization it is owned by and accountable to the local business community. Visit www.northhampshireenterprise.co.uk
2. 500 businesses responded between May 7th and May 10th. The results can be viewed [here](#).
3. The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) is the National Voice of Local Business. The BCC sits at the heart of a powerful nationwide network of Accredited Chambers of Commerce serving business across the UK, which employ over five million people.