



Finding Your Way

around the small business agenda in Brussels

FSB EU Newsletter October 2009 Issue 1

Welcome

Welcome to the FSB's EU Newsletter. This newsletter is a regular publication produced by the FSB's EU and International Affairs policy and campaigns team. This newsletter aims to give you a short summary of the FSB's activities in Brussels and the latest issues affecting small businesses. We hope you find this letter to be of use. If you have any comments please do not hesitate to [contact us](#).

FSB in Action!



Representatives of the FSB with MEPs and Kent County Councillors Outside the European Commission In Brussels

Stop the Blockades

At least once a year French fishermen blockade the ports of France. These blockades cause severe disruption for HGV drivers trying to cross the Channel, with long queues forming in both France and the UK. [More](#)

Motor Vehicle Block Exemption Regulations

Over the summer, the European Commission has been engaged in a consultation process with vehicle manufacturers and the independent aftermarket to look at what will replace the current Motor Vehicle Block Exemption Regulations (MV-BER) when they expire on May 2010. To read the FSB's response [click here](#).

Public Procurement goes Green

There will be new voluntary criteria for public procurement. The aim is that by 2010 50 per cent of public tenders take into account environmental aspects. The European Commission presented criteria for a series of product and service groups and consulted outside bodies for their opinion; to read the FSB's response [click here](#).

Services Directive: there EU-GO

As of 28 December the internal market for services will get a boost when the Services Directive enters into force. According to the Local Government Association, the service sector accounts for 70 per cent of economic activity in the EU. The Department for Business, Innovation and Skills estimates that the services market will grow by £4-6 billion a year as a result of the Services Directive. [More](#)

Small Business Fellowship

Working in partnership with the Industry and Parliament Trust, the FSB has launched a new Small Business Fellowship for UK MEPs. The programme will deliver hands-on experience in business in a non-lobbying and non-partisan context. To find out more [click here](#).



FSB Chairman John Wright with Liz Lynne MEP at the FSB's MEP reception



Richard Ashworth MEP launching The FSB's Small Business Fellowship

Contact Details

London

Federation of Small Businesses

2 Catherine Place
Westminster
London
SW1E 6HF

E-mail:

sietske.degroot@fsb.org.uk
richard.hyslop@fsb.org.uk

Website: www.fsb.org.uk

Brussels

Federation of Small Businesses

Logos Public Affairs Building
Rue D'Idalie 9 – 13
B-1050 Brussels
Belgium

E-mail:

Sietske.degroot@fsb.org.uk
Richard.hyslop@fsb.org.uk

Website: www.fsb.org.uk