



Championing the UK's
**Real-Life
Entrepreneurs™**



Six to Fix: A Programme to Nurture London's Real Life Entrepreneurs:

London needs government at all levels that will *applaud* the work of the Real Life Entrepreneurs and *reward* enterprise. Small businesses make up 99.4 per cent of all businesses in London.

The FSB has identified six areas in which action could make a significant difference to London's Real Life Entrepreneurs. These are:

1. **Procurement:** All GLA, London Council and private sector contracts and projects should be placed on the 'already established' CompeteFor procurement portal. A modest commission should be paid by businesses winning contracts through this portal. This will make the model sustainable.
2. **Transport:** There should be no increase in the level of the congestion charge (and a Moratorium on the Low Emission Zone) for the next Mayoral term. Furthermore, income from the Roadworks Permit Scheme (RPS) should be used to support affected businesses by means of reductions in business rates and other compensatory measures.
3. **Business Crime:** Business crime costs its victims an average of £2,900 a year. There must be a major drive to ensure greater reporting of business crime. The new Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime and the business community should work together to increase the reporting rate for crime. And an Assistant Commissioner should be given specific responsibility for business crime.
4. **Skills and Employability:** An approach to apprenticeships that minimises employers' paperwork. The 'administratively-lite' London Apprenticeship Company model should be adopted by all agencies. Furthermore, an extensive internship programme both for graduates and school-leavers should be introduced.
5. **Promoting London and its businesses:** The promotion of Micro-Business clubs during and after the Games. Study London must promote all aspects of London's educational offer.
6. **Business Support:** The FSB calls for a sustainable business support model built on the advice and information service currently delivered via the Business and IP Department at the British Library. Plus, greater promotion of the mentorsme.co.uk website which is fully populated with business mentors with a small-business background.