



## Financial Memorandum of the Christmas and New Year's Day Trading Bill

### Response from FSB Scotland

- 1.1 The Federation of Small Businesses is Scotland's largest direct member business organisation, representing over 18,000 members, and campaigns for a social, economic and political environment in which small businesses can grow and prosper.
- 1.2 The Federation's most recent membership survey *Lifting the Barriers to Growth 2006* shows that 21% of our members are retail businesses. We therefore welcome this opportunity to comment on the Christmas Day and New Year's Day Trading Bill.
- 1.3 In general terms the FSB is broadly supportive of the proposals; however, we are sympathetic to some of the points raised by other business organisations during the original consultation. In particular, some have argued whether it is fair to regulate now, for a problem which may arise at some point in the future.
- 1.4 Rather than respond to each of the questions in the Finance Committee's questionnaire, it may be easier to summarise our views by saying that we have no specific concerns in relation to the Financial Memorandum of the Bill. It is possible that costs for publicising the proposed legislation, if passed, have not been accurately defined, particularly costs for affected businesses, in terms of internal communication and preparation.
- 1.5 We cannot foresee any additional costs to small businesses as a result of the Bill

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For further information on any of the points raised in this submission, please contact Susan Love, Policy Development Officer, on [scotpu.policy@fsb.org.uk](mailto:scotpu.policy@fsb.org.uk) or 01259 723713