



# What Scotland's political leaders say...

"Small businesses are hugely important to Scotland's economic recovery and growth. They are customer-focused, innovative and enterprising – that is what sustains them. The Federation of Small Businesses in Scotland has a key role in representing their interests. I am delighted to work with the FSB towards our shared goals."

**First Minister Alex Salmond MSP  
and Leader of the Scottish National Party**



"Scotland's small businesses play a crucial role in our economy and in our lives. Not only do they create jobs and opportunities, they deliver vital services in the communities they serve. Small firms' dynamism and creativity is key to Scotland's long-term economic health and the Federation of Small Businesses does an excellent job in making sure their voice is heard at the highest level."

**Iain Gray MSP  
Labour's Leader in the Scottish Parliament**



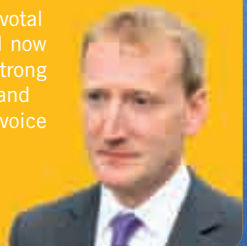
"Small businesses are the life blood of our economy the length and breadth of Scotland and we are indebted to the FSB for the invaluable work that they do representing that sector."

**Annabel Goldie MSP  
Conservative Group Leader  
in the Scottish Parliament**



"The success of our small businesses is pivotal to the success of Scotland's economy, and now more than ever, small businesses need a strong voice to represent them. The FSB in Scotland has an enviable reputation as an effective voice standing up for business interests."

**Tavish Scott MSP  
Leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats**





## About the FSB

The Federation of Small Businesses is the UK's leading business organisation and is dedicated to promoting and protecting the interests of small business owners and the self-employed.

Formed in 1974, it now has 215,000 members across 33 regions and 230 branches. In Scotland, it has around 20,000 members in every region and every sector of the Scottish economy.

The FSB campaigns at all levels for an economic, social and political environment which allows small businesses to grow and prosper.

In addition, members of the FSB are entitled to a wide range of high quality, good value business benefits, including free business banking, a free legal advice line and exceptional value telecom and insurance services.

## Small Businesses are the heart of the Scottish economy:

- There are almost 280,000 small and medium-sized enterprises in Scotland
- They account for 99% of businesses and 53% of private sector employment – over 1,000,000 jobs;
- Every year, over 2,500 people in Scotland choose to start their own business.