



Weekly Brief

from the London Press and Public Affairs Office

Weekly Brief

Week 06 of 2010 Friday 12 February 2010

Graduate Internship Scheme

FSB members were invited to a reception at 10 Downing Street as the Government pledged £13.6 million to provide internships in small businesses by the end of the year. The FSB will lead by example. [Find out more](#), read the [press release](#) and view the [photos](#) of the event.

Parliamentary Researcher of the Year Awards

Look at [photos](#) from the DODS Parliamentary Researcher of the Year Awards 2010 in the House of Commons. FSB sponsored the event and BBC Chief Political Correspondent Laura Kuenssberg hosted.

Banks still failing to lend

A report by the House of Commons Public Accounts Committee has said that Government efforts to boost lending are not working. Read about it in the [Independent](#).

Business Rates

The Valuation Office Agency has published the rateable values of commercial premises which will inform next year's business rate bills. [Find out more](#) and visit the [VOA website](#).

George Osborne 'will stick to his promise on taxes'

In the latest issue of [First Voice](#), George Osborne says he will stick by his promise to cut corporation tax in the last of a series of set piece interviews with key figures in the main political parties.

Calling all shopkeepers

A TV series is seeking shopkeeping families to go back in time to run a business through six eras of British retail history. If you're interested contact michael.fraser@walltowall.co.uk.

Business crime conference

Action Against Business Crime is holding its [national conference](#) on 29 April, which will focus on business crime partnerships and provide information and networking opportunities for those whose work encompasses business crime.

New Minister for Pubs John Healey

Prime Minister Gordon Brown appointed John Healey as the first ever Pubs Minister to develop a package of measures to support community pubs within weeks. The FSB is calling for a reform of the pub tie, the creation of an ombudsman and fully transparent rent reviews. Find out more [here](#).

Reduce regulation

The FSB is calling for small businesses to tell us their biggest regulatory bug-bears so we can tell Government what regulation needs to be changed or removed completely. [Find out more](#) and give us your views.

Follow the FSB on Facebook

You can follow the activities of the FSB by joining our official fanpage on Facebook. [Become a fan](#) to view regularly updated events, photo galleries, lobbying information and interactive content.

Like what you read?

Bookmark this page using social media sites such as [Delicious](#), [Digg](#), [reddit](#), [StumbleUpon](#), and keep in the loop about the FSB's activities by subscribing to our [RSS feed](#) and following us on [Twitter](#).