



Weekly Brief

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Government commits to banking reform

The FSB welcomed the Government's commitment to implement the Independent Commission on Banking's recommendations on banking reform to improve competition in the banking sector. Read the FSBs [analysis](#) and coverage in the [Daily Telegraph](#) and [Reuters](#).

What will 2012 have in store?

Read National Chairman, John Walker's predictions for the New Year in the [Mail on Sunday](#).

Volunteer reservists

SaBRE and the Ministry of Defence have launched a [survey](#), as part of a larger consultation with employers on new recommendations for how Volunteer Reservists can be used. These recommendations carry important implications for employers, such as changes to relevant employment legislation and how often Reservist employees might be called up for full-time service. The survey is open until 6 January 2012.

Distance Selling and Sales of Goods Act

The Office of Fair Trading has created a [Christmas quiz](#) for employers and their staff to ensure everyone is well-informed of consumers' rights under the Distance Selling and Sales of Goods Act.

Red Tape challenge – disruptive business models

The Red Tape Challenge is now focussing on disruptive business models. Have [your say](#) on setting up an innovative enterprise that does not replicate other established business models, or ways of working.

Intellectual property protection

The Intellectual Property Office has just launched [guidance](#) for small firms on how to protect their intellectual property and grow their business.

Working longer toolkit

The Department for Work and Pensions has produced an [online toolkit](#) to help small firms get to grips with the removal of the Default Retirement Age.

Facebook fanpage gets a facelift

The FSB has given its [Facebook fanpage](#) a new look and businesses can now join, subscribe to Weekly Brief, find out about their region and key campaigns, as well as still being able to take part in discussions and view photos. View the page and 'like' it to see more.

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