"The West Midlands Small Business Index (WMSBI), which measures confidence amongst businesses, has fallen again since the last quarter."

CONFIDENCE LEVELS

In the West Midlands the confidence level currently stands at



Last quarter it was -17%

BUSINESS CONDITIONS

More than two thirds of small businesses increased the average salary awarded across the business over the last 12 months



EMPLOYMENT

have increased their headcount in



INVESTMENT INTENTIONS

FOURTY-SIX

of small businesses in the West Midlands said that their growth aspirations in the next 12 months were to grow either rapidly or moderately



BUSINESS CONCERNS

IN THE WEST MIDLANDS...

Economic conditions

x 31%

× 29%

Appropriately skilled staff and Fuel costs

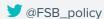
Input costs

are the three greatest perceived barriers to growth over the coming twelve months

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