

# BIS

Department for Business  
Innovation & Skills

## Manufacturing and Materials Hot Issues August 2010



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**Cover image:** Flying the flag - 'Help for Heroes' ....JCB's new range of diggers will cut customers' fuel costs by up to 16%. The digger will be part of a themed exhibition of UK Engineering excellence at BIS HQ in September. Image courtesy JCB – UK.

## Hot Topics

### Editorial by Marie-Anne Mackenzie – Head of Manufacturing and Materials (MM)

Welcome to the summer edition of Hot Issues. I've often thought that there is more that we could do to tell the story of manufacturing in the UK. So it is great that we are starting to showcase what you do (see the article *Designed, Engineered and made in Britain*). You do not have to be an invited visitor to see the exhibits in the BIS foyer so, if you are passing, don't feel shy about coming in to have a look. I hope to hear what you think about this new approach if I see you at the stakeholder events we are holding to help develop a new manufacturing growth framework. Read more below....

### Manufacturing Growth Framework – Stuart Barthropp MM Team



**As announced in the recently published Sustainable Growth Paper ([Full Details in our BIS News Section](#)), BIS will launch a Manufacturing Framework in the Autumn.**

The new Framework will have a strong sectoral theme, and will provide a fresh approach in addressing the UK's competitive advantages and weaknesses in manufacturing.

The Framework will focus on overcoming specific barriers currently restraining growth in manufacturing, including constrained access to finance, weaknesses in intermediate technology and engineering skills, difficulties in accessing overseas markets and a continuing bias of perception against modern manufacturing.

**Stakeholder events will be held in September (Times and Locations to be confirmed). Further details will appear in our next edition.**

## Designed, Engineered and Made in Britain

– Martin Gilligan MM Team



**Mark Prisk (Minister of State for Business and Enterprise), is very keen to promote excellence in British Design, Engineering and Manufacturing by displaying exhibits in the BIS HQ, 1 Victoria Street, London. Arrangements are being made to set up a rolling programme of displays on a themed basis, including such areas as Engineering Supply Chain; Green Manufacturing; High-tech Manufacturing; Innovative Design; Olympics 2012; Science and Manufacturing. The idea is to have the exhibits on display for a couple of weeks in every month.**

The first theme entitled "Engineering Supply Chain" is planned for September and will include exhibits from Renishaw and Yamazaki Mazak, both world-leading companies in the area of engineering technologies, precision machining and manufacture of advanced products. These will be complemented by exhibits from other companies such as Craftsman Tools and JCB (**the JCB vehicle - Front Cover - is specially painted to promote the [Help for Heroes](#) campaign**).

It is planned to include exhibits such as a machine tool and component parts of a manufactured product, produced using the machine tool to illustrate the linkages in the supply chain, all based on British-designed and manufactured products.

**To help illustrate the theme, we plan to display the exhibits in such an order that the business community visiting the building can follow this supply chain through the displays in the main reception and lift lobby areas.**

## National Low Carbon Vehicle (LCV), 2010

- Ian Lockhart UKTI Advanced Engineering Team



**On 15th and 16th September 2010, Cenex will be hosting the third LCV at Millbrook Proving Ground. As in the past Cenex is working with BIS, Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV), the Technology Strategy Board and**

**others to deliver this event, but this year they have also teamed up with UK Trade & Investment to help turn this from a national to a truly international event. UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) aims to bring a number of International VIP's from major OEM and Tier 1 suppliers to the event to showcase the capabilities of UK technology providers and to provide a wider platform for collaborative opportunities.**

Over the years LCV has grown considerably and is now regarded as the largest Low Carbon Vehicle event in the UK, if not Europe, and attracts around 1500 visitors over the two days of the event.

LCV 2010 will be no exception and, despite the economic difficulties over the past years, aims to demonstrate that the development and deployment of Low Carbon Vehicles and technologies in the UK is continuing to gather pace.

LCV 2010 hosts three events in one:

- A low and ultra low carbon vehicle technology exhibition showcasing innovative R&D from leading UK automotive technology companies;
- A vehicle ride and drive where visitors can have hands-on experience of the latest low and ultra low carbon vehicles within the safety of Millbrook Proving Grounds;
- A conference and technical seminar programme running in parallel over the 2 days of the event.

**Due to the specialist nature of this event and expected demand participation in it is by invitation. Companies interested in the possibility of receiving an invitation should contact Phil Bales in UK Trade & Investment (e-mail: [phil.bales@ukti.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:phil.bales@ukti.gsi.gov.uk), tel: +44 (0) 141 228 3643) or Dave Yuill in BIS AMI (e-mail: [dave.yuill@bis.gso.gov.uk](mailto:dave.yuill@bis.gso.gov.uk), tel: +44 (0) 20 7215 1396).**

## **NEW CHAIR OF UKTI ADVANCED ENGINEERING SECTOR ADVISORY BOARD**

- Janet Tingle UKTI Advanced Engineering Team



**The Minister for Business and Enterprise, Mark Prisk, has appointed Allan Cook CBE to chair the Advanced Engineering Sector Advisory Board (AdESAB) – a body of representatives from industry, academia and Government tasked with providing strategic advice to UK Trade & Investment (UKTI).**

Allan Cook was appointed a non-executive director of Atkins in September 2009, taking up the post of chairman of Atkins on 1 February 2010. Allan is a chartered engineer with more than 30 years' international experience in the automotive, aerospace and defence industries. He was chief executive of Cobham PLC, until the end of December 2009. Prior to Cobham PLC, he held senior roles at GEC-Marconi, BAE Systems and Hughes Aircraft.

Mr Prisk said: "I'm delighted to confirm the appointment of Allan Cook. The Advisory Board provides a valuable role in bringing business into the heart of UKTI's work to help UK companies make the most of global trade and investment opportunities. Allan brings with him a wealth of experience which, as we strive to rebalance the economy and increase the UK's position as a high-tech exporter, will be well-used by UKTI."

**Allan Cook, Chairman of Atkins, said: "It is a privilege and an honour to be taking on the role of chairman of UKTI's Advanced Engineering Sector Advisory Board in challenging times. Anyone who knows me will recognise that I relish this and I am looking forward to playing my part. How this sector positions itself globally over the next few years will have a major bearing on how well the UK economy recovers from the travails of recent times. The UK must become increasingly adept at using its resource of expert engineers on the world stage if it is to really achieve strong economic recovery. There can be no doubt that our universities, leading consultants, manufacturers and contractors have world class skills but we will not succeed with that alone. What is required is for us to show off our skills, seek new markets and really push ourselves forward."**

## MACH 2010 EXHIBITION OF MANUFACTURING TECHNOLOGIES HELD IN BIRMINGHAM 7-11 JUNE 2010

- Janet Tingle UKTI Advanced Engineering Team



**UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) hosted a Sustainable Manufacturing Seminar at MACH 2010, showcasing UK capability in energy-efficient manufacture and operation of machine tools. The seminar was attended by the international delegates, who came away with a**

**grasp of the breadth of what the UK has by way of low-carbon manufacturing expertise.**

UKTI worked closely with the organisers of MACH 2010 - to bring in 16 international delegates from China, India and Russia to meet UK manufacturing technology companies at the exhibition. Feedback from the companies who had one-to-one meetings with UKTI Commercial Officers and the international delegates was very positive. Some of the international delegates have already indicated their intention to do business with some of the companies they met. The show was opened by HRH the Duke of York who was able to meet some of the UKTI international delegates personally.

**The Commercial Officers subsequently gave market briefings and had one-to-one meetings with UK companies in Preston, Huddersfield and Guildford.**

*Image: Duke of York meeting Mr Jha and Mr Ratna of Tata Steel on the UKTI stand at MACH 2010.*

## UK ADVANCED ENGINEERING 2010: CHINA SHOWCASE

- John Strang UKTI Advanced Engineering Team



**UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) organised a major showcase of UK advanced engineering capability in Shanghai during EXPO 2010: 23-24 June 2010.**

The UK Advanced Engineering 2010: China Showcase was a great success in bringing together more than 200 leading Chinese and UK delegates from the aerospace, automotive and engineering sectors for a full day of business meetings, networking and technical seminars in Shanghai. The event was hosted by the British Ambassador, who also hosted a VIP banquet the night before. Early indications are that a number of useful business leads are being followed up, with the expectation of orders being placed in the near future. Individual technical panel sessions on sustainable aviation; low-carbon vehicles; advanced materials and efficient manufacturing were addressed by UK and Chinese speakers. The range of technical seminars ensured that low carbon opportunities

were woven into the fabric of the event. Keynote addresses were made by the Ambassador, Mark Ridgway, (then) Acting Chairman of the Advanced Engineering Sector Advisory Group and a pre-recorded speech by Business Ambassador Lord (Digby) Jones was played.

There were 48 UK delegates, representing 31 companies. The Chinese side fielded 151 delegates, representing 114 companies. One hundred and five one-to-one meetings took place between the UK and Chinese companies, resulting in some serious relationship building and expressions of interest, including invitations to quote. One company has indicated that it expects business of £1 million to result, with another indicating £100,000. The Aircraft Research Association took advantage of the occasion to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with China's AVIC Corporation.

**UK companies also benefited from being able to consult UKTI Commercial Officers from Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Chongqing and Hong Kong. The press interest in the event was substantial resulting in 6 articles appearing in newspapers and magazines, 47 articles on the web and 5 television broadcasts.**

*Images: Lord Jones addressing the opening plenary; HMA Sebastian Wood making his keynote speech and UK and Chinese companies holding one-to-one meetings.*

## AIRSHOW BOOSTS BRITISH BUSINESS

- Neil Semple UKTI Advanced Engineering Team



**UKTI sold UK aerospace excellence to a worldwide audience in July at the 47th Farnborough International Airshow. The show, which takes place every two years, is the world's most important event for the aerospace industry. US\$47 billion of business was announced at the show. There were 120,000 trade visitors over 5 days to see the 1455 exhibitors from 40 countries.**

UKTI's programme of international events gave UK aerospace companies access to key business opportunities and market contacts. UK Trade & Investment had a stand in Hall 1 at the show. Its programme of activity at the show for UK companies and international customers comprised of market briefings, UK capability presentations, civil aerospace delegations, meetings with UK Trade & Investment aerospace specialists and support towards the Farnborough International Meet The Buyer event.

**UK companies took up over 500 such opportunities to explore international business opportunities in markets such as India, China, Russia, Japan, Korea, USA, Mexico, Canada and topics such as composites.**

*Images: UKTI stand – Farnborough International Airshow*

## Latest BIS News

### Strategy for Sustainable Growth - Your Questions Answered



#### **What's the growth strategy all about?**

*A Strategy for Sustainable Growth*, published on 20 July, sets out the Government's overall approach to creating the conditions for more balanced, sustainable and private sector-led growth.

Sorting out Britain's debt is the number one priority – British business cannot prosper while the risk of a debt crisis hangs over the economy. But the Government must also create an environment that enables businesses to invest with confidence. Striking the right balance between cutting public spending and promoting sustainable growth is vital.

#### **What is the Government's role?**

There is a key role for government in creating the conditions for businesses to start out, invest, grow and be profitable, and in encouraging entrepreneurialism. It needs to reshape the economy so that growth comes from business investment and exports. And public spending needs to be targeted towards those areas that will have the greatest impact on growth.

Government must also rebalance the economy. This means that opportunities are spread more across the regions; the economy is greener and prepared for the switch to lower carbon technologies; and there is a focus on sectors where the UK is strong and can add real value, including science and technology.

### **What's BIS's role in particular?**

The new plan sets out three key ways that BIS can contribute: by promoting free and open markets; by smarter public and private investment in the economy, including creating a highly-skilled workforce; and by promoting business and innovation, including through encouraging entrepreneurialism.

### **How is this growth strategy different from previous ones?**

The key difference is the focus on the private sector as the driver of growth and government's role as an enabler. This is for practical reasons – there is less money to spend – but also because the government believes that businesses are the real generators of growth, and should be given greater freedom and encouragement to enable them to drive growth.

### **How can we drive growth when we have less money to spend?**

The strategy talks about “smarter public and private investment in the economy”. We need a more sophisticated approach that directs public spending at those areas where they can have the greatest impact on growth and makes sure that policy protects and supports the business environment. When the public sector does spend it should encourage increased private sector investment.

### **What happens next?**

The strategy provides an over-arching framework for the Government's approach to growth – and sets out some of the challenges and choices we face moving forwards. But ahead of the Spending Review, which is taking a comprehensive look across all our budgets, it would be wrong to commit how we will deliver this over the next four years.

We will be gathering views on the strategy over the summer, including via a commentable version of the paper at [www.bis.gov.uk/growth](http://www.bis.gov.uk/growth). This will be useful for development of a cross-government White Paper in the autumn after the Spending Review has been announced.

A number of actions are already in the pipeline, including: a joint BIS/Treasury Green Paper looking at options to ensure finance is available to business, a consultation document laying out principles

for the skills system against a backdrop of reduced spending, and a White Paper on a new approach to regional growth.

## Financing a Private Sector Recovery



**Vince Cable and George Osborne have launched a paper to encourage an industry-led recovery by addressing the problems that businesses face accessing finance.**

The government recognises that access to finance is critical for businesses to survive and grow and that small and medium-sized companies face particular challenges. The current system is not adequately delivering finance to small, growing businesses that are vital to the future of the economy.

The paper, '**Financing a Private Sector Recovery**', sets out the range of finance options for different sized businesses, explores where the market is failing to provide and if there is a role for government intervention. It launches an intensive discussion on how business and the government can work together to produce a diverse, competitive and sustainable financial environment.

The paper explores every major finance option, including more use of equity and encouraging venture capital and 'business angels' to invest in a wider range of businesses, and a responsible return to securitisation. The paper sets out options for the industry, such as an insolvency moratorium on companies restructuring their debt, increasing transparency in bank loan applications and fostering competition between banks and finance institutions.

The paper also addresses the success of existing government schemes, such as the Enterprise Finance Guarantee, and whether they should be improved or extended.

**But it is emphasised that industry and market-led solutions are the preferred response to any market failures. Only where appropriate will the Government assist in providing solutions, in conjunction with business.**

## Local enterprise partnerships – Your Questions Answered



### **What are local enterprise partnerships?**

Once formed, these will be joint local authority/business-led organisations that will promote local economic development. The

Government is committed to rebuilding and rebalancing the economy towards the private sector and we regard local enterprise partnerships as being central to this vision. They will replace the Regional Development Agencies (RDAs), which will be abolished.

### **What was wrong with the RDAs?**

Since their creation in 1999 the RDAs have had many local successes, but despite their investments, the imbalances between regions have become worse. This is partly due to the borders of the RDAs reflecting administrative boundaries rather than genuine economic areas, and partly to a lack of distinction between national and local policies designed to strengthen the economy.

### **What will local enterprise partnerships do instead?**

These are difficult times and we need to be clear that limited resources have to be used in the most efficient manner. Enterprise partnerships will ensure that decisions and delivery are taken as close as possible to the communities that they affect. They will allow local authorities and business to simplify current arrangements by focusing economic activity at the local level.

### **How will they work differently to the RDAs?**

Local authorities and business, working together, are best placed to understand the needs of their community. By decentralising power and strengthening democratic accountability, we're freeing up local areas to support business and create an enterprise culture in a way that makes best sense for them.

We're not just planning on replacing RDAs with similar bodies. The geography of these partnerships will reflect natural economic areas, rather than administrative boundaries. And local enterprise partnerships will not fully replace RDAs – some RDA functions will no longer be undertaken, some will.

### **How will local enterprise partnerships be funded?**

We expect enterprise partnerships to fund their own day-to-day running costs. We are also considering how bidding arrangements for government funds will operate within the new system. We will provide more details as decisions are made on spending priorities.

### **What will happen to the RDAs?**

The Government will be working closely with all the RDAs to ensure that the transition to LEPs is as smooth as possible, working to clear timetable. We will set out a more detailed approach in a White Paper on sub-national economic development later this summer.

### **Wasn't there talk of some RDAs remaining?**

The **coalition programme** clearly states that all of RDAs will be abolished and replaced with enterprise partnerships. However, as Vince Cable has said, if the consensus amongst local authority and business leaders in a particular area is that the existing geography of their RDA matches the economic issues facing the area, then a regionally-based enterprise partnership could be formed. But its functions will not be entirely the same.

### **What will happen to RDA staff?**

We have to determine how current RDA functions will be covered under new arrangements and the impact that will have on their staff. So it's too early to say what the detailed implications will be for RDA staff. But we will work with the RDA leadership to resolve this and we will keep RDA staff informed during what we recognise will be a worrying time.



### **What else is the Government doing to assist the economy of the regions?**

We have launched a £1 billion Regional Growth Fund to help areas and communities at risk of being particularly affected by public spending cuts. It was announced in the recent budget that anyone in the UK who sets up a new business outside London, the South East and

East Anglia in the next three years will be given a one-year exemption from national insurance contributions. The Chancellor also promised to protect the £350 million upgrade of the Tyne & Wear Metro (pictured), the doubling in size of the Manchester Metrolink, the £600 million redevelopment of Birmingham New Street stations and rail links in Sheffield, Liverpool and Leeds.

*Image: LHOON, licensed under Creative Commons 2.0*

## £1bn Regional Growth Fund

**The Government has announced that Lord Heseltine will chair the Independent Approval Panel for the £1bn Regional Growth Fund.**

The new Panel will consider proposals for funding and recommend to Ministers which projects should be taken forward. Sir Ian Wrigglesworth will be the Deputy Chair.

The Regional Growth Fund has been set up to provide support for projects that offer significant potential for sustainable economic growth and can create new private sector employment. It will particularly help areas and communities currently highly-reliant on public sector employment make the transition to private sector led growth and prosperity.

The fund was announced in the Budget and will operate over two years. In a consultation published today, the Government is seeking views on how the fund should be designed to best meet the needs of areas and communities across England.

**Launching the consultation, the Deputy Prime Minister said: "The Regional Growth Fund is an innovative new mechanism to unleash the talent and drive that will help get the country back on its feet".**

## Low carbon cars - Incentives



**The Government will provide an incentive of up to £5000 for motorists purchasing an ultra-low carbon car. The scheme will begin on January 2011 and will be open to both private and fleet buyers. It is expected to reduce the up front costs of ultra-low carbon cars by 25 per cent. The incentive has been confirmed prior to the completion of the spending review in**

**October in order to provide more certainty for investors and manufacturers of ultra-low carbon cars.**

Speaking at a demonstration of ultra-low carbon vehicles at the SMMT in London, Business Minister **Mark Prisk** said: "The consumer incentive will help Britain become one of the leading centres for the design, development and manufacture of ultra-low

carbon vehicles. It sits alongside public and private sector investment in innovation and infrastructure, leading to the creation of new highly skilled low carbon jobs."

The criteria for eligible vehicles will be published shortly on the **Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV)** website.

### **Recharging stations**

The Department for Business Innovation and Skills has also announced the six successful bidders who will share £660,000 in funding for recharging points under the Alternative Fuels Infrastructure Grant Programme. **The new projects** will install infrastructure to support public and private sector fleets in trialling a wide range of natural gas, bio-gas and electric vehicles including buses, HGVs, and refuse collection vehicles.

### **Plugged-In Places**

Earlier this year it was announced that London, Milton Keynes and the North West would see a roll-out of electric vehicle charging facilities to support the early electric vehicle market. Dubbed Plugged-In Places, they will appear in car parks, leisure centres, supermarkets and local streets.

**Final funding of this initiative will be decided in the spending review.**

## **UK Aero innovation and Expertise**



**Business and Enterprise Minister Mark Prisk has visited British aerospace expertise at home and abroad**



Mr. Prisk, along with representatives from the German, French and Spanish governments, met with Airbus's top management team at the Berlin Air Show. Mr. Prisk – who was on his first overseas visit as a minister – was given a tour of an Airbus A380. Airbus have recently announced that the Emirates had ordered a further 32 A380s in the world's most expensive order of commercial aircraft at US\$11.5 billion.

Later the same week Mr. Prisk visited Indestructible Paint, a small business in Birmingham which makes a wide range of advanced engineering coatings, for example, paint capable of protecting jet engine components at extremely high temperatures. As part of the visit, the Minister met with representatives from the Midlands Aerospace Alliance, a trade association which supports the pioneering research and development work carried out by small aerospace companies in the region

**Mr. Prisk said: "With over a quarter of its workforce involved in R&D, Indestructible is clearly a high-skill advanced manufacturer. And with around half its output being exported, this successful and dynamic business is generating wealth not only for the Midlands but to the benefit of the wider UK economy."**

*PHOTO: Mark Prisk in the cockpit of an Airbus A380 (top) and in the aircraft's bar (bottom)*

## Budget 2010 - Creates conditions for enterprise and growth



**The Chancellor of the Exchequer has set out his Budget with a comprehensive five-year plan to rebuild the British economy.**

The plan sets out action to tackle the unprecedented budget deficit, introduce a fairer tax system, encourage enterprise and support long-term growth across the economy.

The Budget sets out action within these three areas, to help rebalance the economy and provide the conditions for sustainable growth.

The Chancellor wants to support business and make the UK more competitive. This means giving businesses more freedom by reducing regulation and providing targeted tax breaks, while ensuring that the economic opportunities for businesses are shared more evenly throughout the UK's regions.

**Measures include:**

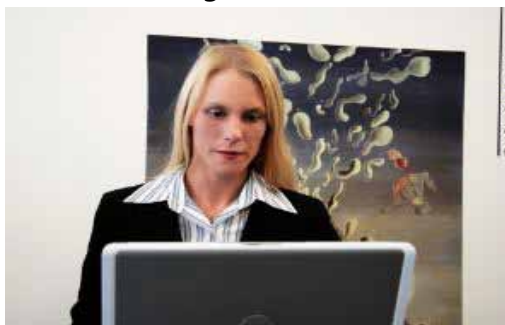
- A major package of reforms to reduce corporation tax rates including a reduction in the main rate of corporation tax from 28 per cent to 24 per cent over the course of four financial years from April 2011 and reductions to the main and special rates of capital allowances from April 2012
- A reduction in the small profits rate from 21 per cent to 20 per cent from April 2011.
- A National Insurance Contributions (NICs) holiday for new businesses which start-up in certain areas of the UK over the next three years
- An increase in funding for the Enterprise Finance Guarantee and the creation of a new Growth Capital Fund
- A Regional Growth Fund in 2010-11 and 2012-13 to help areas adjust to reduced public spending
- The 10 per cent rate of capital gains tax for entrepreneurial business activities will be extended from the first £2 million to the first £5 million of qualifying gains made over a lifetime.

**Other BIS related measures include:**

- Stripping back regulation and introducing sunset clauses on all new regulations
- Consultation on how to phase out the Default Retirement Age
- Injecting private capital into Royal Mail, including opportunities for employee ownership
- Release of spectrum to support super-fast mobile broadband services
- Examining options for realising value from the student loan portfolio.

## Consultations – The Department needs your views

### We want your views



**The Department needs you to respond to consultations as they make a difference to the outcome of the Department's policies. Please let us know your views.**

Full details of the Consultation process may be found on the **BIS**

**Consultation website** together with details of closed and archived Consultations. You can **order a printed copy of the consultation** document online. If you would prefer to request a copy by telephone, phone **0845 015 0010**.

Once the consultation deadline has passed and we have analysed the responses, the Department will place a copy of the Government Response on the consultation's page on the BIS Consultation Website - you will find this by using the link **Closed with Response**. The Department aims to do this within three months of the date the consultation closed.

### **A selection of our current Consultations:**

#### **Negotiating Line for the Consumer Rights Directive on the Concept of Assessability for Unfairness in Consumer Contracts**

**Open date:** 08 Jul 2010

**Closing date:** 24 Aug 2010

BIS is seeking views to inform its negotiating position on the Consumer Rights Directive as to whether contingent or ancillary charges should be assessed for unfairness under the unfair contract terms provisions.

#### **Consultation on the Regional Growth Fund**

**Open date:** 23 Jul 2010

**Closing date:** 06 Sep 2010

Consultation paper seeking views on the design of the Regional Growth Fund, which was announced in the budget on 22 June 2010.

#### **Broadband deployment and sharing other utilities infrastructure**

**Open date:** 15 Jul 2010

**Closing date:** 16 Sep 2010

Discussion paper examining the benefits and problems associated with sharing non-telecommunications utilities infrastructure, as a means of facilitating the deployment of broadband networks.

#### **Financing a private sector recovery**

**Open date:** 26 Jul 2010

**Closing date:** 20 Sep 2010

The Government recognises that access to finance is critical for businesses to survive and grow and that small and medium-sized companies face particular challenges. The current system is not adequately delivering finance to small, growing businesses that are vital to the future of the economy.

#### **Skills for sustainable growth: consultation on the future direction of skills policy**

**Open date:** 22 Jul 2010

**Closing date:** 14 Oct 2010

The paper outlines our vision for skills and what we expect to be the key elements of a strategy for delivering it. It sets the context for the technical funding system and methodology consultation that is being launched in parallel.

**You might also like to respond to the related consultation: Simplified Further Education and Skills Funding System and Methodology.**

### **Phasing out the Default Retirement Age**

**Open date:** 29 Jul 2010

**Closing date:** 21 Oct 2010

The Coalition's Programme for Government commits the Government to phasing out the Default Retirement Age (DRA). This consultation document sets out the background to the DRA, and explains how the Government is proposing to remove it.

## **Other Departments Consultations**

The **DirectGOV Website** has a full list of other Departments Consultation Websites.

Useful Link: **DirectGOV**

[http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Governmentcitizensandrights/UKgovernment/PublicConsultations/DG\\_170463](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Governmentcitizensandrights/UKgovernment/PublicConsultations/DG_170463)



### **Review of Waste Policy**

Defra is reviewing waste policy and delivery in England and are keen to hear about and discuss your views.

There are a number of ways you can tell DEFRA what you think:

- If you have a few minutes free, you can complete the quick **online survey**;
- If you have a specific interest in particular areas of waste policy or delivery, you can **join a discussion with Defra officials and other interested parties**; or
- If you would prefer to input your views to Defra separately, you can submit more detailed responses by using the **Call for Evidence** (PDF).

All comments and suggestions received in the discussion or to the survey before **9 September 2010** will be considered and fed into the Review. The Call for Evidence will close on **7 October 2010**. The early results of the Review will be made available in spring 2011.

## Publications – A selection of our Most Recent



### Department for Business, Innovation and Skills draft structural reform plan.

**URN: [10/1086](#)**

**Publication date:** 26 Jul 2010

Draft plan for the Department's priorities and activity to deliver the coalition agreement. It sets out the next steps towards helping to deliver a fair and balanced economy and a well functioning market with the capacity to grow and drive business success.



### Social enterprise barometer: February 2010

**URN: [10/1076](#)**

**Publication date:** 26 Jul 2010

Report for BIS from a Cabinet Office funded two stage project that seeks to further understand the social enterprise sector, its experiences in the recession, and its needs for business support. This report is concerned with the first stage, a representative survey of up to 500 social enterprises in the UK who were interviewed by telephone between the 8 and 19 February 2010. Makes comparisons with the February 2010 Business Barometer (URN 10/P75B).



### SME business barometer: February 2010.

**URN: [10/P75B](#)**

**Publication date:** 26 Jul 2010

BIS commissioned IFF to contact a selection of small and medium-sized enterprise (SME) employers from the Annual small business survey (URN 09/P74). Assesses how well or badly SMEs had performed in the previous year, and their levels of business confidence going forward. This report contains the findings of the

seventh wave of research, based on interviews with employers conducted between 8 and 19 February



## **Online Basics pilot evaluation**

**URN: 10/1049**

**Publication date:** 15 Jul 2010

Research evaluation report by IFF Research on the Online Basics pilot learning programme. Online Basics is designed to help people who do not have basic ICT skills to help them get to grips with technology. The pilot scheme ran in five areas of England during the period January to March 2010. The evaluation is intended to inform the content, infrastructure, support and marketing of online basics prior to its national roll-out later in 2010. See also summary URN 10/1050.



## **Solutions for Business: cross-product monitoring survey**

**URN: 10/1075**

**Publication date:** 26 Jul 2010

Report of a survey conducted for BIS that provides substantive early stage assessments of six Solutions for Business products: Starting a Business, Intensive Start-up Support, Starting a High Growth Business, Innovation Advice & Guidance, Understanding Finance for Business, and Coaching for High Growth. Research was conducted during January and February 2010 as a telephone survey. Covers the characteristics of businesses using each product, businesses' experiences of engaging with the products, businesses' satisfaction with the products, and the impacts from using the products on businesses behaviours and performance.

## Future Manufacturing and Materials Events

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
15-16 Sep-10	Low Carbon Vehicle (LCV) 2010 - Millbrook Proving Ground, Bedfordshire
16-17 Sept-10	European Manufacturers Forum
21-Sep-10	Hanover Motorshow
30-Sep-10	Paris Motorshow
25-Oct-10	CBI Annual Conference
TBC	Manufacturing Conference to launch Manufacturing framework of support
18-Nov-10	Chemical Industries Association Annual Dinner
18-Nov-10	The Manufacturer Directors Conference
29-Nov-10	CBI Manufacturing Dinner
26-Nov-10	MAS Annual Dinner
07-16 Jan -11	Tullett Prebon London International Boat Show
TBC	EEF Future Manufacturing Awards

## Contact US

We trust that you enjoy this new edition. If we can assist you with any of the issues raised in this edition or if you would like to give us your feedback on how we may improve the publication for our next edition. Please **contact us**.

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### Manufacturing and Materials – Roles and Responsibilities

Name	Job Title
Marie-Anne Mackenzie (Mrs M)	Head of Manufacturing & Materials
Noreen Moriarty (Miss NF)	Personal Assistant

#### Relationship Management

Name	Role
Brian Greenwood	Team Leader and Relationship Management, Corus, Siemens and liaison with EEF
Sandy Grom	Engineering, non ferrous metals and composites including Rio Tinto Alcan, EAMA
Kenton Thompson	Materials and Nanotechnology Team - Technology Coordination
Simon Greaves	Ferrous Metals and Metals Processing including Sheffield Forgemasters and Metals Forum
Ivan Youd	Nanotechnologies and Materials, Bombardier transportation and Hitachi (Trains)

#### Manufacturing Strategy

Name	Role
Keith Avis	Manufacturing Strategy Team Leader
Stuart Barthropp	Manufacturing Policy

Name	Role
<b>Emma Sangster</b>	Manufacturing Policy / Strategy
<b>Martin Gilligan</b>	Manufacturing Strategy Implementation
<b>John Mackay</b>	Manufacturing Advisory Service and Regional aspects of Manufacturing Strategy implementation
<b>Karen Willcocks</b>	Managing Manufacturing Insight and Manufacturing Futures project
<b>Russell Kerr</b>	Manufacturing Strategy / Communications

#### UK Trade & Investment (UKTI)

Name	Role
<b>Donald McNeill (Mr D)</b>	Head of Advanced Engineering
<b>Janet Tingle (Miss JA)</b>	Head of Engineering within the Advanced Engineering Team.
<b>Ben Taylor (Mr B)</b>	Marketing Executive
<b>Roisin McClory (Mr R)</b>	Marketing Account Manager: Oil & Gas and Advanced Engineering (UKTI MG Marketing Services)
<b>Faye Smith</b>	Sector Specialist – Materials

This edition produced and Edited by the MM Central Team: Chris Griffin, Cliff Salole, Judith Williams and Simon Greaves – August 2010

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