



Inspiring business



Policy wins 2017

Every month we seek IoD members' views on key policy issues affecting their organisations through our Policy Voice panel. Here are just some of the many ways we influenced government policy and successfully lobbied for changes to the law on the back of Policy Voice surveys of our members in 2017.

Brexit

Securing a transition period before Brexit went top of the Government agenda after sustained pressure from the IoD, informed by Policy Voice members. A transition period was agreed with the EU in principal in December with the precise details set out in March 2018.

Employment

The rights of EU citizens to remain in the UK after Brexit came top of Policy Voice member priorities. Most of those rights were guaranteed by the Government in December 2017 following consistent and vocal lobbying by the IoD.

Taxation

Budget 2017 provided more help for SMEs with business rates after the IoD raised the concerns of Policy Voice members directly with the Chancellor.

Infrastructure

Ofcom reformed the communications market after consistent lobbying from the IoD on the need for more and faster fibre optic broadband provision, informed by Policy Voice surveys.

Education and skills

Skills shortages have consistently been one of the top concerns raised by IoD members in Policy Voice. Retraining was placed at the centre of the Government's Industrial Strategy after the IoD spearheaded a campaign to boost lifelong learning.

Start-ups

The IoD successfully pushed the Government to retain SEIS/EIS tax reliefs for start-up businesses in the 2017 Autumn Budget after plans they would be scrapped. The IoD has been appointed as the UK representative to the G20 on behalf of entrepreneurs.

GDPR

Policy Voice members expressed concern about GDPR compliance and a new helpline was launched by government to help SMEs understand the new rules.

Gig Economy

The IoD members called for greater clarity in employment law and it became a cornerstone recommendation in the Government's Taylor Review.

Labour Mobility

The IoD helped force a Government U-turn on plans for a proposed £1,000 per EU worker immigration tax on employers after Policy Voice members raised concerns about access to migrant labour.

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