

FIX THE FUNDAMENTALS

The best possible Brexit deal won't be enough to kickstart growth if the fundamentals aren't right here in the UK. Chambers of Commerce are campaigning for action on real-world, practical issues that must be addressed for businesses to drive growth.

COSTS



It's time to stop relentless cost rises in their tracks - and begin to reverse them to boost business competitiveness. Upfront costs - including business rates, the Apprenticeship Levy, the National Living Wage, and pensions auto-enrolment - hit firms before they turn over a single pound, and regardless of their performance, or economic conditions.

PEOPLE



Put an end to the constant tinkering with the UK's training and apprenticeship systems. Reform of the Apprenticeship Levy and funding system is needed to drive business confidence and investment, and a future migration system must allow firms to plug local shortages without burdensome costs or bureaucracy.

PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE



Increase public and private investment to deliver the connectivity that firms need. Repairing local roads, new and improved railway infrastructure, capacity improvements at our airports and new runways will help businesses to reach markets, suppliers and labour markets.

DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE



Deliver a real plan to rid the UK of mobile phone 'not spots', particularly along our road and rail corridors, which stop firms transacting business, as well as the poor broadband connections holding back too many firms.

ENERGY



Revitalise the energy grid that supplies power to our homes and businesses, and exploit the potential for supplying energy from the resources in the UK rather than from abroad.