

PRESS RELEASE

FROM: Fiona Bruce MP for Congleton Constituency

DATE: 28th May 2010



Fiona Bruce MP launches her “Listening to Business in Congleton Constituency” Campaign

Fiona Bruce MP is inviting anyone running a business in the Congleton Constituency to write to her at the House of Commons to let her know the specific pressures affecting their business, and the regulations and laws they would like to see changed.

She will also be holding **Business Surgeries** across the Congleton Constituency over the next few weeks so that Businesspeople can talk to her face to face.

The first Business Surgery will be on Friday 4th June between 4:00pm and 6:00pm at The Boardroom of the Business Centre, Riverside, Mountbatten Way, Congleton, CW12 1DY (where Fiona is establishing an office). This will be a drop in (no appointment required) surgery for business people to call in to talk directly to Fiona. Other surgeries will be held shortly in Alsager, Sandbach, Holmes Chapel, and Middlewich (details to follow).

Launching her campaign, Fiona said today,

“Supporting Business and the jobs that go with it is the number one issue for me in the Congleton Constituency. I recognise that local businesses are the driver to economic growth and critical to the heartbeat of local community life in towns like Alsager, Sandbach, Holmes Chapel, Middlewich and Congleton.

In our Coalition Agreement the new Government recognises that urgent action must be taken to strengthen and support UK business. We are going to cut red tape, end pointless tick box regulation, work to simplify corporate tax reliefs and allowances, make small business rate relief automatic, and seek to create a more level playing field between big and small retailers.

The key purpose of my meeting with and listening to Business Leaders is to understand the specific regulations affecting their businesses which they want changed to make

them more competitive and to help keep and grow jobs. I will then be relaying these concerns urgently and directly to Ministers.

It's critical that the 4000 SMEs (small and medium sized businesses) of the Congleton Constituency have their voice heard. I am also meeting the heads of larger employers here. The last government did not listen to those of us in business and I am determined to change this; and as someone who has been in business myself here in Cheshire for over 20 years, I recognise the importance of working together with people who really know their own sector and what matters to them.

As I have sat in the House of Commons this week, listening to the debate on the Queen's Speech, the economy has been repeatedly acknowledged in Parliament as our number one challenge as a new Government. Only by politicians working with and supporting the enterprising and hardworking people who create businesses and jobs and contribute to the nation's finances will we rise to meet this challenge as a country.

That's why I'm launching my "Listening to Business in Congleton Constituency" campaign."

ATTACHED: Photo of Fiona Bruce MP (centre) announcing the launch of her ***"Listening to Business in Congleton Constituency"*** campaign to David Watson, Managing Director of East Cheshire Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise and Adele Fletcher, Managing Director, Chamber Training.

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