

## YouGov Survey Results

Sample Size: 894

Fieldwork: 7th - 11th March 2011

Total	Gender		Age				
Base	Male	Female	18 to 24	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55+

In general, do you think Government policies have been good or bad for small and medium businesses since the last election?

All SME decision makers	523	417	106	4	47	103	132	237
Good	26%	29%	14%	50%	21%	21%	23%	30%
Bad	48%	44%	62%	50%	60%	50%	48%	43%
Don't know	26%	27%	24%	-	19%	28%	29%	26%

The Big Society forms part of the legislative programme of the current Government. The aim is to create a climate that empowers local people and communities, building a big society that will 'take power away from politicians and give it to people'. Do you think this programme would be good for small and medium businesses, bad, or make no difference?

All SME decision makers	523	417	106	4	47	103	132	237
Good	31%	33%	24%	75%	32%	26%	26%	35%
Bad	15%	13%	23%	-	19%	20%	14%	12%
Make no difference	50%	51%	49%	25%	43%	49%	58%	49%
Don't know	4%	4%	5%	-	6%	5%	2%	4%

The Budget is set to take place on March 23rd...Which ONE of the following do you think the Government should concentrate on MOST to help small and medium businesses?

All SME decision makers	523	417	106	4	47	103	132	237
Putting pressure on banks to make finance more easily available	31%	31%	31%	-	38%	22%	30%	34%
Creating a competitive tax regime	28%	30%	21%	-	26%	25%	29%	29%
Clearer guidelines on employment regulations	5%	5%	5%	-	-	7%	7%	4%
Clearer guidelines on health & safety regulations	2%	2%	1%	25%	2%	4%	1%	2%
Lowering personal income tax	13%	13%	9%	75%	6%	17%	13%	11%
Lowering VAT	15%	13%	20%	-	17%	15%	17%	13%
Other	6%	5%	8%	-	6%	7%	2%	7%
Don't know	1%	0%	5%	-	4%	3%	1%	0%

Overall, do you think the Budget have a positive or negative effect on your business?

All SME decision makers	523	417	106	4	47	103	132	237
Positive	7%	8%	3%	-	9%	10%	5%	6%
Neither positive nor negative	48%	50%	42%	25%	49%	46%	47%	51%
Negative	29%	27%	39%	50%	28%	30%	33%	27%
Don't know	16%	15%	17%	25%	15%	15%	15%	16%

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Total	Region							Business size	
Base	North	Midlands	East	London	South	Wales	Scotland	1-49 employees	50-249 employees

In general, do you think Government policies have been good or bad for small and medium businesses since the last election?

All SME decision makers	523	102	80	66	64	170	13	28	405	118
Good	26%	19%	35%	32%	30%	26%	8%	11%	26%	27%
Bad	48%	55%	45%	41%	41%	46%	54%	68%	47%	50%
Don't know	26%	26%	20%	27%	30%	28%	38%	21%	27%	23%

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All SME decision makers	523	102	80	66	64	170	13	28	405	118
Good	31%	30%	35%	20%	31%	34%	31%	25%	30%	33%
Bad	15%	20%	15%	17%	9%	14%	15%	14%	15%	15%
Make no difference	50%	48%	48%	61%	55%	48%	46%	54%	50%	52%
Don't know	4%	2%	3%	3%	5%	5%	8%	7%	5%	-

The Budget is set to take place on March 23rd...Which ONE of the following do you think the Government should concentrate on MOST to help small and medium businesses?

All SME decision makers	523	102	80	66	64	170	13	28	405	118
Putting pressure on banks to make finance more easily available	31%	28%	30%	33%	27%	31%	31%	46%	33%	25%
Creating a competitive tax regime	28%	25%	29%	20%	36%	33%	15%	7%	27%	31%
Clearer guidelines on employment regulations	5%	3%	6%	8%	11%	3%	8%	-	4%	8%
Clearer guidelines on health & safety regulations	2%	4%	3%	2%	3%	1%	-	4%	1%	4%
Lowering personal income tax	13%	17%	9%	12%	14%	10%	23%	18%	13%	11%
Lowering VAT	15%	19%	15%	20%	6%	14%	-	14%	14%	16%
Other	6%	4%	5%	6%	3%	6%	23%	11%	6%	3%
Don't know	1%	-	4%	-	-	2%	-	-	2%	-

Overall, do you think the Budget have a positive or negative effect on your business?

All SME decision makers	523	102	80	66	64	170	13	28	405	118
Positive	7%	5%	9%	6%	5%	8%	-	7%	6%	10%
Neither positive nor negative	48%	53%	50%	47%	56%	44%	23%	50%	49%	45%
Negative	29%	26%	24%	39%	19%	31%	62%	32%	28%	33%
Don't know	16%	16%	18%	8%	20%	17%	15%	11%	17%	12%

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Total	Industry Sector							
	Manufacturing	Construction	Retail	Financial services	Hospitality and leisure	Accountancy	Legal	IT & telecoms

In general, do you think Government policies have been good or bad for small and medium businesses since the last election?

All SME decision makers	523	64	47	37	37	27	16	18	75
Good	26%	39%	23%	22%	8%	22%	19%	28%	25%
Bad	48%	30%	51%	57%	49%	63%	38%	50%	44%
Don't know	26%	31%	26%	22%	43%	15%	44%	22%	31%

The Big Society forms part of the legislative programme of the current Government. The aim is to create a climate that empowers local people and communities, building a big society that will 'take power away from politicians and give it to people'. Do you think this programme would be good for small and medium businesses, bad, or make no difference?

All SME decision makers	523	64	47	37	37	27	16	18	75
Good	31%	34%	43%	22%	32%	30%	44%	28%	29%
Bad	15%	6%	15%	19%	14%	26%	6%	17%	17%
Make no difference	50%	55%	34%	51%	54%	44%	31%	56%	51%
Don't know	4%	5%	9%	8%	-	-	19%	-	3%

The Budget is set to take place on March 23rd...Which ONE of the following do you think the Government should concentrate on MOST to help small and medium businesses?

All SME decision makers	523	64	47	37	37	27	16	18	75
Putting pressure on banks to make finance more easily available	31%	31%	26%	24%	38%	26%	13%	33%	28%
Creating a competitive tax regime	28%	25%	28%	22%	41%	7%	44%	39%	32%
Clearer guidelines on employment regulations	5%	5%	2%	-	5%	4%	19%	11%	8%
Clearer guidelines on health & safety regulations	2%	-	4%	3%	-	-	-	-	4%
Lowering personal income tax	13%	19%	19%	11%	14%	15%	13%	-	8%
Lowering VAT	15%	14%	19%	27%	3%	44%	13%	11%	9%
Other	6%	3%	2%	14%	-	4%	-	6%	11%
Don't know	1%	3%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Overall, do you think the Budget have a positive or negative effect on your business?

All SME decision makers	523	64	47	37	37	27	16	18	75
Positive	7%	5%	13%	-	-	4%	13%	6%	9%
Neither positive nor negative	48%	58%	38%	51%	57%	41%	63%	44%	48%
Negative	29%	25%	38%	27%	30%	44%	25%	33%	20%
Don't know	16%	13%	11%	22%	14%	11%	-	17%	23%

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Fieldwork: 7th - 11th March 2011

Total	Which ONE of the following industry sectors do you work in/ does the company or organisation that you work for operate in?					
Base	Media/ marketing/ advertising/ PR & sales	Medical & health services	Education	Transportation & distribution	Real estate	Other

In general, do you think Government policies have been good or bad for small and medium businesses since the last election?

All SME decision makers	523	53	12	19	15	14	89
Good	26%	28%	33%	21%	20%	36%	28%
Bad	48%	55%	50%	42%	53%	57%	48%
Don't know	26%	17%	17%	37%	27%	7%	24%

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All SME decision makers	523	53	12	19	15	14	89
Good	31%	30%	17%	26%	27%	50%	26%
Bad	15%	15%	25%	21%	13%	21%	12%
Make no difference	50%	53%	58%	47%	53%	29%	60%
Don't know	4%	2%	-	5%	7%	-	2%

The Budget is set to take place on March 23rd...Which ONE of the following do you think the Government should concentrate on MOST to help small and medium businesses?

All SME decision makers	523	53	12	19	15	14	89
Putting pressure on banks to make finance more easily available	31%	32%	17%	42%	47%	36%	36%
Creating a competitive tax regime	28%	23%	42%	16%	27%	21%	29%
Clearer guidelines on employment regulations	5%	4%	-	5%	7%	7%	3%
Clearer guidelines on health & safety regulations	2%	4%	-	-	-	7%	2%
Lowering personal income tax	13%	11%	8%	21%	7%	14%	11%
Lowering VAT	15%	21%	25%	11%	13%	14%	4%
Other	6%	4%	8%	5%	-	-	9%
Don't know	1%	2%	-	-	-	-	4%

Overall, do you think the Budget have a positive or negative effect on your business?

All SME decision makers	523	53	12	19	15	14	89
Positive	7%	6%	-	11%	20%	7%	7%
Neither positive nor negative	48%	45%	58%	47%	27%	50%	47%
Negative	29%	32%	25%	26%	40%	29%	29%
Don't know	16%	17%	17%	16%	13%	14%	17%

## YouGov Survey Results

Sample Size: 894

Fieldwork: 7th - 11th March 2011

Total	Company Turnover								
Base	First year of trading	Less than £25,000	£25,000 to £49,999	£50,000 to £99,999	£100,000 to £249,999	£250,000 to £499,999	£500,000 to £999,999	£1million to £1.99million	£2million to £2.99million

In general, do you think Government policies have been good or bad for small and medium businesses since the last election?

All SME decision makers	523	33	51	48	63	62	37	32	24	16
Good	26%	18%	25%	25%	30%	23%	32%	22%	46%	31%
Bad	48%	45%	55%	40%	40%	55%	51%	44%	42%	56%
Don't know	26%	36%	20%	35%	30%	23%	16%	34%	13%	13%

The Big Society forms part of the legislative programme of the current Government. The aim is to create a climate that empowers local people and communities, building a big society that will 'take power away from politicians and give it to people'. Do you think this programme would be good for small and medium businesses, bad, or make no difference?

All SME decision makers	523	33	51	48	63	62	37	32	24	16
Good	31%	30%	31%	38%	33%	27%	30%	31%	38%	31%
Bad	15%	15%	24%	13%	11%	23%	5%	19%	17%	19%
Make no difference	50%	45%	37%	46%	52%	47%	59%	44%	46%	50%
Don't know	4%	9%	8%	4%	3%	3%	5%	6%	-	-

The Budget is set to take place on March 23rd...Which ONE of the following do you think the Government should concentrate on MOST to help small and medium businesses?

All SME decision makers	523	33	51	48	63	62	37	32	24	16
Putting pressure on banks to make finance more easily available	31%	36%	33%	21%	37%	23%	41%	31%	33%	38%
Creating a competitive tax regime	28%	27%	18%	42%	25%	31%	27%	25%	21%	19%
Clearer guidelines on employment regulations	5%	9%	2%	6%	3%	3%	3%	3%	13%	-
Clearer guidelines on health & safety regulations	2%	-	2%	2%	-	-	3%	3%	-	6%
Lowering personal income tax	13%	9%	12%	10%	14%	16%	8%	19%	13%	6%
Lowering VAT	15%	15%	27%	10%	6%	18%	8%	13%	17%	31%
Other	6%	3%	2%	4%	13%	6%	11%	6%	4%	-
Don't know	1%	-	4%	4%	2%	3%	-	-	-	-

Overall, do you think the Budget have a positive or negative effect on your business?

All SME decision makers	523	33	51	48	63	62	37	32	24	16
Positive	7%	18%	2%	4%	10%	3%	3%	9%	-	19%
Neither positive nor negative	48%	58%	53%	60%	43%	45%	54%	38%	50%	25%
Negative	29%	12%	29%	21%	29%	40%	19%	31%	33%	56%
Don't know	16%	12%	16%	15%	19%	11%	24%	22%	17%	-

## YouGov Survey Results

Sample Size: 894

Fieldwork: 7th - 11th March 2011

Total	Company Turnover#							
Base	£3million to £4.99million	£5million to £9.99million	£10million to £19.99million	£20million to £34.99million	£35million to £49.99million	£50million or more	Don't know	Prefer not to say

In general, do you think Government policies have been good or bad for small and medium businesses since the last election?

All SME decision makers	523	24	30	20	16	4	8	13	42
Good	26%	25%	20%	40%	31%	25%	25%	23%	14%
Bad	48%	50%	57%	45%	44%	25%	25%	23%	60%
Don't know	26%	25%	23%	15%	25%	50%	50%	54%	26%

The Big Society forms part of the legislative programme of the current Government. The aim is to create a climate that empowers local people and communities, building a big society that will 'take power away from politicians and give it to people'. Do you think this programme would be good for small and medium businesses, bad, or make no difference?

All SME decision makers	523	24	30	20	16	4	8	13	42
Good	31%	21%	40%	20%	31%	25%	13%	54%	21%
Bad	15%	13%	10%	15%	-	25%	13%	8%	17%
Make no difference	50%	67%	47%	65%	69%	50%	75%	31%	60%
Don't know	4%	-	3%	-	-	-	-	8%	2%

The Budget is set to take place on March 23rd...Which ONE of the following do you think the Government should concentrate on MOST to help small and medium businesses?

All SME decision makers	523	24	30	20	16	4	8	13	42
Putting pressure on banks to make finance more easily available	31%	17%	23%	20%	31%	50%	25%	31%	45%
Creating a competitive tax regime	28%	21%	37%	55%	25%	25%	25%	38%	17%
Clearer guidelines on employment regulations	5%	13%	7%	5%	6%	-	25%	8%	-
Clearer guidelines on health & safety regulations	2%	4%	7%	-	13%	25%	-	-	-
Lowering personal income tax	13%	25%	10%	10%	6%	-	25%	15%	10%
Lowering VAT	15%	13%	13%	10%	19%	-	-	8%	19%
Other	6%	8%	3%	-	-	-	-	-	10%
Don't know	1%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Overall, do you think the Budget have a positive or negative effect on your business?

All SME decision makers	523	24	30	20	16	4	8	13	42
Positive	7%	8%	13%	5%	-	25%	-	15%	2%
Neither positive nor negative	48%	33%	50%	50%	69%	50%	63%	38%	45%
Negative	29%	42%	23%	45%	19%	25%	25%	15%	31%
Don't know	16%	17%	13%	-	13%	-	13%	31%	21%