



**LEADER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS**

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Our Ref: FU274792

30<sup>th</sup> March 2010

Dear Sir George,

**SUPPORT FOR BUSINESSES**

At Business Questions on Thursday 25 March you raised the issue of Government assistance to Businesses hit by the recession. I committed to providing you with figures to illustrate the support that has so far been provided.

Budget 2010 updates the number of businesses who have benefited from the Business Payment Support Service which was launched in November 2008. This Service supports small businesses to make use of the Time to Pay scheme allowing companies to spread their tax payments over a timetable they can afford. Since its launch, the Government has arranged some 307,000 agreements, with more coming through every day, allowing over 200,000 companies to defer over £5.2 billion in tax.

I am copying this letter to David Heath and placing a copy of this letter in the House of Commons Library.

Yours

Harriet

**HARRIET HARMAN**

Rt. Hon Sir George Young Bt MP  
House of Commons