

Real help for businesses now

Where to find help for your business when you need it

The Government is taking action to help businesses through the global recession and to ensure they emerge stronger on the other side. This sheet gives you a quick summary of what help is available and where to find it.

To get real help for your business go to www.businesslink.gov.uk/realhelp or speak to a Business Link adviser on **0845 600 9 006**.

■ Help with business finances

Visit www.businesslink.gov.uk/realhelp or speak to a Business Link adviser on **0845 600 9 006** to find the right finance for your business, including details of the Enterprise Finance Guarantee and regional loans.

Finance from your bank: you may be able to benefit from the Government's Enterprise Finance Guarantee if you apply for a loan from your bank. This supports loans of up to £1m for firms with turnover up to £25m; you can also convert an existing overdraft into a loan to free up capital.

The **Capital for Enterprise Fund** provides equity investment which you can use to pay off existing debt or invest in your business. Call the Capital for Enterprise Fund Registration Helpline, **0845 459 9780**.

Free guides on managing your finances are available at www.businesslink.gov.uk/realhelp; click on 'Help with managing your cashflow'.

Need more time to pay your tax bill? Call the Business Payment Support Service on **0845 302 1435**.

Debt problems? Get free, confidential and independent help to deal with business debt problems. Call Business Debtline on **0800 197 6026**.

■ Help with managing your business

Health check for your business: Get a free review of your business with a professional business adviser for hands-on advice and help accessing the full range of government help – call the Business Link helpline, **0845 600 9 006** or visit www.businesslink.gov.uk/healthcheck.

Also visit www.businesslink.gov.uk/realhelp for information on:

- Reducing waste and saving energy
- Staff restructuring and major change
- Alternatives to redundancy

Help with exporting: visit the UKTI website www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk or call **020 7215 8000**.

Solutions for business: visit www.businesslink.gov.uk/solutions to find out more about other products in the Government's portfolio of business support, including help with finance, premises, and manufacturing.

■ Help with investing for the future

Train to Gain provides Government funding and free, independent skills advice to businesses. It provides extra support for small and medium-sized businesses, including funding to retrain employees, access to short courses in business-critical areas and leadership and management training. Find out more by visiting www.businesslink.gov.uk/realhelp and clicking on 'Find funding to support your training and improve staff skills' or call to speak to an adviser on **0800 0155545**.

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