

Dear Qassim Afzal,

## **BUILDING A NEW ENTERPRISE FRAMEWORK**

We are writing to thank you for attending the Manchester regional enterprise consultation event on 18th October. We have now held consultation events in eleven regions across the country and met with around 400 small business owners and entrepreneurs.

At all the events, discussions have been lively and contributions positive. A clear message is coming back. Yes, Government has done well over the last ten years and we have an environment in the UK that encourages and supports entrepreneurs. But we must not be complacent and there is more we can do to encourage small businesses to grow.

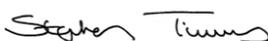
We are at the start of the process of consultation and much work lies ahead before we formally publish a renewed enterprise framework next Spring. We are very grateful that you have taken the trouble to help in this process. If you have any further points that you would like to input into discussions, please use the website we have set up for this purpose.

[www.buildinganewenterprise.co.uk](http://www.buildinganewenterprise.co.uk)

The Rt Hon John Hutton MP  
Secretary of State for Business Enterprise  
& Regulatory Reform



The Rt Hon Stephen Timms MP  
Minister for Competitiveness



## **Governments, DBERR "Building a New Enterprise Framework",**

### **Secretary of State for Business Enterprise & Regulatory Reform, Minister John Hutton MP/ Beverley Hughes MP**

The DBERR, meeting at the Manchester Central Conference Centre, Thursday 18 October 2007, consultation with representative groups of small and medium sized business owners and entrepreneurs welcomed the "Building a New Enterprise Framework", face to face brainstorming with entrepreneurs brought views on the shaping of renewed Government policies for encouraging entrepreneurship and supporting small and medium sized businesses, initially launched at No 11 Downing Street on the 20th of September, alongside Chancellor Alistair Darling and Stephen Timms, with a cross section of successful small business owners, commended it as positive ideas for a new Enterprise framework.

The interactive discussions with a strategic number of sme's engaged specialist experiences, took place over a half day session targeting how to shape the future of new businesses, they put to the Secretary of State for Business Enterprise & Regulatory Reform, Minister John Hutton MP and Beverley Hughes MP a wide range of opinions and questions, targeting achieving business growth, an environment that supports growth, the role of enterprise as a tool for closing gaps between regions and social groups, Encouraging entrepreneurship, International, European challenges and opportunities as the main focus.

The consultation Chaired by NWDA Chairman Bryan Gray, took support and contributions from the NWDA, EMBF NW, SME's and chief executive for ABI Media Marketing Consultancy, Qassim Afzal, reflecting findings from his panel, suggesting calls for mentoring through experienced business people approaching retirement, educating children with a GCSE choice in business studies while at school, and merger-collaboration between sme's for business growth, and access to finance with credit security, through legislated protection. The consultant and policy adviser Mr. Afzal said the investigator approach by the minister could be lucrative to British businesses, when facing increasing globalised competition from China, India and developing countries, he said the session with the ministers was conducive and welcomed.

*Picture: Bryan Gray Chair NWDA, Iqbal Patel Executive officer, Minister John Hutton MP, Qassim Afzal Vice Chair EMBF NW, Yvonne Sampson Executive Office NWDA.*