

Global Investor
23 April 2010
Circ: Online

Small Business Community set to Cause Political Chaos

April 22, 2010 : LONDON
LONDON, April 22, 2010 /PRNewswire/ --

- New Survey Results Show Lib Dems Will Help Businesses Grow

With the astounding poll results this weekend, one company has identified additional turmoil in the business community.

In its latest survey, 750 users of FreeIndex, the popular UK business information website, has found that a staggering 53 per cent of businesses believe that Nick Clegg is going to do the most to help their business grow. This compares to 31 per cent for David Cameron and 16 per cent for Gordon Brown.

Small businesses have not only taken a hit during the recession but the addition of the Chancellor's decision to increase employers' National Insurance Contributions (NICs) by an extra 0.5 per cent from April 2011, has added to the apparent scepticism as to how the governing political party can support them going forward.

Martin Turner, Managing Director at FreeIndex, says, "The results of this survey are surprising to say the least, particularly as the difference between the percentages was quite significant.

*Whilst the recession coupled with Darling's hike in NICs may be a strong reason for Labour not favouring so well in the survey, historically businesses have shifted towards a Conservative vote as the party's policies have traditionally been seen as giving the most support to growing businesses.

*However the Liberal Democrat's Manifesto on small business issues, which includes intentions such as simplifying the corporate tax system and making cut backs on red tape, appears to be sitting well with business owners.

Last week's first live leaders' debate may also have been an influence. Nick Clegg was widely seen as coming out of the debate as a strong candidate and this has seemingly not gone unnoticed by the business vote.

The survey has been conducted over the last six days, with 750 users of the FreeIndex service responding. The question asked was, "Who's going to do the most to help your business grow?" 53 per cent voted for Nick Clegg, 31 per cent voted for David Cameron and 16 per cent voted for Gordon Brown.

About FreeIndex

FreeIndex is a UK business information website which provides sales leads to businesses by providing in-depth information to consumers.

For further information visit <http://www.freeindex.co.uk>

// FreeIndex