

Microsoft Small Business Centre

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Small business owners prepared to change votes

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The votes of small business owners could swing between parties if one pledges to eradicate late payments, it has been claimed.

A survey by FreeIndex highlighted that many business owners would favour the party which puts an end to late payments, with 50 per cent of firms questioned saying this is the policy that would have the most impact on businesses.

Other issues which could help decide which party businesses owners vote for are making it easier for businesses to borrow, with 19 per cent saying this could swing their vote, and increasing tax allowance, which was considered the most important issue by 17 per cent.

Ten per cent of respondents opted for phasing out Employers' National Insurance Contributions.

Martin Turner, managing director at FreeIndex, said: "The results of this survey are a clear indication that the economy remains at the forefront of business' minds, particularly when it comes to voting for a government that will help them to effectively manage their finances."

He added that it is not surprising late payments is such a big issue for small firms, stating that not being paid on time can cause massive issues for firms, especially smaller businesses which have limited cash flow.

Recent research by uSwitchforbusiness.com highlighted that many firms feel abandoned by all three main political parties.

By Alex Boardman