

press release

10 January 2012
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Federation of Builders response to the British Chambers of Commerce's Economic Survey

Following the publication of the British Chambers of Commerce's Quarterly Economic Survey today (10 January 2012), Julia Evans, Chief Executive of the National Federation of Builders (NFB) commented:

"It is good to see that the UK economy may avoid going into recession in 2012, but the BCC survey is still worrying. Our members are eagerly anticipating the realisation of commitments made in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement. Crucial among these are measures to improve the flow of credit to businesses, clarifications about the planning system, and investment in infrastructure projects as also recognised by the BCC. SMEs come last when it comes to lending from the banks, and construction SMEs are at the back of the queue. We need more action from government to ensure buy-in from the banks in favour of lending to SMEs. It is imperative that we remain confident in the construction industry and invest in it, given the successful role it has traditionally played in economic growth in the UK. There is no room for complacency and the government must do all it can to boost growth and boost businesses."

ENDS

Word Count: 183

Notes to Editor:

1. The NFB is one of the UK's longest established trade federations for small to medium-sized (SME) builders, contractors and house builders across England and Wales. It was created 150 years ago to represent the building profession and to help create the conditions for its members to thrive and contribute to the economic success of the UK. Its members range from the sole trader to large, multi-million pound construction companies, with turnover ranging from below £500k to £500m plus. The NFB provides advice, training and business solutions to ensure members stay up to date.
2. The NFB campaigns on the issues that impact the construction industry such as procurement, utilities, sustainability and funding. It represents the industry at government and industry forums and is an active media commentator and policy influencer.

For further information please contact the NFB press office on 01293 586664 or email marketing@builders.org.uk