



Grant Thornton

An instinct for growth™

Budget wishlist 2015

★ Battle for talent ★



21%

Exemption from employer's National Insurance contributions to be extended to all apprentices to further stimulate employer investment in training.

of UK businesses are experiencing greater skills shortages than a year ago.

★ International expansion ★



5%

Launch of Treasury consultation on tax relief for the initial costs of researching and entering export markets.

decline in exports in the year to Q3 2014.

★ Access to finance ★



98%

Support a new 'Help to Grow' initiative by the British Business Bank, as well as call for a consultation on promoting corporate venturing.

of non-bank lenders have not actively raised their profile with MSBs.

★ Regulatory environment ★

£25 million



43.5%

Rapid implementation of all the Office of Tax Simplification recommendations and for government departments to stop treating all businesses with turnover above £25m as 'large'.

of MSBs say meeting regulatory requirements are more of a challenge in 2015.

★ Regional infrastructure and devolution ★



59%

Further commitments to city regions, particularly on transport and skills.

of MSBs see devolution of local transport as a priority.