

<b>Business Innovation and Skills</b> <b>Business Plan Monthly Implementation Update</b>	<b>December</b> <b>2010</b>
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**(1) Actions due to be completed in December 2010**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Status</b>
Review technical issues and announce timetable for implementation of electronic credit card statements	Not complete
Review funding and the organisational structure of the UK Commission for Employment and Skills and refocus on employer leadership and ambition	Complete
Publish initial information on providers and their performance	Complete
Policy statement published on the Haldane principle	Complete
Develop plans to align Companies House and HMRC systems to create a 'one-click' registration process for new companies	Complete
Develop a proposal for enterprise education in schools, further education and higher education, working with the Department for Education	Complete
Review deployment of UKTI resources overseas against demand from business for UKTI support in mature and emerging markets	Complete
Forward regulatory programme published	Not complete
Develop a response to the first set of suggestions from the Your Freedom website	Complete
Proposals published to end gold-plating of EU rules	Complete
Develop options to improve corporate accountability and transparency, including reinstatement of an Operating and Financial Review	Complete
Publish proposals to improve corporate accountability and transparency	Complete
Pilot launched on 'peer to patent' system	Complete

**(2) Actions due to be started by end of December 2010**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Status</b>
Develop and implement a pilot of electronic statements (end Dec 2011)	Work not started
Consult with the higher education sector on best ways to make information available, including through the existing Unistats website, enhancing and adding to the information already available through the website (end Mar 2011)	Work started
Run a pilot 'peer to patent' system to support patent examination through community involvement, including working with the US 'peer to patent' project (end Apr 2012)	Work started
Run the first bidding round for the Regional Growth Fund, whereby private bodies and public-private partnerships (including local enterprise partnerships) bid for funding to invest in sustainable private sector led growth (end Jan 2011)	Work ongoing
Put in place systems and funds to deliver the Regional Growth Fund (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Remove controls from further education funding, auditing and monitoring (end Nov 2011)	Work ongoing

Develop proposals to introduce a new workplace training programme to replace Train to Gain, started at SMEs (end Mar 2011)	Work ongoing
Develop the Government's response to the Browne Review, including support to students from disadvantaged backgrounds; support for lower-income graduates; and secure greater funding contributions from those who can afford to pay (end Jan 2011)	Work ongoing
Reform quality-related research funding to further focus on research excellence, taking account of benefits of critical mass and multidisciplinary capacity (end Jul 2011)	Work ongoing
Promote the benefits of mentoring and make it easier for small and medium-sized enterprises to find business advice and support from mentors, working with the private and voluntary sectors (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Develop and refine guidance for employers and individuals, working with ACAS (end Sep 2011)	Work ongoing
Draft regulations to remove the default retirement age and lay them before Parliament (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Consult on options to address barriers to growth in the intellectual property system (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Establish the governance arrangements and design the business and operating model of the Green Investment Bank (end May 2011)	Work ongoing
Put staff and back office systems in place for the Green Investment Bank, in preparation for the launch of the incubation phase (end Dec 2011)	Work ongoing
Analyse the funding landscape for medium-sized businesses to identify any finance gaps and develop options to address them (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Develop an implementation plan to support sustainable, affordable business lending to business (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Establish a Cabinet Banking Committee and an Independent Banking Commission to report on banking structural reform, working with HM Treasury (end Autumn 2011)	Work ongoing
Review regulations to promote growth of key economic sectors, working with Infrastructure UK (end Jul 2011)	Work ongoing
Publish a growth paper, with a new framework to enable broad-based economic growth, including support for innovative small companies and key growth sectors (end Jan 2011)	Work ongoing
Ensure the UK has the right strategies and frameworks, and relationships internationally, for our companies to take advantage of emerging global markets in which the UK has world leading expertise (end Jul 2011)	Work ongoing
Respond to proposals and facilitate the establishment of local enterprise partnerships, including working with those local authorities and businesses who were not immediately ready to establish their local enterprise partnership boards, to enable them to move forward with their local partnership proposals (end Oct 2011)	Work ongoing
Work with each new local enterprise partnership to enable them to establish their roles and functions (end Apr 2012)	Work ongoing
Complete RDA projects (stand-alone ongoing major programmes) or transfer to other bodies (end Apr 2012)	Work ongoing
Manage out RDA functions, assets, commitments and liabilities an orderly fashion to transfer to other bodies (end Apr 2012)	Work ongoing
Develop a new commercial strategy in partnership with Post Office Ltd, improving the long term financial sustainability of the network and improving the customer experience (end Jan 2011)	Work ongoing
Provide funding and a training offer to support the creation of an additional 75,000 adult apprenticeship places by 2014/15 relative to the level of spending inherited from the previous Government (end Mar 2015)	Work ongoing

Introduce new statutory national standards to increase the quality of apprenticeships (Specification of Apprenticeship Standards for England) (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Develop proposals to introduce loans for further education students (end Feb 2011)	Work ongoing
Put in place Lifelong Learning Accounts to encourage learners to make informed choices and take up the funding they are entitled to (end Sep 2011)	Work ongoing
Publish information about providers and their performance to inform choice of learners and employers, and review options to create a new information system (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Develop proposals for reforming informal adult and community learning and review the effectiveness of basic skills training in delivering economic and social outcomes, to support the development of the Big Society and progression of formal learning (end Sep 2011)	Work ongoing
Work with the Department for Work and Pensions to ensure that Jobcentre Plus, Work Programme providers, further education colleges and other training providers collaborate so that people on active benefits have access to training to find and keep work, and progress once in work. This collaboration will include work with employers to give benefit claimants access to sector-specific training (alongside work experience and guaranteed interviews brokered by Jobcentre Plus) through the proposed 'Service Academies' (end Sep 2011)	Work ongoing
Develop a White Paper on the future strategy for higher education to encourage greater choice for students, high-quality teaching, a fair deal for part-time students, and wider participation for students from disadvantaged backgrounds (end Mar 2011)	Work ongoing
Review options to monetise the Student Loan Book (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Ensure information is available for each university on key issues for students, including student satisfaction and post-educational outcomes for graduates from different courses and universities (end Jul 2012)	Work ongoing
Set out changes to the Research Excellence Framework, including a robust method for assessing the economic impact of research (end Mar 2011)	Work ongoing
Implement recommendations of the Wakeham taskforce on research efficiency in higher education institutions (end Mar 2011)	Work ongoing
Complete migration of Research Councils' back-office processes to a shared service centre, including grant administration (end Mar 2011)	Work ongoing
Create a national network of Advanced Technology Centres to support growth, increase UK translational capability and position the UK to take advantage of emerging global markets (end Apr 2012)	Work ongoing
Reform the Higher Education Innovation Fund to incentivise and reward universities to increase commercial interaction between the research base and business (end Jul 2011)	Work ongoing
Establish the UK Space Agency as an executive agency to formalise links between industry and researchers in a single body (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Simplify publicly funded venture capital funds by bringing together at the national level to improve value for money (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Help the banks set up the business growth fund as soon as possible, developing a credible investment capability and attracting other non-bank investors to support established small businesses with growth potential (end Jul 2011)	Work ongoing
Launch an online 'one stop shop' for people looking to start up a new business, co-locating existing online transaction services offered by HMRC and Companies House (end Nov 2011)	Work ongoing
Rationalise and simply the range of 'Solutions for Business' products (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing

Ensure that those looking to start a business can access the information they need online, including about franchising, published in an open and standardised format so that it can be re-used for free by third parties (end Nov 2011)	Work ongoing
Review competition law and the roles of sector regulators with competition powers, including the Competition Commission and the Office of Fair Trading (end Jan 2011)	Work ongoing
Develop a Trade White Paper, working with key departments, to set out the Government's strategy for growth through free, fair and open markets, including trade agreements, promoting trade facilitation and cutting global red tape (end Jan 2011)	Work ongoing
Develop a strategy setting out how UK Trade and Investment (UKTI) will deliver on key trade priorities, stimulating trade in high-tech sectors, creating inward investment in regions and supporting small and medium-sized enterprises (end Feb 2011)	Work ongoing
Liberalise European markets for business services by working with EU partners to deliver an ambitious outcome for the European Commission's blueprint to improve trade in the EU (called 'Single Market Act') (end Dec 2012)	Work ongoing
Make it easier to sell goods and services on line in the EU (end Dec 2012)	Work ongoing
Work with EU partners to ensure the services directive is properly implemented to radically improve fee movement of services (estimated benefits to the UK economy of £6bn per annum) (end Dec 2011)	Work ongoing
Make trade in Europe work better through improving transparency, dispute resolution and enforcement for UK companies selling their products in major EU markets (end Dec 2012)	Work ongoing
Achieve substantive progress on the Doha Development Agenda, working with international partners (end Nov 2011)	Work ongoing
Simplify inward investment activities and connections with UK businesses (end Mar 2012)	Work ongoing
Align UKTI's sector-based approach to identifying overseas business opportunities for UK business with the Government's approach to rebalancing the economy (end Jan 2011)	Work ongoing
Support the defence and security industries through the Defence and Security Organisation of UKTI to maintain and improve the UK's leading position in the global marketplace, working with the Ministry of Defence (end May 2015)	Work ongoing
Launch a civil society red-tape taskforce to identify ways of reducing the bureaucratic burden on social enterprises and small voluntary organisations, working with the Cabinet Office (end May 2011)	Work ongoing
Publish a White Paper on reforming the regulatory landscape and the introduction of 'sunset clauses' on regulators to secure a thorough reform of "tick-box" regulation (end May 2011)	Work ongoing
Develop guidance for policy-makers in all departments to seek alternatives to regulation, supported by the Cabinet Office Behavioural Insights Team (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Hold regional meetings with small and medium-sized enterprises to identify regulations that they would like to amend or repeal (end Jul 2011)	Work ongoing
Develop government policy to end gold-plating and a stronger role for the Reducing Regulation Committee and new guidance for departments (end Mar 2011)	Work ongoing
Work with EU institutions to start to embed smart regulation (end Dec 2012)	Work ongoing
Put in place secondary legislation to extend the right to request flexible working parents of children up to age 18 (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Consult with business on shared parental leave and extension of flexible working to all employees alongside equal pay measures (end Mar 2011)	Work ongoing

Undertake a comprehensive review of corporate governance and economic short-termism, including reviewing the range of factors that can be considered when takeovers are proposed. Publish interim review (Mar 2011)	Work ongoing
Develop a strategy to increase the number of women on the boards of listed companies in the UK (end Jan 2011)	Work ongoing
Examine the cost and complexity to small and medium-sized enterprises of accessing intellectual property services to help them to protect and exploit intellectual property (end Apr 2011)	Work ongoing
Develop a consumer empowerment strategy, drawing on the insights from behavioural economics and social psychology, including collective bargaining, data transparency, and customer service (end Mar 2011)	Work ongoing
Develop proposals to transfer information and advice functions to independent consumer bodies and local authorities (end Sept 2011)	Work ongoing
Implement a Consumer Rights Directive and simplify existing consumer legislation in a Consumer Bill of Rights (end Dec 2014)	Work ongoing
Put in place measures to end unfair bank and financial transaction charges and to protect credit and store card users (end Jun 2011)	Work ongoing
Undertake a consultation and joint review with HM Treasury of consumer credit and personal insolvency in the UK, including reviewing regulators' powers to define and ban excessive interest rates on credit and store cards, and a seven-day cooling-off period for store cards (end Jun 2011)	Work ongoing

### (3) Explanation of missed deadlines

In December 2010, the Department missed the following deadlines:

<b>Deadline missed</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Review technical issues and announce timetable for implementation	These actions have been delayed due to the preceding action to agree the form and content of electronic statements not being complete.
Develop and implement a pilot of electronic statements	
Forward regulatory programme published	The forward regulatory programme will be published January 2011, as a new approach to EU regulation and the introduction of the One-In, One-Out rule has resulted in some minor delays.

The status of missed deadlines from previous reports is:

<b>Deadline missed</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Introduce the Public Bodies Bill and the Localism Bill, working with the Cabinet office and the Department for Communities and Local Government (Nov 2010)	Complete	The Localism Bill was introduced on 13 December. The Public Bodies Bill has been published.

Ensure transition plans are in place for individual Regional Development Agencies (Nov 2010)	Complete	All Regional Development Agencies have submitted transition plans.
Agree form and content of electronic statements from credit card companies for consumers (Nov 2010)	Still not complete	Consumer research conducted by UK Cards into credit card statements raised issues about how the electronic statements reflect consumer requirements. BIS is now working closely with UK Cards on this and aims to agree the form and content of the statements by January 2011.
EU-India summit held (Oct 2010)	Complete	The 11th EU-India summit took place in Brussels on 10 December 2010.
Framework on advanced manufacturing sectors published (Oct 2010)	Complete	The Manufacturing Framework was published on 10 December 2010.
Develop guidance for other government bodies to impose 'sunset clauses' on new regulations so that they automatically expire unless positive action is taken by Government to renew them (Sep 2010)	Still not complete	More time has been required for consultation with other departments and other stakeholders on the detail of our proposals, including resolving some technical legal issues. We are confident that the slippage from the original deadline will not affect the Government's ability to implement the proposed measures effective from 1 April 2011. The guidance has been finalised so that the departments responsible for new regulations can put it into practice. We expect that the guidance will be formally published in January 2011.