



PRESS RELEASE

REDUCING THE REGULATORY BURDEN – A GOOD START

A recent Parliamentary oral questions session on Regulation provided some hope that the new government may be set to tackle the problem posed by the mass of regulations faced by small retailers.

Mark Prisk, Minister of State for Business and Enterprise, indicated a desire to “make sure that we make a real change in how we help small businesses.” He went on to say, “We need to change the system, not just deal with the symptoms of the problem. That is why we are introducing a one in, one out approach to change the whole culture of Government: no new regulatory burden on business can be brought forward unless reductions are made to existing regulations. That will change the culture of Whitehall and stop some of the nonsense...”.

Mark Prisk then accepted an invitation from David Amess MP, the chair of the All-party Parliamentary Small Shops Group, to meet a small deputation from the group.

The Rural Shops Alliance is a keen supporter of the Small Shops Parliamentary Group and we very much welcome this opportunity.

Ken Parsons, Chief Executive of the RSA said, *“We very much welcome David Amess’s initiative for the All Party Group to engage with ministers so early in the new parliament. I am sure our retail members will be able to find numerous examples of regulation that is stifling their businesses to feed through to government.”*

Notes for editors:

The Rural Shops Alliance (RSA) was formed in April 2001 and now represents over 7,200 independent retail members, employing some 40,700 staff. The RSA – a trade association with a difference – exists to be the campaigning voice of the independent rural retailer and the source for practical support particularly in terms of retail best practice. Many ‘blue chip’ and ‘retail service’ suppliers sponsor and partner the work of the RSA and help the organisation with category management and best retail.

More Information:

01305 752044, 01305 752050 or 07092 048546