WEEK IN WESTMINSTER

Week ending Friday 26 August



CBI survey suggests manufacturing expectations holding up

The CBI has released the results of its latest Industrial Trends Survey. The survey showed that UK manufacturers are reporting "healthy" order books and above average expectations for output growth. The survey also suggests that pricing pressures have eased in contrast to strong inflation in the first two quarters of 2011. Richard Woolhouse, CBI Head of Fiscal Policy, said: "Manufacturing order books are holding up, and expectations for output growth are above their historical average, although they are less strong than earlier this year. Inflationary pressures have eased since the start of the year, with fewer firms predicting they will have to raise prices at the factory gate over the coming quarter. But the risks to manufacturing activity and business confidence have if anything increased, due to market volatility and the recalibration of growth expectations worldwide. Concerns around growth in the US and the Euro area present further challenges to the manufacturing recovery."

(Source: CBI)

http://www.cbi.org.uk/ndbs/press.nsf/0363c1f07c6ca1 2a8025671c00381cc7/82855e5665c1c8e9802578f40 04a965a?OpenDocument



Department for Transport publishes speed camera information

The Department for Transport has published information regarding speed camera sites from 75 English local authorities. The Coalition Government asked all local authorities to publish information about the effectiveness of their speed cameras as part of their localism agenda. Transport Minister Mike Penning MP said: "Local residents have a right to expect that when their council spends money on speed cameras, they publish information to show whether those cameras are helping to reduce accidents or not. I hope that this information will help local people to make informed judgements about the impact cameras are having on their local roads. However, residents can only hold their council to account if it has made information available so I would urge those councils which have not yet published their data to do so as soon as possible." Local authorities were asked by government to publish data by 20 July 2011, DfT says that the remaining 72 authorities are planning to publish information over the next five weeks. (Source: DfT)

http://www.dft.gov.uk/news/press-releases/penning20110824

Week ahead

House of Commons

The House of Commons is in recess. The House will next sit on Monday 5 September 2011.

House of Lords

The House of Lords is in recess. The House will next sit on Monday 5 September 2011.