

## CONSULTATION ON GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL TO AMEND COMPANIES HOUSE TRADING FUND

Response by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) to the  
consultation in August 2008

### 1. Introduction

The Companies Act 2006 will create a single company law regime applying to the whole of the UK. One effect of the new UK-wide regime will be that the Companies Registry in Northern Ireland, which is currently part of the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI) in Northern Ireland, will become the responsibility of the Secretary of State for Business, Innovation and Skills with effect from 1 October 2009.

The Government proposes to create a UK-wide Register of Companies through the integration of the Northern Ireland Registry with Companies House. This would involve amending the Companies House Trading Fund Order to reflect the change.

#### The Question

**Do you agree that the Companies House Trading Fund Order should be amended to include the Northern Ireland registry, creating a UK wide Registry?**

### 2. Consultation

800 organisations were directly contacted during the consultation.

At the close of consultation we had received four responses.

The low number of responses reflects both the earlier consultation by the then Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), now the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), and the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment (DETI) in Northern Ireland on proposed changes to company law, and the relatively straightforward nature of the proposal.

### 3. The Government Response

Three of the responses supported the proposed change wholeheartedly. The other response raised interesting points, but the Government considers they were outside the scope of the consultation.

The Government will proceed with the Parliamentary process to amend the Companies House Trading Fund Order as proposed in the consultation.