



Scottish Council for
Development and Industry

PRESS RELEASE

21 March 2011
Embargo: None

SCOTLAND NEEDS A BUDGET FOR GROWTH AND FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Scotland's leading economic development network today urged Chancellor George Osborne to deliver a budget for Scottish growth and for young people by adhering to six budget principles.

SCDI Chief Executive, Dr Lesley Sawers said:

“This Budget must focus on measures which stimulate both sustainable economic growth for Scotland and create an environment which ensures our young people have greater opportunities to work and learn.

“SCDI has developed Six Budget Principles by which we believe all public spending measures should be judged.

“We urge Mr Osborne to ensure his Budget decisions align with these principles to deliver growth for Scotland now and in the future and assure a better and more prosperous future for our young people.”

SCDI's Six Budget Principles are:

1. Increasing sustainable economic growth is now an even higher priority for Government and public services
2. Budgets should ring-fence priority outcomes, rather than departmental budgets



Scottish Council for
Development and Industry

PRESS RELEASE

3. The core functions of public sector bodies must be identified and resourced, representing an opportunity to develop new models and partnerships for public service delivery
4. Public spending should be subject to an 'Exports Test'
5. Capital investment is a high priority, but business cases should be re-evaluated rapidly to ensure that projects are prioritised with current economic opportunities
6. Public spending should be reviewed to ensure inter-generational equity and overall level and form of taxes which could deliver them.

ENDS

Notes to editors

SCDI is an independent membership network that strengthens Scotland's competitiveness by influencing Government policies to encourage sustainable economic prosperity.

SCDI's membership includes businesses, trade unions, local authorities, educational institutions, the voluntary sector and faith groups.

For full details on SCDI's budget principles, please see www.scdi.org.uk/pi/2010/SCDI_Budget_Principles.pdf.

For further information, please contact Janette Harkess, Director of Policy and Research on 07502 344 400.