

Press Release

For immediate release  
Tuesday 20 July 2004

### **New IoD report gives Government 5 out of 10**

The Institute of Directors today published its first annual Government Performance Review, providing an assessment of Government policy and performance from a business perspective.

The Government Performance Review, which is written in the style of an end of term school report, provides individual departments with a score 'out of 10', based on their policy priorities and implementation record.

The IoD's Government Performance Review shows that:

- Some departments are performing far better than others - HM reasury, DTI and DfH (see table below for individual departmental scores).
- All departments need to improve significantly.
- The Government could and should do better.

The IoD gives the Government an overall mark of 5 out of 10.

George Cox, Director-General of the IoD said,

"The new Government Performance Review shows that whilst the IoD has welcomed many initiatives from Government, big challenges remain. Business worries the Chancellor may need to raise taxation further, in order to finance his spending plans. The tax system grows ever more complex, when it screams out for simplification.

"There is too much red tape and too little reform of monopoly public services. Long delays in transport policy and the planning system add to the burden on business. To cap it all, the pension system needs urgent and fundamental overhaul."

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Department

Score out of 10

HM Treasury 6

Foreign & Commonwealth Office 5

Cabinet Office 4

Department of Trade and Industry 6

Department for Education & Skills 5

Department for Transport 5

Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs 5

Department for Work & Pensions 4

Department of Health 6

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister 5

Overall Government Performance 5

George Cox, added:

"In fairness, many of the problems we highlight in our report have been building over decades, but they can't wait decades for a solution. We need to see real sense of urgency and political will."

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### **Notes to editors**

1. The IoD (Institute of Directors) was founded in 1903 and obtained a Royal Charter in 1906. The IoD is a non-party political organisation with upwards of 54,000 members in the United Kingdom. Membership includes directors from right across the business spectrum - from media to manufacturing, e-business to the public and voluntary sectors. Members include CEOs of large corporations as well as entrepreneurial directors of start-up companies.

2. The IoD offers a wide range of business services which include business centre facilities (including six regional centres), conferences, networking events, issues-led guides and literature as well as information services and free access to a comprehensive business library and enquiry service. The IoD places great emphasis on director development and has established a certified qualification for directors - Chartered Director - as well as running specific board-level and director-level training and individual career mentoring programmes.

3. In addition, the IoD provides an effective voice to represent the interests of its members to government and key opinion-formers at the highest levels. These include ministers, constituency MPs, Select Committee members and senior civil servants. IoD policies and views are actively promoted to the national, regional and trade media.

4. For further information, visit our website:  
[www.iod.com](http://www.iod.com)