

PETITION FOR GOVERNMENT: FUND A NATIONAL PRO-BUILDING STIMULUS PACKAGE TO GET BRITAIN BUILDING AGAIN

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Dear CEO,

I'm writing to you, CEO to CEO, because I believe our sector has reached a point where we need to take decisive action.

As you'll be acutely aware, Britain and Northern Ireland's building and construction market is under severe strain. Demand is fragile, projects are stalled, builders are exiting the industry, and skills shortages are worsening — all of which directly affect the long-term health of our customers and our businesses.

Like you, we see this every day in our branches and balance sheets:

- Fewer small builders active.
- Projects delayed or abandoned.
- Customers cautious about investing.
- Capacity and confidence draining from the system.

This is why we recently launched the **#LetsGetBritainBuildingNOW** petition — not as a political gesture, but as a practical intervention to push for the market conditions and confidence our customers need to build, refurbish, and invest again.

Parliament has heard us and are now taking us seriously, also supporting our petition for action, having published it on their official Parliamentary Petitions website at <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/766641>. The petition focuses on the three most significant issues that directly impact builders' ability to operate — and therefore merchants' ability to grow sustainably:

- **Financial incentives** to restore confidence among homebuyers and improvers.
- **A faster, simpler planning system** to unlock stalled projects.
- **Serious action on skills and workforce capacity** to stabilise delivery.

This is not about special treatment for the industry. It's about fixing blockages that are suppressing demand, reducing volumes, and weakening local supply chains — including ours.

I'm reaching out to ask for your active support.

Specifically, we're asking fellow builders' merchants to join the campaign and:

- Publicly support the petition: <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/766641>.
- Encourage branch teams to share it with customers.
- Use your channels to amplify the message.

Collectively, merchants are one of the most trusted and connected parts of the construction ecosystem. Our customers see us as partners, not lobbyists. That gives us a responsibility — and an opportunity — to speak up when the system is failing them.

If we don't help rebuild confidence now, the risk is clear: fewer builders, fewer projects, and a smaller, more volatile market for all of us.

If we act together, we strengthen the voice of the very people who keep our sector moving — and improve the prospects for sustainable growth across the supply chain.

I'd welcome the chance to discuss this with you directly, but in the meantime, I hope you'll consider lending your support and would like to extend my thanks to John Newcomb from the BMF for having shared my letter with you.

This is about backing builders — and protecting the future of our industry.

Warm regards,



John Carter

Chief Executive Officer

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