A voice for your business in the South East & Thames Valley

Join the CBI Regional Council
Be a part of the CBI ‘Business Parliament’

Together forming a network of over 600 senior business executives, the CBI’s 12 councils across the regions and nations provide an opportunity for your business to play a leading role in influencing the policy landscape at a devolved and national level:

- **Influence**: Directly influence the development of new laws and policies that impact your business at a regional and national level.

- **Engage**: Profile your business with other senior business leaders, develop your own personal business network and receive invitations to CBI headline events including CBI Annual Dinner and our UK Annual Conference.

- **Inform**: Gain advance insight into policy issues and economic intelligence impacting your business, customers and suppliers

Given the EU Referendum Result, there has never been a more important time to get involved in your region – CBI Regional Councils are critical in working with us to shape our messages to the UK Government and our allies across Europe for the best conditions for prosperity.
Who should apply?

**CBI Regional Councillors**
Our regional councillors are senior decision makers, either CEO-level or responsible for a significant faction of their business (for example divisional managing director, group director etc). As a representative you should be able to provide a detailed knowledge of your organisation and understand how changes to the policy and legislative landscape will impact on business decisions and performance.

**Your Commitment**

We ask that you:

- **actively attend and engage** with your Regional Council to provide **strategic advice** on issues concerning or impacting on business
- **Ensure** that the needs of business in the Region and your views on local issues are properly understood and represented in the region, bearing in mind relevant national considerations
- Promote **the interests and welfare of industry and commerce** in your region
- Give us the required **time commitment** – we ask that you attend at least three out of four meetings a year and we prefer not to accept substitutions. The meetings last for approximately 2½-3 hours and often involve a networking lunch or drinks afterwards. You will need to read the papers provided and be involved in the discussions.

**Diversity**

Please note that whilst we will make appointments based on merit, we have publicly stated a commitment to a **30%** target for women across all our activities, including our South East and Thames Valley Regional Council. We would be particularly welcome a nomination for a female representative from your organisation.
CBI Council members discuss a wide variety of national topics from National Living Wage and the Apprenticeship Levy to digital adoption across businesses.

Council meetings also include a regular item on their own local, regional issues including updates on English devolution deals, as part of the CBI Project on Unlocking Regional Growth.

Meetings include a ‘State of Trade’ discussion around growth, investment intentions, wage settlements, order books and export performance – providing information that our CBI policy and economics teams use for their forecasting work and also to feed anecdotal evidence into their meetings with HM Treasury, the Bank of England and the OBR.

The Council meetings are quarterly and the discussion papers are set centrally with input from the regional teams and flexibility in the schedule to discuss local and devolved issues. Meetings usually last for 2.5-3 hours. Papers are presented by CBI’s policy teams and are presented to you for one of three reasons:

- Discussion and input of ideas and evidence to drive policy creation or campaign dissemination
- For sign off and mandate
- For information

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<th>Topical issues</th>
<th>Regular items</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
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What to expect from us

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Regional Directors and Chair</th>
<th>Our Commitment</th>
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<tr>
<td>Malcolm Hyde</td>
<td><strong>Your Regional Directors will:</strong></td>
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<td>CBI South East Regional Director</td>
<td>• Actively support your role on the Council with additional support from CBI senior management, economic, press, policy and campaigns teams</td>
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<td>Eddie Curzon</td>
<td><strong>Your Regional Chair will:</strong></td>
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<td>CBI Thames Valley Regional Director</td>
<td>• Ensure that you have a fair opportunity to input, and will summarise the discussions in a way that represents the views around the table. Our Regional Chairs take responsibility for providing this input and feedback at Chairmen’s Committee – then agreeing and signing off national CBI policy positions.</td>
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<td>Ute Bockstegers</td>
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<td>CBI South East Regional Chair &amp; Chief Financial Officer Bayer plc</td>
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How to apply

The Election Process
If you are interested in standing for election please contact Malcolm Hyde or Eddie Curzon for further information. Malcolm or Eddie will send you a link to an online application form – you will need to supply a high res jpg photo, a 100 word biography and information on your organisation.

If the overall number of nominations we receive across the region is more than the number of places available we will hold a Ballot, where all organisations based in the region will be able to vote on prospective councillors. The information you provide in your Application Form will be used in the Ballot.

The election process is designed to refresh membership of the Regional Councils on a regular basis and helps to keep the make-up of the Councils reflective of business in your region.

If you are successful

If fully Elected – your term is for three years starting on 1st January 2017. Under our governance rules, you can do two terms as a regional councillor, but will need to nominate yourself again for the second term and go through the full election process. You will be reminded to step down from the Council after the six years is complete and you may re-join again after a one year gap.

If you are unsuccessful, there is an option for you to be Co-opted – this is for a term of one year starting from 1st January 2017. At the end of this year, you will be asked to stand for full election.

The closing date for nominations is 30th September 2016