

# Making life as simple as possible for you

Better Regulation for Business Workshop

Sandy Park Conference Centre, Exeter

4<sup>th</sup> March 2010

# Our role

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- We're the bit of Government that works with the other bits of Government to ensure that regulation is smart, is intelligent, and that it gets the job done – without causing excessive cost or aggravation for business
- Regulation can be time consuming and expensive – British business and the third sector currently spend around £13.2 billion each year on administration needed to show compliance with regulation
- We're here to help – making everybody's life easier by challenging new legislation and simplifying, improving or even scrapping existing legislation

# What is the 'prize'?

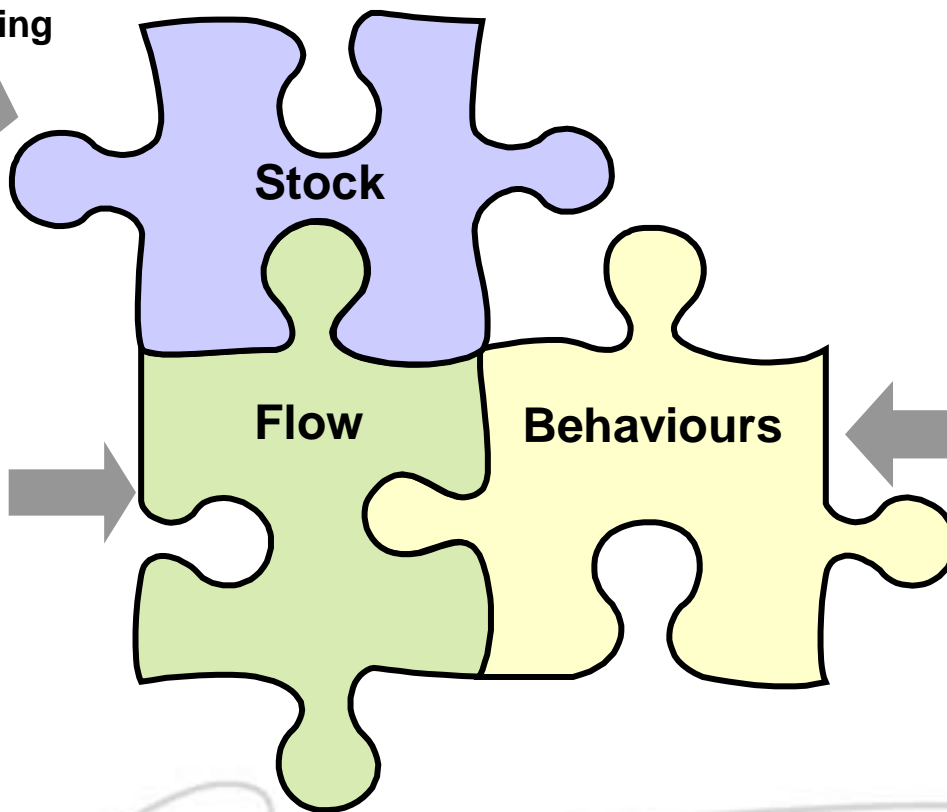
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- Reductions in regulatory costs - an outstanding return on investment for the UK
- An opportunity for government to help increase the innovation, productivity and growth of business
- A robust method for the government to improve its control over the flow of new regulation and a driver to reduce the burdens imposed by the stock of existing regulation
- Implementing policy in efficient and effective ways.



# The BRE – challenge and support

Work with departments and regulators to simplify and modernise existing regulations



Work with departments and regulators to improve design of regulations and how they are implemented



Work with regulators and departments (including Local Authorities) to change attitudes and approaches to regulation to become more risk based



# BRE's strategic objectives

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- Scrutinise new policy proposals
- Achieve effective new regulations
- Make it easier to change or remove regulation, where beneficial
- Reduce existing regulatory burdens affecting business, the third sector and frontline staff in the public sector
- Improving transparency and accountability for regulation
- Effectively communicate regulatory changes
- Drive forward the better regulation agenda in Europe

## Principles

- Proportionate
- Accountable
- Consistent
- Transparent
- Targeted

# What's better for you?

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- Online employment guidance is making life as simple as possible for businesses. Visit [www.businesslink.gov.uk/employingpeople](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/employingpeople) and find out how.
- You can get sample 'good enough' guides that show your business how to meet health and safety assessments for your sector – saving you time and hassle. Visit [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk) to find out more.
- You no longer need to hold an AGM. This saves 500,000 to 750,000 private companies around £45 million each year

# How you can make a difference

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- We want to hear from you! If you have suggestions on how to improve regulation, you can submit them at [www.betterregulation.gov.uk](http://www.betterregulation.gov.uk). Your experiences – both good and bad – give colour and weight to our work to help influence others.
- Our website also includes examples of how better regulation is making your life as simple as possible.

# Don't just take our word for it

“By following the [HSE] site, we now understand that risk assessment doesn't have to be complicated, it's a straightforward process.

“Now the whole thing has been simplified for us – which makes life easier all round.”



*Nigel Dowdney, Convenience Store Owner, about sample risk assessments on the Health and Safety Executive's website.*