

2021 England Elections

Key asks



Covid and subsequent lockdowns hit the small business community extremely hard. A strong and full small business recovery is the only way our SMEs, our communities and our economy will get on the right footing to recover.

This will only be possible by achieving the best possible reopening over the coming days, weeks and months. This crucial reopening must be powered by collaboration and innovation, working together across our region to take the small and the big steps needed to get our small businesses open on the strongest possible footing.

1. Get the grants out quickly - funding for small businesses is still not getting to those that need it.



KEY ASK | Commit to pulling out all the stops to make this happen, encouraging and ensuring local authorities work together across the region get the grants out quickly, fairly and consistently.

2. Get customers back safely - it has been an unbelievably tough year for small firms and now more than ever they need support.



KEY ASK | Commit to exploring innovative and collaborative initiatives across the region to encourage people to back their local small firms and high streets.

3. Get bills paid promptly - the pandemic has only worsened the late payments crisis, which costs small businesses an estimated £23bn and forces around 50,000 small businesses to close every year.



KEY ASK | Commit to ensuring small firms, supply chains and the self-employed are paid within 30 days, on time, every time.

