

Labour's First Budget

A pulse check from employers and what it means for 2025.

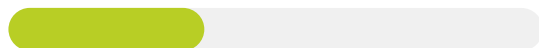
As Labour's first budget introduces changes in taxation, skills funding, green investments, and regional development, employers are weighing the potential impacts on their operations and planning for the year ahead. Through our recent survey series, we gathered insights from our clients and community on their views of these policies, revealing mixed responses. Here, we present a summary of key budget initiatives and what our polls tell us about employer sentiment - and how Maxwell Bond can support businesses to navigate changes and thrive in 2025.

Taxation Changes

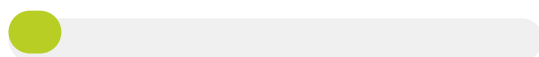
Labour has proposed increasing taxes on capital gains, share buybacks, and top earners to generate funds for public services and investment. However, our poll results indicate that many employers have concerns about this approach.



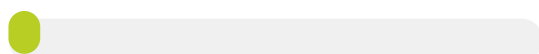
46% believe it could hurt investment



37% think it's necessary for growth



10% are unsure

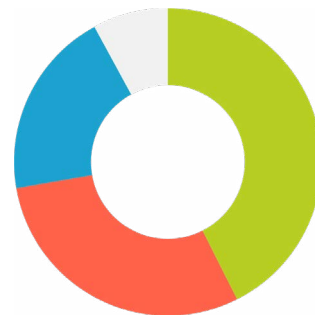


6% foresee no impact

Takeaway: While some see these taxation adjustments as necessary, nearly half worry about the potential to stifle investment. It's clear that employers are seeking assurances that these tax increases will indeed stimulate growth.

Corporation Tax and Economic Growth

The budget maintains a competitive corporation tax rate to support business growth. This measure appears to resonate well, but opinions on its effectiveness are divided.



43% see it as essential for growth

30% expect minimal effect

20% foresee a mixed impact

8% are unsure

Takeaway: Employers are optimistic that a competitive corporation tax rate could stimulate growth, but some remain cautious. A third anticipate only a minimal impact, suggesting more clarity on the direct benefits to business growth could be beneficial.

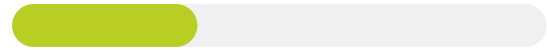


Green Energy and Investment

Labour's budget pledges to boost green energy investments, positioning the UK at the forefront of sustainability. Employers appear divided on whether this is an advantage or a cost concern.



47% see a positive opportunity



35% worry about the costs

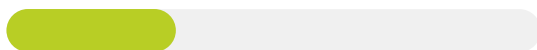
Takeaway: Employers appreciate the opportunities within the green sector, yet a significant portion is concerned about associated costs. For companies preparing to embrace sustainable practices, Maxwell Bond can help identify talent that will drive value and innovation in this space.

Skills and Training

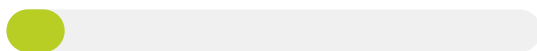
The budget prioritises skills funding to address labour shortages, yet a significant number of employers question its potential impact.



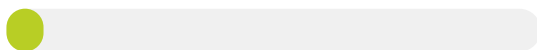
50% expect no impact on hiring needs



32% see significant potential



11% foresee minimal impact

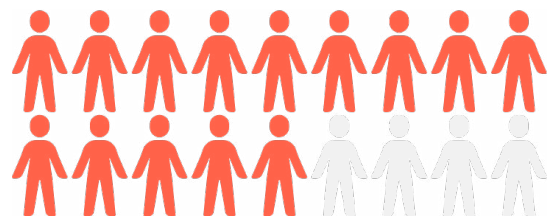


7% believe it may help somewhat

Takeaway: While the budget allocates funds to bridge the skills gap, half of our respondents don't believe it will address their hiring needs. At Maxwell Bond, we are here to support clients with targeted recruitment solutions that can help bridge immediate skills gaps effectively, leveraging our expertise and network.

Infrastructure and Productivity

Investments in infrastructure could potentially elevate productivity levels, with the majority of respondents optimistic about the outcomes.



78% believe improved infrastructure will boost productivity

Takeaway: Improved infrastructure is seen as a crucial driver of productivity. For agencies and businesses, this means more resources, improved logistics, and better connectivity, furthering economic growth and efficiency.

Addressing Regional Inequality

Labour's budget includes plans for regional investments, aiming to reduce economic disparities. However, our poll indicates that many businesses are uncertain of the impact.



36% see no impact on their business

27% anticipate a positive impact

27% worry about a negative impact

9% expect a mixed outcome

Takeaway: Labour's regional investments might create opportunities and challenges. For businesses expecting positive growth, Maxwell Bond's recruitment expertise can help attract and retain top talent that complements regional expansion and development.



Thrive in 2025 with Maxwell Bond

With diverse perspectives on the implications of Labour's first budget, one thing is clear: businesses are searching for effective solutions to navigate these changes with confidence. The economic landscape is evolving rapidly, bringing both opportunities and challenges for businesses across sectors, and having the right talent on board is more critical than ever.

Whether it's identifying skilled professionals in key areas like technology, green energy, and innovation, or supporting your workforce with enhanced resilience, Maxwell Bond is here to help you turn these shifts into strategic advantages. Our specialized recruitment services are designed to go beyond filling roles; we provide comprehensive, tailored support that aligns with your unique business goals. With Maxwell Bond as your partner, we ensure you have the right people, from leadership to hands-on experts, who can drive meaningful impact and growth. As we move toward 2025, let us help you build teams ready to thrive amid change, leveraging the latest insights and industry expertise. Contact us today to learn how we can partner with you to fuel your business's success in 2025 and beyond.

