

I will send out a message in the next few days giving some idea of what we are facing in Viamed.

Meanwhile could you read this article, circulate it around the company and add your initials.

Kind regards

John

John

30/1/2019

Catherine Spence *CS* Catrin Hird *CH* Derek Lamb *DL* Emily Hanson *EH*
Emma Clark *EC* Gail Bell *GB* Helen Lamb *HL* Jean Lamb *JL*
Josh Leighton *JL* Kate Griffiths *KG* Linda Shearing *LS* Michael Green *MG*
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Cost of running a small firm soars

By Jack Torrance

HIGHER taxes and new laws such as the National Living Wage and auto-enrolment in pensions pushed up the cost of running a typical small business by £60,000 since 2011, research shows.

Although corporation tax paid by small firms fell 2pc in the same period, the total cost of taxes and red tape shot up 15pc to £480,000.

The burden rises again in

April as companies stump up an extra 1pc for each employee's pension pot and the complex Making Tax Digital regime comes into force.

The figures, which also include business rates, NICs and vehicle excise duty, were compiled by the Centre for Economic and Business Research for the Federation of Small Businesses. Mike Cherry, FSB chairman, said: "The minute you start firing on all cylinders as a business

owner ... you're struck with an avalanche of additional costs. That has to change."

The minimum wage for over-25s has risen 29pc since 2011 and rises another 5pc in April. Since auto-enrolment in pensions, employers have had to hand over 2pc of each worker's salary but that increases to 3pc in April. Britain was fourth in the World Bank's ease of doing business report in 2011 but has fallen to ninth in the years since.