



Welcome to our monthly newswire designed to keep you informed of the latest issues. Please contact us if you have any questions. Remember, we're here to help.

Budget 2010

Alistair Darling presented his third Budget on Wednesday 24 March 2010.

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Entrepreneurs' Relief

The amount of an individual's capital gains that can qualify for Entrepreneurs' Relief are currently subject to a lifetime limit of £1 million.

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Strasbourg blow to expats in index-linked pensions case

Thirteen British expats who brought a test case to have their pensions index-linked have lost the final possible appeal against the government's decision not to up-rate them in line with those of pensioners living in Britain.

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House price watch

Your home may well be one of your major assets. Even if you are not planning on moving in the near future, it is always a good idea to keep abreast of the latest changes in the housing market.

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Stamp duty land tax and first time home buyers

At present the Stamp Duty Land Tax rate is 1% for residential property purchases where the consideration is more than £125,000 but does not exceed £250,000.

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Carbon reduction certificate energy efficiency scheme

With less than a month to go until the launch of the Government's Carbon Reduction Certificate Energy Efficiency Scheme, there is concern that many businesses are still not clear about their obligations.

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Equality bill reaches final hurdle

The Equality Bill has moved one step closer to becoming law.

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OFT to investigate ISAs

The OFT has received a super-complaint from Consumer Focus relating to cash ISAs.

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Employment rate falls to 72.2%

The government has announced the latest employment statistics which show the number of people in employment has dropped by 54,000.

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Fit notes

Fit notes will be brought into effect from April 2010 and are a replacement for sick notes.

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Landlords: tenants want a shoulder to cry on

Landlords are assuming the role of surrogate mothers as new research shows tenants are making their renting decision based on the ability to offer a friendly shoulder to cry on, rather than price.

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Kind regards,

Lawson Coppock & Hart