

Malta Chamber of SMEs Launches Budget 2026 Proposals

The Malta Chamber of SMEs has unveiled its proposals for the 2026 Budget, putting forward measures aimed at making it easier for self-employed, small and medium-sized businesses to operate, grow, and remain competitive.

The proposals were developed using the quarterly SME Barometer, which consistently gathers over 400 responses, as a basis, alongside direct feedback from members and targeted focus group discussions.

This comprehensive approach ensures that the proposals truly reflect the day-to-day challenges faced by SMEs and the priorities highlighted.

The recommendations are grouped into five priority areas: Tax & Finance, Governance, Energy, Twin Transition, and Transport.

Key proposals include:

Tax & Finance: Reduce the corporate tax rate from 35% to 25% on the first €250,000 profit in line with the governments electoral manifesto and update the MicroInvest scheme to provide stronger backing for self-employed and SMEs.

Governance: Create a Public Procurement Watchdog to ensure fair and equal access to government public procurement; simplify tendering processes for small businesses and strengthen enforcement to tackle unfair competition from undeclared goods.

Energy: Introduce equal access to grid connection fees; and launch new schemes for large-scale renewable energy storage.

ABOUT MALTA CHAMBER OF SMES

Malta Chamber of SMEs (Formerly known as GRTU) is the largest social partner in Malta representing over 7,000 SMEs from over 90 different sectors. The SME Chamber has been established for over 70 years and its aim is of safeguarding the interest of businesses at large.

SPOKESPERSONS

Paul Abela | President

HEAD OF COMMUNICATION

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Twin Transition: Establish a Taskforce on the Future of Work to address digital and green transformation; cut unnecessary bureaucracy; incentivise SMEs to conduct an ESG review to support sustainable business practices; and improve access to EU and green funding.

Transport: Provide grants and vouchers to encourage cleaner commuting such as cycling, walking, and carpooling for both employers and employees; expand Gozo transport routes; and develop delivery hubs.

The SME Chamber ensured that the proposals are aligned with Malta's 2050 vision for a safe, resilient, and forward-looking economy.

The SME Chamber will be officially presenting its proposals in detail during meetings with the Prime Minister, Government officials, the Opposition, and other key stakeholders.

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