

# As a government, Labour has not added an iota of value ...

Published: January 13, 2026, 9:38 am

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When a Chancellor is out of ideas, they always do the same thing. They announce they will be cutting red tape. And so, we have [this report](#) in the FT this morning:

*Rachel Reeves is to unveil a “blitz on business bureaucracy” in a renewed push to cut red tape that she claims will save British companies nearly £6bn a year.*

*Reeves will tell the first Regional Investment Summit in Birmingham on Tuesday that the government will be scrapping “pointless paperwork” and “needless form-filling” for small businesses.*

Will that change the fortunes of Britain's small businesses? No.

Who will capture the gains (if there are really any to be had)? Business owners.

Who will pay the price? People doing admin, although the incremental gains will be so small that there will be no real change in employment cost, so how the saving of £6 billion, or roughly £1,000 per small business, can be estimated is very hard to work out.

And will anyone notice? No, of course not.

But we might see adverse consequences. Maybe less tax will be paid. Or weaker employment statistics will be collected. Or, maybe, protections for some workers will be reduced. So there could be knock-on costs.

But whatever the outcome, all of this reveals one thing, which is that Reeves is truly possessed of the mind of an accountant. When a person with such a mentality, who really does not comprehend what business is all about, as Reeves clearly does not, thinks about how to effect change, all they do is cut staff first and admin second. But not once, ever, can they think of how to add value.

And that is what we have, a Chancellor who cannot add value. And that is Labour's failure in a nutshell. As a government, they have not added an iota of value to the UK.