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Hague and Hopkins show support for Keighley business

Shadow Foreign Secretary William Hague has today joined Conservative Parliamentary Candidate Kris Hopkins on a visit to well-known Keighley firm Wells Spiral Tubes to find out more about problems facing local manufacturers in the constituency.

Hosted by Wells Spiral Tubes Managing Director Philip Wells, both men were given a tour of the Prospect Works factory where they also had an opportunity to meet staff.

Established in 1967, the company is one of Britain's oldest and biggest independent firms offering the widest range of standard and tailor-made spiral tubes in Europe.

Mr Hague said he was very impressed with the quality of product made at the 55,000 sq ft base but was concerned at the dangers posed to local manufacturers in the current economic climate.

He commented:

“Many firms I have spoken to in recent weeks have said the Government's decision to increase capital gains tax will have a detrimental impact on their business. They are also very alarmed at the endless rise in regulatory burden and red tape.

“I want to make it clear that an incoming Conservative Government will be a friend to business, not a hindrance. I am delighted to have the opportunity to come to Keighley to meet Philip and his team and to get this point across.”

Kris Hopkins, the Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for Keighley and Ilkley, added:

“One of the priorities of my campaign is to work to establish very strong relationships with local businesses and potential inward investors for the benefit of people in Keighley and Ilkley, including the creation of more jobs.

“It is terrific to be able to bring William along to Wells Spiral Tubes to assist me in this objective and to allow him to see the excellence of the work that goes on here.”

Wells Spiral Tubes Managing Director Philip Wells commented:

“It is very useful to have the opportunity to welcome William and Kris to the factory and to have a chat about some of the main challenges faced by the business.

“We are proud to be celebrating our 40th anniversary this year and look forward to continuing to build on our achievements and well-earned reputation as a successful Keighley-based company in the years ahead.”

To coincide with Hr Hague’s visit, Kris Hopkins has also today launched a new online poll asking businesses to tell him what they see as the biggest barriers to commercial success at the present time.

This can be accessed via Mr Hopkins’ campaign website at www.krishopkins.co.uk

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