



Culture & Creative

Southend enjoys a nationally recognised Cultural and Creative cluster spearheaded by Metal and supported by well-connected networks of businesses; from architects to film makers. There is also an ever-growing year round cultural events and attractions profile which attracts people from a far.

invest·in·southend
town, shore and so much more

Over recent years Southend has seen creative and cultural networks, space and events develop and blossom.

Metal moved from Kensington, London to Southend in 2006 and offers innovative, multidisciplinary residency space for artists from the UK and overseas supporting the sector and involving the community in their work.

Idea13, instigated and developed by Metal, offers a virtual network for culture and an online forum for conversation between artists and their audiences.

The Temporary Arts Project (TAP) in the Old Water Works includes the CoExist Gallery, White Bus film screenings and space for a range of creative networks to meet.

Southend has and continues to enjoy a year round cultural events calendar. This includes the Southend Film Festival, Chinese New Year, Italian Festival, Polish Arts Festival, Village Green and the largest Ganesh Festival outside of India.

The Digital Exploration Centre project seeks to bring together business, the arts, entrepreneurship, academic research and public entertainment within digital technologies in the UK. It offers a mix of creative invention, the generation and transfer of knowledge, and its foundational link to business and commerce.

The Beecroft Art Gallery, Focal Point Gallery and the Lynn Tait Gallery are only some of Southend's innovative galleries attracting thousands of people a year.



invest.in.southend



town, shore and so much more

Supporting this wide and diverse sector in Southend is a number of education providers which demonstrate excellence in creative and cultural attainment. The East 15 Acting School at the University of Essex in Southend for example now has its own studios in the heart of Clifftown, an area of Southend earmarked for boutique and niche retailing, café culture, studios and a strong cultural identity.

Southend wants to see further investment and development in this sector recognising its role in the economy driving creativity and stimulating innovation which cuts across all sectors. Choosing to locate your cultural and creative business here you could benefit from:

- Growing creative networks such as Idea13 and those hosted through Metal and TAP
- Development opportunities with outstanding locally based education providers including the University of Essex, South Essex College and Southend Adult Community College
- Supply chain opportunities to local businesses, events and those further afield
- International transport links via London Southend Airport
- National transport links via the road and rail network
- Potential for enhanced broadband through the upgraded schools network.



For more information call: **01702 215022**

Email: economicd@southend.gov.uk

www.investinsouthend.co.uk