

SOUTHEND BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

ECONOMY & TOURISM TEAM

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Welcome to 2018, we hope you have had an enjoyable break and a very successful 2017. We are looking forward to an exciting programme of activities, seminars and events to engage with and support our Southend Businesses.

We start the year with our “New Year, New Finance” Budget Briefing on the 18th January at the Holiday Inn at Southend Airport. Southend Borough Council will be presenting their draft budget for review. Joe Chesterton, the Finance Director will be presenting the plan and along with Ali Griffin, the Chief Executive, be available to answer any questions raised. Please click [here](#) to book your place.

Businesses in Southend-on-Sea turned on the sparkle this year as they prepared for Christmas as residents and visitors to the Borough were treated to some fantastic Christmas windows imaginatively decorated to inspire and delight shoppers. In celebration of all this hard work Visit Southend invited shoppers to vote for their favourite festive business, who they believed had really captured the Christmas spirit. Voters registered their votes on the www.VisitSouthend.co.uk site and in doing so had the chance to win a cream tea for two at the The [Royal Hotel](#), Southend. The lucky voter who was randomly selected from all the public votes received was Susan Dodds from Shoebury.

In recognition of the range of shopping locations across Southend-on-Sea, prizes were offered to six businesses who represented: Southend-on-Sea, Leigh-on-Sea, Southchurch, Thorpe Bay/Shoebury, Westcliff-on-Sea and Eastwood.

A high number of votes were cast this year and we are now pleased to announce the six winners: [SalonT](#) in Southend-on-Sea, [Pride & Glory Tattoo](#) in Leigh, [Quinn's of Thorpe Bay](#) in Thorpe/Shoebury, [ChantillyLace Bridal](#) in Westcliff, [Artability](#) in Eastwood, [TOGGZ](#) in Southchurch.

These well-deserved winners have been invited to a celebration event on 11 January where the overall winner will be announced. The overall winner will receive a FREE promotional video courtesy of [Blatella Films](#) which we hope will help them to continue to grow their business, while the locality winners will all receive a voucher for a relaxing Afternoon tea for two which will no doubt be appreciated after all the hard work leading up to Christmas. You can take a look at the winning windows and let us know what they think by emailing economicd@southend.gov.uk.

The next SBP briefing will be taking place at the Park Inn Southend on Thursday March 22nd from 7:30am – 10am. The Keynote speakers will include Mark Williams from IMS based in Shoebury and an update on the New Thames Crossing which is key to improving logistics in the South East. Southend Borough Council will be represented on the Q&A for your questions. Please click to [book a place](#).

Information about the new Lower Thames Crossing can be found on their [website](#).

There is a new Southend project called 'Motion Hub', through this project Southend has electric pool cars and a car club that's available to anyone in the town. Click [here](#) to find out more. There is also a [bike hire scheme](#) you may have seen outside the Civic and on City Beach. To find out more about these schemes click [here](#).

Finally Southend is asking "For help in Shaping the future of Southend" to have your say as a business, resident, or visitor please click on the [link](#).

Businesses who are registered with the Southend Business Partnership receive a monthly newsletter and advance information about what is happening in Southend that could affect businesses, to register your interest please email economicd@southend.gov.uk with your name, business name and contact details.

Don't forget to follow the team on twitter @businessonseas, [facebook](#), the Business Southend website www.businesssouthend.co.uk or sign up to our [Linked-In](#) group for more information and business opportunities.

Murray Foster

Events/Workshops

- New Year New Finance – Southend Council Budget Briefing 2018 – Thursday 18 January 2018 7:30 – 10:30am at the Holiday Inn Southend. Book your place [here](#).
- Southend Business Partnership Briefing - Thursday 22 March 2018, 7:30am – 10am at the Park Inn Southend, please book your place [here](#).
- The Business Bites Business Growth “Working Lunch” Programme - Wednesday 17 January 2018 12:00 – 14:00, book [here](#).
- GDPR (The New Data Protection LAW) Interactive Training - Thursday 18 January 2018, 9am-1:30pm at Roots Hall Stadium, book [here](#).
- How to bid for Council Business – Tuesday 23 January 2018, 9:30-11am at The Hive Southend, to book please click [here](#).
- Essex Police CYBER CRIME Roadshow - Interactive "Live Hack", Data Security – Tuesday 30 January 2018, 1-4pm at Roots Hall Stadium, book [here](#).
- BEST Essex Business Show – Thursday 8 February 2018, 10.00 am - 3.00 pm at Hylands House, book [here](#).
- The Business Bites Business Growth “Working Lunch” Programme – Wednesday 21 February 2018, 12-2:30pm at The Hive Southend, to book please click [here](#).
- IOSH Managing Safely – Essex – Monday 26 – Wednesday 28 February 2018, 9am – 5pm at The Hive Southend, book [here](#).
- Becoming a Council supplier and Tendering for contracts workshop – Tuesday 17 April 2018, 9:30-11am at The Hive Southend, to book please click [here](#).
- How to bid for Council Business – Wednesday 2 May 2018, 9:30-11am at The Hive Southend, to book please click [here](#).
- For information about business support, networking events, funding opportunities, workshops and much more please visit <http://www.bestgrowthhub.org.uk/>
- New events programme at the Hive www.thehive.org.uk/events

Networking

- A Creative and Digital networking event has been planned on Tuesday 20 February 2018 at the Twenty One on the Southend seafront. For further details and booking a place please click [here](#).
- Social Enterprise/CIC Networking Event – Wednesday 21 February 2018, 9:30-11am at The Hive Southend, to book please click [here](#).
- iSocialCircle.com is a new kind of social networking website. An ethical one with real social responsibility. Our mission statement is to “make social networking social”. We will be holding a silent auction with lots of signed memorabilia from well known A-list celebrities! check it out here! <http://isocialcircle.com/wp-content/auction-lot-brochure.pdf>
- OMNI Business networking, at The Saxon King, Priory Crescent, Southend on Sea, on Tuesday 9th January, then every fortnight. Book [here](#).
- Saxons Business Networking Event – Friday 12 January 2018, 10am-12pm at Southend Rugby Football Club, book [here](#).
- FSBCConnect Southend Networking – Wednesday 17 January 2018, 7:30-9:30am at The Saxon King, book [here](#).

- Networking and Cake with CDL Print Solutions – Friday 23 February 2018, 10am – 12pm at The Hive Southend, book [here](#).
- View [the Best Growth Hub Website for](#) further networking opportunities

Funding Opportunities

- [European Grant Funding](#) up to £20k for start-ups and growing SMEs to assist with capital asset purchases to support business growth.
- [BEST Business Growth hub](#) – for business support, advice and funding support.
- South Essex Business Boost (SEBB) Funding– 30% grant funding up to the value of £10k grant for capital expenditure. Perfect if you need to expand your business. For more information click [here](#)
- [Applications for Pitch@Palace 9.0 are now open](#). The explosion of Big Data has created opportunity, but also risk. Generating, capturing, and analysing large datasets has given rise to artificial intelligence tools and machine learning, blockchain and cryptocurrencies, and has given companies profound new scope to understand and serve their customers. However, the proliferation of powerful datasets raises critical concerns around the future of privacy, security, and defence. Pitch@Palace 9.0 will explore this world, and discover entrepreneurs and companies that have identified opportunity in the following areas: Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, IoT, Cyber-security, Blockchain, Defence, Cloud, 3D Printing

Other Information

- Southend Trading Standards give free advice to businesses on generic compliance enquiries while promoting the comprehensive online resource for all TS compliance matters at <https://www.businesscompanion.info/> . They operate a charging system for ‘comprehensive advice’ which will represent a more specific and detailed explanation to more complex business enquiries and offer some dispensation for micro businesses and SMEs. Contact Richard Layzell for more information on richardlayzell@southend.gov.uk
- GFE South and Laser Learning Awards are delighted to announce the launch of the new Level 2 Certificate in Skills for Working in the Creative and Cultural Industries. For further information please contact info@gfesouth.co.uk
- MIND are offering a wide range of services including [mental health training](#), [counselling services](#) and [supported housing](#). South East and Central Essex Mind, 112a Southchurch Road, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS1 2LX. www.seandcessexmind.org.uk/business
- The **Enterprise Adviser Network** aims to increase engagement between employers and schools so that young people have a better understanding of the world or work. Business volunteers are matched with schools to provide advice on the schools/colleges careers provision. For further details visit [The Careers and Enterprise Company website](#) or contact Hyla Grimwade, hylagrimwade@southend.gov.uk, 01702 534253
- Prevent is the Government initiative to identify individuals at risk of radicalisation. If you have any concerns about a member of staff or someone you meet in connection with your business then please contact **0800 789 321** or Essex Police.
- A [Creative and digital Facebook page](#) has been created across Southend and Thurrock for Networking and sharing ideas why not request to join?

- Enterprise Europe Network helps ambitious businesses innovate and grow internationally, providing FREE advice on access to contacts, information and funding. Currently they are running a 2018 predictions campaign on Brexit, Innovation, GDPR, and Cyber security etc. To read the full blog post please visit [here](#).
- Rethink Mental Illness Support Together Southend aims is to improve mental wellbeing and recovery, to break down barriers such as stigmas and social taboos and to encourage empowerment for those over the age of 18 with lived experience of mental health within and outside of Southend. They meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 7-9pm at Balmoral Community Centre, Southend-on-Sea.

If you have events or information you would like us to include in the newsletter then please email us on economicd@southend.gov.uk