

SOUTHEND BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

ECONOMY & TOURISM TEAM

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November 2017



We are looking forward to the Business briefing on Thursday 16th Nov at the Holiday Inn, Southend Airport from 8am – 10am. (Registration from 7:30am) We have some inspirational speakers so are keen to hear from them and to hear about their future plans. [Please click to book.](#)

We have also had fabulous news this week when the Southend BID ballot showed that the Southend Businesses had voted for the BID to continue for a further five years, allowing them to extend the work they have been doing to improve the High Street and Seafront area.

Our Leigh on Sea Traders have been working together to support some very important charities this year as Leigh worked to raise awareness and funds for the Lady McAdden Breast Cancer Charity.

We are now all poised for the Christmas trading period which means so much to many of our local businesses. In support of this there will be a Small Business Saturday, 2nd December, to promote independent traders across Southend Borough. Traders are all asked to register with the [national campaign](#) in order to receive a promotional pack. We will then be asking the public to visit their local independent traders in order to be entered into a prize draw. Traders too will have the opportunity to enter a prize draw. More details will follow.

Southend Festivities will start formally with the Christmas Lights Switch on Saturday 18th November, from 2pm to 4:30pm. Host Dom Atkins will be introducing musicians to perform on the main stage at Victoria Circus, after which Heart Essex stars Martin and Su will take over to introduce an amazing line up of acts. You will find a Christmas Market, Farmers Market and events in both the Victoria and Royals Shopping Centres. The fantastic Saturday Seafront Fireworks come to an end on the 18th November so make the most of the final sessions.

Southend is working hard to reduce its carbon footprint and businesses too can do this with help from the Locase grants team who are offering 40% grants for any project which reduces energy consumption. So businesses get a double win with money to complete the enhancements, as well as longer term energy savings. Why not contact the BEST Business Growth Team for more information on what [grants are available.](#)

SUNRISE (Sustainable Urban Neighbourhoods Research and Implementation Support in Europe) is an action research project that aims to develop, implement, assess and facilitate co-learning about new, collaborative ways to address common urban mobility challenges. We will run highly participatory “co-creation” processes with residents and stakeholders to improve the public realm along London Road (from College Way to Victoria Circus) and Victoria Circus. To get involved, please email krithikamesh@southend.gov.uk or justinstyles@southend.gov.uk.

Better Queensway is a Southend Borough Council Scheme to transform a significant area of Southend with quality housing, outdoor space and improvements to the transport network. Southend are inviting residents and businesses to comment on these proposals, so please [take a look](#).

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council is continuing to consult on Ambition Southend, a Skills and Labour Market Strategy for Southend-on-Sea. The strategies aim is to enable an efficient, effective labour market with clear, accessible career pathways for residents, which are able to respond to emerging economic risks and opportunities.

All comments must be received by 17:00 on Friday 22nd December 2017. Please visit www.southend.gov.uk/ambitionsouthend for the consultation papers and further information.

Finally Southend is asking “What you want the Borough to look like in 2030” to have your say as a business, resident or visitor please click on the [link](#).

Don't forget to follow the team on twitter @businessonsea, [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

Chair of The Southend Business Partnership

Events/Workshops

- Southend [Business Partnership Briefing](#) - Thursday 16th November, 7:30am – 10am at the Holiday Inn at London Southend Airport, please book your place.
- [Masterclass: Maximise the value of your business](#). Monday 13th Nov, 5pm – 7pm at Anglia Ruskin University
- [Start Up Showcase](#), 16th November, The Hive. 20 exhibition stands and over 100 attendees expected
- [Tech City-Over-Sea](#), 30th November, The Hive. The focus of this event is exporting and promoting the Southend tech sector national and internationally
- [Chelmsford City Showcase for Business 15th Nov, 9am – 4pm](#)
- [Basildon Business Expo](#), 22nd November, Wat Tyler Conference Centre
- 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 for more information and booking for our events can be found on our events page on our website: www.thehive.org.uk/events

Networking

- A new group is launching on the first Wednesday of each month called [#RethinkMentalIllnessSupportTogetherSouthend](#) which will be meeting [on Wednesday 13th December, 7-9pm](#) at Balmoral Community Centre, Salisbury Ave, Southend-on-Sea, Westcliff-on-Sea, SS0 7AU. No need to book, all welcome. Refreshments will be provided. The meetings will continue on the second Wednesday of each month, same time, same place.
- View the [Business on Sea 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 Funding – 30% grant funding up to the value of £10k grant for capital expenditure. Perfect if you need to expand your business. Contact the [BEST Business Growth hub](#)

Other Information

- 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
- Nesta have released a data led report on the state of small businesses in the UK with an [interactive website](#).

Other Information - continued

- Prevent is the Government initiative to identify individuals at risk of radicalisation. Schools have received training on how to identify pupils at risk but the same principles apply to businesses. If you have any concerns about a member of staff or someone you meet in connection with your business then please contact the police on 101 or 999 depending on the [nature of your concern](#).
- Does your business invest in young people? If so why not apply for the [liYP Award](#) to demonstrate to your customers and the wider community your company's commitment to investing in and supporting young people into employment.
- Southend Borough Council is consulting on Ambition Southend, a Skills and Labour Market Strategy for Southend-on-Sea. The public consultation closes on the 22nd December 2017. For more information and the consultation papers, visit southend.gov.uk/ambitionsouthend
- A [Creative and digital Facebook page](#) has been created across Southend and Thurrock for Networking and sharing ideas why not request to join?

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