

# SOUTHEND BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

## ECONOMY & TOURISM TEAM

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This December we had a fantastic amount of local businesses taking part in Small Business Saturday. Across the whole of Southend local businesses decorated their premises fit for Christmas and hosted various offers and activities to support the national initiative. Furthermore, we were delighted to have over 100 entries into the Best Festive Business competition hosted by Southend Council.

As many of you would have heard a new funding opportunity has been made available to businesses which are interested in cutting emissions and are located within the South East. We are delighted that the first Southend business to benefit from LoCASE is Surgical Holdings, more information on LoCASE can be found below.

With the New Year fast approaching there will be another New Year New Finance Budget Briefing on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2017. During the briefing you will get the chance to hear about the 2017/2018 budget for Southend from Councillor John Lamb, Rob Tinlin, Chief Executive of Southend Borough Council and Joe Chesterton, Head of Finance for Southend Borough Council. We are inviting all businesses to this briefing to find out how the budget might impact your business, to book your place click [here](#)

On January 18<sup>th</sup> the BEST Growth Hub is hosting The BEST Essex Business Show 2017. It is the only free local event that brings together all publicly funded business support for small and medium sized businesses in Essex. Whether you are a well-established business looking to grow, or your business plans are in the early stages, or even just an idea, there is something for every entrepreneur or budding entrepreneur. To book your place click [here](#)

Finally I would like to wish you all a very merry festive period and a Happy New Year!

For information about business support, networking events, funding opportunities, workshops and much more please visit [www.businessonsea.co.uk](http://www.businessonsea.co.uk) this is an online marketplace to support businesses.

Don't forget to follow the team on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and sign up to our [Linked-In](#) group for more information and business opportunities.

*Murray Foster*

Chair of the Southend Business Partnership

### NETWORKING

There are lots of networking events run in Southend and they are a great way to meet new customers and valuable contacts.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

### FUNDING

There are different funding opportunities available to businesses in the local area. These are constantly changing and being updated so click the following link for more information.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

# WHAT'S GOING ON?

EVENTS, BRIEFINGS & WORKSHOPS



## DOUBLE WHAMMY NETWORKING 17/01/2017

Fantastic networking event sponsored by the Arlington Ballroom. Tickets include a continental breakfast of croissants with free flow tea and coffee.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



## BEST ESSEX BUSINESS SHOW 18/01/2017

The only free local event that brings together all publicly funded business support for small and medium sized businesses in Essex. Open to all, whether you are established or have had your first business idea.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



## SEO WORKSHOP 18/01/2017

A practical session which will guide you through good SEO practices to help you boost your business's online profile.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



## TIME MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP 18/01/2017

What is time management? How it can make a big difference to your results? How to balance work and life? & The difference between being efficient and being effective.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



## NEW YEAR NEW FINANCE 19/01/2017

The briefing will provide you with an insight of the 2017/18 budget which will soon be set for Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and what this will mean to your business.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



## PROJECT & EVENT MANAGEMENT 24/01/2017

This workshop includes key aspects involved in managing and running a successful event or project, strategic planning, risk management & other vital hints and tips.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

# facebook

## FACEBOOK FOR BUSINESSES 26/01/2017

In this practical workshop you will learn how to set up a business page, how to get likes, what to post and when and what the other options are for a business to get noticed on Facebook.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



## APPRENTICESHIP LEVY BRIEFING 01/02/2017

Latest information on the government's apprenticeship agenda, exploring how we can collaborate as employers, maximise the levy and develop a skilled Southend workforce for the future.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



## MORE WORKSHOPS AND WEBINARS

Many more free workshops and webinars are available across Essex including : Don't manage absence manage attendance, Which social media for your business, Facebook for beginners & Bidding and tendering.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



**BEST**  
FOR BUSINESS SOLUTIONS  
Business Essex, Southend and Thurrock

### BEST GROWTH HUB

The BEST Growth Hub helps businesses realise their growth potential. Essex businesses of all sizes, from innovative young enterprises to long-established firms, can access a business support service from the BEST Growth Hub.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



### LoCASE FUNDING

LoCASE provide professional advice, support and match funded grants helping businesses to reduce energy usage, lower Carbon emissions and grow your business. Available to small and medium sized businesses across Thurrock, Southend, Essex, Kent, Medway and East Sussex.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



### YOUR CREATIVE NETWORK

Are you a Creative or Cultural Business? If you are then why don't you join the South East Your Creative Network Group which has regular events, workshops and funding opportunities.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



### RETAIL SPACE

Would you like to hire retail space in the Civic Centre? With booking fees starting from £35.00 & with access to 1500 staff & residents every weekday, then you can hire the space from 11am until 3pm.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



### BUSINESS INNOVATION VOUCHERS

The University of Essex are offering innovation vouchers of up to the value of £5,000 which small & medium sized businesses can use to pay for experts time – giving you tailored support. The University will discuss your company needs & requirements.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



### CAN YOU OFFER WORK EXPERIENCE?

Jobcentre Plus can help employers provide a positive experience of work for young jobseekers and develop local talent and skills. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to grow your business.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

# THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM OFFERS THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT TO BUSINESSES:

- **Establishing your business in Southend-on-Sea:** connecting you with supply chain and local business networks
- **Regulatory advice:** we can connect you with local regulators like food hygiene, health and safety officers, licensing, trading standards and Essex Fire and Rescue Service.
- **Planning:** we can connect you with our planning team to ensure any building development is speedily actioned
- **Working on your behalf:** connecting you with the right people involving a diverse range of services such as transport, infrastructure issues and signage
- **Funding and Finance:** Information and advice on funding and finance incentives to grow your business
- **Access:** the team can provide you with useful contacts in other departments such as Business Rates, along with other stakeholders and partners, in order that you have the correct access of support your business requires.
- **Market and business intelligence:** providing you with access to research and local economic data
- **Recruitment:** connecting you with those that can help attract the right skills to your businesses, help with training and development of staff and with apprenticeships opportunities
- **Support is there:** our team will stay in touch with you, establishing strong relationships, proactively resolving any issues and helping you grow your business in Southend-on-Sea
- **Marketing:** Help with raising the profile of your business in Southend-on-Sea through our networks to the local business community

