

SOUTHEND BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

ECONOMY & TOURISM TEAM

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Welcome to 2017 and I hope that you all had an enjoyable Christmas break. With the New Year brings new opportunities, workshops and seminars so make sure not to miss out.

In recent news we are pleased to hear that **Southend's Business Improvement District** (Southend BID) has received backing from Southend-on-Sea Borough Council for the next five years. The BID was formed in 2013 to help raise the local, regional and national profile of Southend and gain direct input from the local business community in order to help improve the High Street, Town Centre and Seafont. Featured recently in Southend Echo, they have been described as an asset to the town. For further information on Southend BID, visit the website [here](#).

We have lots of events this month including our **New Year New Finance Budget Briefing** which will be hosted at The Park Inn Palace on Thursday 19th January. There are only a few spaces left so make sure to [book](#) your place soon to avoid missing out. Another fantastic event is the **BEST Essex Business Show** at Hylands House, Chelmsford on 18th January, again spaces are limited so register your place [here](#).

Also with the **Apprenticeship Levy** starting in April, the Economic Development Team has arranged a workshop for all local businesses on 1st February. During this workshop you will be able to hear the latest information on the government's apprenticeship agenda, exploring how businesses can collaborate as employers to maximise the levy and develop a skilled Southend workforce for the future. To find out more and book your place click [here](#).

Finally, as most of you will be aware **The Airport Business Park Southend** is currently underway, an extremely exciting project which will create new opportunities for Southend and will support the economic prosperity of the local and wider region. The park will benefit from next generation connectivity and offers an exciting range of business uses including; office schemes, industrial warehousing, a hotel facility and an innovation centre, for more information click [here](#).

To hear more about business support, networking events, funding opportunities, workshops and much more please visit 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 updates 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



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](#)

Search Engine Optimisation

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](#)



ESSEX POLICE PRESENTATION 19/01/2017

Are you looking for employees who can be trusted, have great integrity, who are confident in dealing with difficult customers and who always try to do the right thing? If so, have you thought about employing a Constable?

[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
LOW CARBON ACROSS
THE SOUTH EAST



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

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](#)

jobcentreplus

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

