

SOUTHEND BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

ECONOMY & TOURISM TEAM

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It was good to see over 100 people attending the last Southend Business Briefing at The Cliffs Pavilion. I hope you will all be able to attend the next briefing on **16th November at the Holiday Inn at the Airport**, which will be part of Global Entrepreneurship Week. We will be confirming the keynote speakers in the coming weeks but can confirm that Ali Griffin, Southend on Sea Borough Council will be attending with a brief update and to answer questions in the Q&A as promised. Please save the date in your diary and book a [place](#).

Southend has been celebrating 125 years since the incorporation of the Borough with a range of events. In addition, there has been some exciting news with the announcements that ADP have been commissioned to design a new Pavilion on the Pier and a [£2m scheme](#) to improve an important gateway to Southend High Street is being presented to the Council's Cabinet.

Congratulations to Rossi Ice Cream and the Castle Pub who join the Gleneagles Guest House and the Hood Group on successfully obtaining a Gold Southend Business & Community Charter Award, in recognition of their excellent support and engagement within our local community. For more information about all Charter Award winners and how to apply [click here](#).

[The Free Seafront Fireworks](#) has been further developed this year and will start on 7th October at 7:30pm and run each Saturday until the 19th November.

Businesses seeking funding for expansion, are invited to the [South East Business Boost](#) (SEBB) Launch event on Thursday 12th Oct at London Southend Airport 8am – 10am where grants of up to £10k are available for up to 30% of the cost of capital investment. While those wanting to lower energy costs are invited to [contact Locase](#).

Ambition Southend – the skills strategy consultation for Southend opens on Monday 2nd October and businesses and residents are being asked to comment on this document that sets out Southend's Strategy for developing a labour market that is able to respond to emerging economic risks and opportunities. Your feedback should be sent to economicd@southend.gov.uk.

Employers across South Essex are now able to apply for free cycle parking stands to encourage employees to cycle to work and customers to get to you by bike if appropriate. To apply for free cycle parking, visit the [Park That Bike](#) website or phone 01594 564 344 and ask for an application form.

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

- For information about business support, networking events, funding opportunities, workshops and much more please visit <http://www.bestgrowthhub.org.uk/>
- Southend [Business Partnership Briefing](#) - Thursday 16th November, 7:30am – 10am at the Holiday Inn at London Southend Airport, please book your place.
- SEBB Launch event to find out about 30% grant funding for Capital purchases on 12th October 8am – 10am. Please book a [place](#).
- FSB Essex Small Business Expo, Colchester: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/fsb-small-business-expo-2017-tickets-32653766294?aff=erellivmlt>
- [Procurement workshop](#) 19th October 9am – 10am by Lee White at The Hive
- **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
- **Wednesday 25th Oct [Blogging and SEO for Business](#) by Chambers of Commerce**
- Hear how some of the most successful manufacturing and engineering firms, from our region, have [overcome the barriers to International trade](#) and made a success of selling into:
 - South America
 - China
 - Middle East

Networking

- The [Westcliff Breakfast Business](#) Networking Meeting. /Wednesday 4th Oct 7:30am – 9am
- [Southend Peers – Success on Sea](#): Wed 11th Oct 6pm – 9:30pm
- University of Essex, Midweek Mixer 18th October. 5 – 6:30pm at The iLab, The Gateway Building Elmer Approach SS1 1LW. Contact hleath@essex.ac.uk to book
- [BNI Southend Networking](#) events are a great way to grow your business. Meetings take place every Friday morning at The Arlington Ballroom.
- New networking event for people from the Creative and Digital sector on 25th October from 3pm – 5pm at the Thameside Coffee Shop. [Please register for the event.](#)

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 useful information

- Southend has now become a Gigabit City, if you believe faster connectivity could help your business, then please take a look at the [CityFibre page](#) to see how you can connect to 4G & 5G services. Southend has all the infrastructure in place, so businesses can now connect to this in order to gain competitive advantage.
- 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.
Work experience enables young, unemployed people to volunteer for placements lasting between 2 and 8 weeks. It's open to young people who are aged 16 to 24 years old and, in some cases, people aged 25 and over who don't have any recent work history.
To find out more contact Southend Jobcentre Employer Adviser Team on 01702 575797 or email southend.recruitmentadvisers@dwp.gsi.gov.uk
- [Mayoral Charity Events](#) are running through out the year raising money to support great events.
- A new [Creative and digital Facebook page](#) has been created across Southend and Thurrock for Networking and sharing ideas why not request to join?
- South Essex College are launching a **Supported Internship programme**, aimed at learners with additional needs and ready for the world of work. Each learner will be allocated a Job Coach and specific Support Plan, enabling them to succeed in a work environment. SEC are looking for supportive employers, with realistic opportunities to come on board, to give a learner the support and chance to succeed in the world of work. To find out more, please contact Paul Butler Paul.Butler@southessex.ac.uk
- Rethink Mental Illness is currently recruiting for a voluntary Peer Support Group Co-Ordinator to promote and implement peer support group meetings. They are seeking a business/professional person with an understanding of mental health to join them as a Co-ordinator. Contact samuel.strudwick@rethink.org for more information.
- New information from Government regarding the [new GCSE qualifications](#) to enable to employers to understand what the new grades mean.

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