

Brentwood Borough Council - Helping to grow your business

GRANT FUNDING TO SUPPORT BRENTWOOD'S RURAL BUSINESSES

£1.8 million grant funding is available until 2020 from the Essex Rivers LEADER European programme. The eligible areas for this programme include rural parts of Brentwood, Colchester, Chelmsford, Braintree, Rochford and Maldon local authority areas.

The programme is open to farmers, foresters, small holders, rural businesses (micro and small) and rural communities. Applicants can apply for grants of a minimum £10,000 to a maximum of £100,000, subject to meeting the criteria.

For more information please visit:

www.essexrivers.co.uk

BEST GROWTH HUB - FREE BUSINESS ADVICE & TRAINING

BEST Growth Hub can provide free one-to-one business advice to support you in reviewing your business and suggest ideas for its development to increase productivity. A range of free training workshops are also available on an array of subjects including marketing, how to stay ahead of competitors, bookkeeping, presentation skills and networking.

To book your one-to-one business advice telephone **01707 417 765**, email info@bestgrowthhub.org.uk or please visit:

www.bestgrowthhub.org.uk

LOCASE – LOW CARBON ACROSS THE SOUTH EAST - BUSINESS GRANTS & ADVICE

THE EU funded LOCASE project can provide businesses with match funded grants of up to £10,000 to help cover the cost of energy efficiency measures for any small or medium business and help businesses in the low carbon sector to expand. Grants can help purchase equipment and machinery, pay for research and development, marketing and website development and business development consultancy.

To find out more email: business@thurrock.gov.uk or go to www.locase.co.uk

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ESSEX FUNDING AND INVESTMENT WEBSITE

Run by the County Council's Funding and Investment Team, the Essex Funding and Investment website provides a one stop shop for organisations looking to access funding from across the UK and Europe. Since 2013, the Funding and Investment Team has successfully secured over £64 million worth of funding for Council, voluntary and community sector organisations, public sector bodies and businesses across Essex.

For more information or to discuss your needs with a member of the team contact fit@essex.gov.uk or visit:

funding-investment.essex.gov.uk

GETSET FOR GROWTH - FREE WORKSHOPS AND SURGERIES

GetSet for Growth is a specialist service offering fully funded marketing and finance expertise to ambitious businesses with the potential to grow, thanks to the Regional Growth Fund. Through access to specialist master classes and the option of hands on 1:1 advice, their team of experts help businesses: 1) Raise the money they need to take their business forward 2) Create, develop and strengthen their marketing and sales strategy 3) Develop world-class skills and knowledge 4) Become investment ready.

To book your one-to-one business advice or specialist workshop telephone **0800 917 9326**, email eastofengland@getsetforgrowth.com or please visit

www.getsetforgrowth.com

SUPERFAST BROADBAND FOR BRENTWOOD BUSINESSES

Essex County Council is leading the Superfast Essex Broadband project, which is being rolled out across the County. This investment will improve the broadband infrastructure available for Brentwood businesses. The aim is for 90% of the County to have access to Superfast Broadband of more than 24Mbps by 2019. This project will enable Brentwood businesses to increase their efficiency and productivity.

For more information on how you can benefit from this initiative please visit

www.superfastessex.org/forbusiness

KEEP+ PROGRAMME: GRANT FUNDING TO SUPPORT SME INNOVATION AND GROWTH

KEEP+ Partnership, led by Anglia Ruskin University has secured £9.4m from the European Regional Development Fund to support businesses to innovate and grow. The funding will enable small and medium-sized enterprises across the East and the South East of England to connect with the expertise of Universities.

Businesses in Brentwood Borough that are interested in this opportunity should contact the Business Services support team by email on rdservices@anglia.ac.uk or by phone on 01223 695 878. For more information visit:

www.anglia.ac.uk/business-employers/knowledge-exchange/keep-plus

APPRENTICESHIP PROMOTION AND BROKERAGE HUB

The Hub provides free apprenticeship information and advice to businesses and young people in the Brentwood borough.

Operated by Essex County Council, the Hub promotes apprenticeships as a post 16 option to young people in years 11-13 and work with employers to offer high quality apprenticeship opportunities.

The Apprenticeship Promotion and Brokerage Hub can support employers thinking of recruiting an apprentice by;

- Providing advice on recruiting an apprentice
- Offering interview facilities
- Coordinating interviews between the business and apprentice
- Promoting vacancies directly to schools leavers in the local area
- Providing on-going support once the apprentice is recruited

For more information or to register an apprenticeship opportunity; please call 03330 139858 or email apprenticeships@essex.gov.uk.

<http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Apprenticeships/Pages/Employers.aspx>

HELP WITH HEALTH AND SAFETY

Brentwood Borough Council has developed the Safer Workplace, Better Business pack to support businesses in complying with their legal duties in order to maintain safe work places and practices.

To download your free pack go to:

www.brentwood.gov.uk/healthandsafety

FOOD HYGIENE TRAINING

Do you need to refresh your food hygiene knowledge? Was your Level 2 Food Hygiene Course 3 years ago or more? If so Brentwood Borough Council can offer you a CIEH Level 2 Award Course in Food Safety to provide you with an understanding of the importance of safety procedures and reporting; effective personal hygiene to food safety; keeping work areas clean and hygienic; identifying sources and risks for food safety and how to keep food safe.

For more information go to:

www.brentwood.gov.uk/index.php?cid=1095

BRENTWOOD BOROUGH COUNCIL TRADE WASTE SERVICES

All businesses have a legal duty of care to take all reasonable steps to keep waste safe. Businesses also have a responsibility to dispose of their waste correctly and to ensure it is only passed to an authorised registered waste carrier for transportation and disposal.

Did you know that Brentwood Borough Council offer a competitive trade waste collection service?

The main advantages of our service are: 1) No hidden extras 2) No VAT 3) You are not tied into lengthy contracts 4) Local service from a trusted provider

For more information on our Trade Waste service, please visit:

www.brentwood.gov.uk/tradewaste

BRENTWOOD BOROUGH RENAISSANCE GROUP

The Renaissance Group is a non-statutory body of Brentwood Borough Council and in partnership with the business community aims to attract interest in the Town Centre and borough wide shopping areas, support business and economic growth, improve the local environment, increase footfall and attract visitors. Projects currently supported include the Shenfield Christmas Fair and Brentwood Lighting Up

For full information or interest in joining a Local Business Trade Cluster visit the website:

www.brentwoodrenaissance.co.uk

If you would like to be included on our business directory to receive details of future business events and initiatives, or for any other enquiries, please email business@brentwood.gov.uk