

# SOUTHEND BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

## ECONOMY & TOURISM TEAM

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**October 2018**



Thank you everyone for attending the Southend Business Partnership Briefing in September which was themed around MedTech and Health. I think you will agree we had some very informative presentations from our speakers and these will be posted on our website for anyone to see if they would like to refer to them in the future. This is great news for the town and although Tourism only represents part of our economic prosperity it is important to recognise the positive contribution this is making and for us to celebrate living and working in such a great location.

Our next briefing will be on Wednesday 14th November and will be hosted at The Cliffs Pavilion in Southend. As usual the presentations presentations will start at 8:30am and continue till 10am with Networking and refreshments from 7:30am. Our theme for the November Briefing is Youth and our speakers are Joanne Giles, the Director of Apprenticeships at South Essex College; Syrie Cox, CEO of YMCA; Adam Davies from Palmers Solicitors who have been involved with a range of projects including: 60MM, Enterprise Adviser Network, Apprenticeships, Work Experience and Industry Champions; Dale Spiby, CEO Southend United Community Education Trust talking about the work they do to support young people and Ali Griffin the CEO of Southend on Sea Borough Council will cover how Southend is working to support the development of Skills. Please click [HERE](#) to book your place.

Today, the Lower Thames Crossing Team launched their ten week consultation so please take a look and feedback your views, as this is a really important strategic development for the area. The consultation finishes on the 20th December. Their website link is [www.lowerthamescrossing.co.uk/haveyoursay](http://www.lowerthamescrossing.co.uk/haveyoursay) - which contains all relevant consultation materials and project information as well as a consultation response portal for your say. In addition, you can download more pictures [here](#), and the fly-through video [here](#).

The Bell Junction Consultation has now closed but more information is available on the Southend on Sea Borough Council Portal, please click [here](#) to view further information.

LoCASE grants of 40% of costs up to £20k, are due to finish next year so businesses are encouraged to contact the team to see how a LoCASE grant could be used in their business to reduce energy costs and emissions. One recent development is that the grants can now be used to fund the purchase of Electric Cars as energy efficient alternatives to diesel and petrol cars, so please contact the team by emailing [business@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:business@thurrock.gov.uk) if you're interested. If businesses have already been approved for a grant they should contact the team to agree when the money will be spent asap.

Demand for the South East Business Boost (SEBB) grants remains high, as these grants support small business growth and employment. If you are an SME business and have a

growth idea for your business, please call the BEST Growth team for more information on 01702 417765 or [email](#).

Businesses are reminded that they can now get upto £3k off the installation costs of Ultra fast Gigabit Broadband connections through the Governments Broadband Voucher Scheme. Businesses can also combine their Vouchers to enable them to get Broadband in more digitally remote areas. Please click [here](#) for more details.

Social Enterprises and Socially responsible businesses are encouraged to register for Social Saturday on the 13th October by clicking [here](#) or contact [economicd@southend.gov.uk](mailto:economicd@southend.gov.uk) to register their interest as we now have a Steering Group formed to support this sector and want to make contact with Social Enterprises and socially responsible businesses.

Southend on Sea Borough Council will again be supporting Small Business Saturday on the 1st December and businesses are encouraged to register with Small Business Saturday by clicking [here](#), where you will be able to download or request promotional material to support this initiative. The council are offering free car parking on the day in the following seven car parks: Ilfracombe Avenue - Southchurch, North Road - Milton, Hamlet Court Road, Elm Road, North Street, Ceylon Road, and Thorpe Bay Broadway. There will also be filming of businesses on this day to support future promotion of local small businesses.

Southend will again be running a Festive Business Competition in the lead up to Christmas and businesses are encouraged to register for this by sending in a picture and some details of their business. These pictures will be posted on social media for the public to vote on. Previous years have featured some fantastic Christmas displays; so I very much look forward to seeing the entrants in this year's competition. Photos should be sent to [economicd@southend.gov.uk](mailto:economicd@southend.gov.uk).

We are currently helping the Cabinet Office, Digital Team to identify businesses in Southend where the business owner has English as a second language. This is part of the development of a new digital guide for businesses called 'Employ someone'. It's a gov.uk site. Please click here <https://www.gov.uk/employ-someone> or contact, Teresa Isaacs (Office for Product Safety and Standards) [teresa.isaacs@beis.gov.uk](mailto:teresa.isaacs@beis.gov.uk) for more information.

Disability Confident is designed to help employers improve how they recruit, retain and develop disabled employees. Local authorities, including Southend-on-Sea Borough Council, as well as MPs across the country have been set a '100 Day Community Challenge' by the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP), to work together and get more employers in their area signed up to the scheme. Becoming Disability Confident could help your business discover someone with talents that you just can't do without. To find out more about this initiative, please visit the Disability Confident website by clicking [here](#), or if you have any queries about the process of signing up please contact email by clicking [here](#).

Finally, every year Rightmove Ltd does a survey of the best place to live in the UK. Leigh on Sea has featured in the top and second place in this survey as the happiest place to live. Why not complete the survey and have your say on your local area by clicking [here](#).

Kind regards



**Chair of the Southend Business Partnership**

### Events/Workshops

- LoCASE Energy Efficiency Workshop Series - Tuesdays 16 October, 20 November 2018, 9:30-11:30am at The Hive Southend. Limited space book now [here](#).
- Tech City-on-Sea presents: Best practice when using passwords for security - Tuesday 5 February 2019, 10am - 12pm at The Hive Southend. Book [here](#).
- Conduct Effective International Market Research Webinar - Wednesday 17 October 2018, 10:30-11:15am. Book [here](#).
- Manufacturing Briefing - Tax and Trade, Thursday 18 October 2018, 8-11am at New Holland, Basildon. Book [here](#).
- #ThinkSelfEmployed Round Table - Friday 2 November 2018, 11am -1pm at The Hive Southend. Book [here](#).
- Southend Business Partnership Briefing - Wednesday 14 November 2018, 7:30am – 10am at Cliffs Pavilion, click to book your place [here](#).
- Southend Jobs Fair - Wednesday 28 November 2018, 10-2pm at Park Inn Palace Hotel Southend. To book click [here](#).
- Professional Boundaries - Business event - Thursday 13 December 2018, 7-9pm at the Jubilee Centre. To book click [here](#).
- Construction and Engineering Taster Day @SEC - Wednesday March 2019, 9:30am - 2:30pm at South Essex College Southend Campus. Book [here](#).
- 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 [www.thehive.org.uk/events](http://www.thehive.org.uk/events)

### Networking

- Build Your Business Contacts on the Wickford Estate, Tuesday 9 October 2018, 8-9:30am at Shotgate Café, Wickford. Book [here](#).
- 3 Chamber network meet-up - Wednesday 10 October 2018, 5:30-7:30pm at Rochford Hotel. To book click [here](#).
- South Essex HR Networking Club - Wednesday 10 October 2018, 8-10am at Little Havens Hospice Benfleet. To book click [here](#).
- Weekly Southend BNI meeting - Friday 12 October 2018, 6:30-9am at Holiday Inn Southend. To book click [here](#).
- Cathy Pacific Routes to Growth Asia Business Conference & Networking, Wednesday 11am -7pm at Shangri-La Hotel London. Free to attend book [here](#).
- #FSBConnect Southend Networking - Wednesday 17 October 2018, 7:30 - 9am at The Saxon King. To book click [here](#).
- Business BUZZ- Southend, Wednesday 24 October 2018, 10am - 12pm at Revolution, Queens Road Southend. To book click [here](#).
- Networking and Cake - Friday 26 October 2018, 10am - 12pm at The Hive Enterprise Centre. To book click [here](#).
- Angel Business Network - Monday 5 November 2018, 6-8pm at Café O Portugues. To book click [here](#).
- Indie Business Club Brunch - Monday 5 November 2018, 9:30am - 12:30pm at Frank & Lunas, Southend. To book click [here](#).
- The Westcliff Breakfast Business Networking Group, Wednesday 7 November 2018, 7:30-9am at My Kitchen in Westcliff. Book [here](#).
- View the [Best Growth Hub Website](#) and [Hive Enterprise Centre](#) for further networking opportunities.

## Funding Opportunities

- Short Breaks Grants for Disabled Children and Young People is open to families with children and young people who have a diagnosis of a disability or special educational needs, and who aged 0-18 or 19-25 and in receipt of a personal budget, and who live in the borough of Southend. The new round of application will be open in February 2019, please visit [SHIP website](#) for updates.
- Enterprise Grants will support organisations in England working in either the homelessness or youth sector to develop or grow their enterprising activity and earned income. Grants are available through the [Enterprise Development Programme](#), a five year, £40m programme funded by [Access - The Foundation for Social Investment](#). **Deadline** is June 2019. Apply [here](#).
- Businesses can claim up to £3,000 against the cost of fibre broadband connection either individually or as part of a group project. Residents can benefit from the scheme as part of a group project which also includes businesses, and can claim for a voucher of up to a value of £500. More details on GBVS can be found [here](#).
- Low Carbon Across the South East (LoCASE) provide professional advice and match funded grants (up to £20K) helping businesses to reduce energy usage, lower carbon emissions and grow your businesses. [Read more.](#)
- South East Business Boost (SEBB) programme can reimburse up to 30% of the cost of your capital & revenue purchase - up to a maximum grant value of £10,000. [Read more.](#)
- South East Cultural, Creative and Digital Sector (SECCADS) project provide sector specific business support and match funded grants (up to 20K). Details to come.
- Organisations can work with experts across the Universities of Essex, East Anglia, Kent, and the London School of Economics. Max grant £6,000, Apply by 31 September 2018. To find out more about the voucher and/or to apply contact [blgdataresearch@essex.ac.uk](mailto:blgdataresearch@essex.ac.uk)
- [BEST Business Growth hub](#) – for business support, advice and funding support.
- Essex for Business invites all to register to Funding Alerts and News for the Business Sector. To register please visit [here](#).

## Other Information

- The Southend Thursday General market is calling market traders to join the already diverse team. Priorities will be given to those who trade fresh meats, fishes and cheeses. To apply please click [here](#).
- Are you Disability Confident? The Scheme is designed to help employers improve how they recruit, retain and develop disabled employees. Being Disability Confident could help you discover someone your business just can't do without. To find out more and sign up please visit <https://disabilityconfident.campaign.gov.uk> or email [DisabilityandCareersStaffForum@southend.gov.uk](mailto:DisabilityandCareersStaffForum@southend.gov.uk)
- Calling for companies/aggregators who can source (from anywhere in the world) and supply plant, machinery, equipment and related services for food processing, manufacturing and agriculture sectors in Zimbabwe. Aid funded with minimal risk. If you can please contact Department of International Trade at [kantilal.patel@mobile.trade.gov.uk](mailto:kantilal.patel@mobile.trade.gov.uk)
- FREE bookings are offered to experience Virtual Reality Logistics Careers Showcase. Using the latest Oculus technology, DELICER IT is an experience designed to inform, entertain and inspire people about the logistics sector which has 8,000+ vacancies in Essex last year. To book your place please click [here](#) or email [info.vrlogistics@essex.gov.uk](mailto:info.vrlogistics@essex.gov.uk)
- Age Concern Southend is converting the former Havens in Hamlet Court Road into a thriving community space. To support the work you can BUY A BRICK for £50

(etched with your details and featured on the donor recognition wall ) and/or SPONSOR A SPACE for a ball park figure of £5,000 (you will get naming rights to the space, publicity opportunities plus other partnership possibilities). Call 01702 345373 or email [enquiry@acsos.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@acsos.co.uk)

- CXK offers a free service across Kent, East Sussex and Essex to support businesses and their employees with careers and skills advice to help retain, retrain and recruit older workers. To find the key facts please visit: <https://bit.ly/2wl8F0t> or follow them on Twitter/Facebook @CXKLtd
- Have your say on the Apprenticeship Levy for a business case to persuade the Government to change those rules. You can [access the questionnaire here](#).
- Reed in partnership with DWP is offering a wraparound service for long-term unemployed people to start and sustain work. You can refer or self-refer using the form online at [www.workroutes.co.uk](http://www.workroutes.co.uk) or calling the local office.
- If you run or work in a Social Enterprise in Southend and would like to be involved in a working group that is being set up to support SE then please contact [economicd@southend.gov.uk](mailto:economicd@southend.gov.uk) for more information and to register your interest. Social Saturday 2018 will be on Saturday 13 October.
- If you enjoy working with young people and sharing your life story, the 60 Minutes Mentor programme would like to hear from you. To find out more please contact [Rosie Powley](#).
- 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](#), or call 01702 534253.

**If you have events or information you would like us to include in the newsletter then please email us on [economicd@southend.gov.uk](mailto:economicd@southend.gov.uk)**