

SOUTHEND BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

MAY 2015



ECONOMY & TOURISM TEAM
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Southend-on-Sea has sprung into spring with a host of events this month for all. The Classic Car Breakfast which happens on the last Sunday of the month. There are three more events left for this year, with the next one on 17th May. Make sure you have your car registered to participate by [clicking here](#).

Next month, Southend-on-Sea sees it's first Maritime Festival on 6th and 7th June. There are a whole host of events, going on across the weekend. In addition, Southend-on-Sea as a community, show our support for our past, present and future armed forces at our Armed Forces Weekend on 27th-28th June. To find out more about either of these events visit www.visitsouthend.co.uk.

The next Southend Business Partnership briefing is on 18th June so make sure you are booked to attend. We are delighted to be able to host the event at London Southend Airport's new arrival terminal, with newly appointed Jon Horne, Managing Director of London Southend Airport presenting his vision for the continued growth of the airport. There will also be a business and funding marketplace showcase to give your business the opportunity to grow.

As always, our Partnership is keen to hear from local businesses on what we could do to help your business grow. If you have a topic or issue that you would like to see us address at a business briefing or similar, then let us know by contacting the Economic Development Team on: 01702 215022 or email economicd@southend.gov.uk.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next Southend Business Partnership Briefing on 18th June 2015.

Best regards

Murray Foster

Chairman of the Southend Business Partnership

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

In Southend we have a number of different networking events which can be a great way of finding new customers and meeting valuable business contacts.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

FUNDING/GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

There are plenty of ways for your business to gain a boost through grant and finance opportunities. Follow the link for more details on what's available to you.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

WHAT'S GOING ON?

EVENTS, BRIEFINGS & WORKSHOPS



THE HIVE: BUSINESS HUB

Come along on Tuesday 19th May, to an Open Day at The Hive, an brand new enterprise centre for new businesses. The Hive offers flexible space from hot-desking to renting more formal office space.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



COLLABORATE

The Your Creative Network event Collaborate is being held on 20th May at the Focal Point Gallery. Join us for a tour of the gallery, along with the opportunity to meet the rest of the Creative Network group.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



SBP BRIEFING

On Thursday 18th June 2015, Jon Horne, Managing Director of London Southend Airport, is our keynote speaker, who will present his vision on the continued growth of the airport overall business.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

You are invited to enter the Essex Business Excellence Awards, which is open to all private and public businesses that operate in Essex including charities. There are 9 categories to choose from, each with their own individual award.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



NETWORKING WORKSHOPS

Want to know how networking can help you? Or how to market your business and encourage staff with personal development? Well there's a number of workshops available for you and your business, throughout 2015/16.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



SOUTHEND CARNIVAL

Why not join the Carnival procession on 22nd August? It acts as a great advertising opportunity for your business and a team-building event for your employees. You can also help raise money for the charity of your choice.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

BUSINESS SPECIFICS

SUPPORT FOR YOUR BUSINESS



BROADBAND VOUCHERS

Does your business need to upgrade your technology to improve your services? Businesses in Southend can now apply for grants of up to £3,000 each to boost your broadband connection as part of a national voucher scheme.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



BUSINESS SOUTHEND

Are you looking for support to expand your business? Are you a start-up company seeking funding to get your idea off the ground? There's lots of opportunities and funding available to you and your business.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



YOUR CREATIVE NETWORK

A new networking group called 'Your Creative Network' has been set up by the Southend Economic Development team. This group is especially designed to support businesses in the creative and cultural industries.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



RETAIL RATE RELIEF

Available to ratepayers of certain retail properties with a rateable value of £50,000 or less that are wholly or mainly being used as shops, restaurants, cafes and drinking establishments in each of the years 2014/15 and 2015/16.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

A funding opportunity is available for your business! The Close Brothers Regional Growth Fund Asset Purchase Scheme is to provide grants to companies to enable them to purchase an asset which will in turn create or safeguard jobs.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



APPRENTICESHIPS

If you're recruiting or considering recruiting in the future, could the role be filled by a 16-24 year old, looking to start their career? There's a £1,500 Apprenticeship 16-24 Age Grant available to SMEs with a workforce of up to 50 employees.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



MARY PORTAS: SECRET SHOPPER

Retail expert, Mary Portas is back with her Channel 4 series "Mary Portas: Secret Shopper". She's here to help put customer service back at the heart of everything you do. If you run a retail or service business, then contact Mary by email mary@optomen.com or call 0203 227 5987.



TRAC APPRENTICESHIPS

TrAC is an employer-led initiative that has been set up with the specific aim of helping employers who aren't able to provide the 2-3 years employment typically required to help an apprentice finish their training.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)



HMRC WEBINARS

HMRC have announced May's webinar programme! The programme list includes PAYE, Self Employment and HMRC – what you need to know, business expenses and much much more...

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

