|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | usiness news, resources and advice |  |  | | --- | | [View this email in your browser](https://mailchi.mp/blaby/business-boost-september-2022-1807200?e=b35e37413a) | | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Business Newsletter. Your latest update for the district. | | |
| |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **In this edition...**   * Upcoming Job Fair - 6 March * Hospitality Businesses * Blaby District Tourism * Sustainable Business |  |  | | --- | | * Business Breakfast * LBAS * Supporting our young people * Funding opportunities | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Upcoming Job Fair** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Our next job fair is taking place on Wednesday 6 March and with most of our stalls already booked, it's certainly going to be another busy one!  It's a great opportunity for businesses within the district who have job opportunities to meet with job seekers looking for employment.   If you are interested in having one of the limited stalls still available at the March job fair taking place from 3pm - 5.30pm at the Blaby District Council Offices in the Council Chamber, please contact us at: **enterprisingblaby@blaby.gov.uk** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Hospitality Businesses in Blaby District** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Hospitality Businesses with Employment Opportunities**  Do you currently have vacancies which you need to fill? If you are within the hospitality sector, then we have an exciting opportunity for you to be part of a Hospitality Sector-based Work Academy Programme (SWAP) taking place from **Sunday** **4 February**, a collaboration with Blaby Council, the Department of Work and Pensions and the [Springboard Charity](https://springboard.uk.net/).   The SWAP programme will take place over 4 weeks, enabling job seekers the opportunity to experience different aspects of hospitality, benefit employability support, as well as gain skills and recognised qualifications along the way.   There are three ways you can be involved:   * Be part of the programme and provide participants the opportunity to experience the varied career opportunities hospitality can give, this could be a morning, lunchtime or afternoon and include event preparation, bar work, a busy or quiet service time or anything else that you can support with. * If you have a vacancy, you can let us know, participants who complete the SWAP have a guaranteed interview at the end of the programme. * Offer a work experience placement of 16 hours or more to a participant/s on the SWAP.  This will be week commencing **Monday 26 February**.   For further information then please contact the Work and Skills team on [enterprisingblaby@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:enterprisingblaby@blaby.gov.uk) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Blaby Tourism Partnership** | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | If you are a hospitality business within Blaby District, then why not become part of our Tourism Partnership?   There are many benefits to becoming one of our Tourism Partners. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | You could join other businesses in the sector at our quarterly meetings and networking sessions, receive email updates and be kept in the loop with training and support opportunities.  You can also be included in our Visit Blaby District promotion and marketing campaigns – check out @visitblaby on social media.  For more information, please email [leisure@blaby.gov.uk](mailto:leisure@blaby.gov.uk) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Sustainable Business** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | **The Net Zero Imperative is your Business ready for the future?**  The winds of change are blowing through the business world, and the driving force is sustainability. The concept of net zero, achieving a balance between greenhouse gas emissions and reduction, is no longer a fringe concern but a critical business imperative.  **Why is net zero so important for businesses?**  **It's the right thing to do:** Climate change poses a significant threat to the planet and its inhabitants. Businesses have a responsibility to be part of the solution, not the problem.  **It's good for business:** Consumers are increasingly making choices based on sustainability. Investing in net zero initiatives can improve brand reputation, attract new customers, and boost employee morale.  **It's future-proof:** Governments and regulatory bodies are actively implementing policies to drive down emissions. Early adopters of net zero strategies will be better positioned to navigate these changes and gain a competitive edge.  Understanding the needs and challenges of other businesses is crucial. That's why we've launched a short survey to gather insights from across the business landscape. Your participation will help us develop solutions that empower businesses of all sizes to thrive in a net zero future. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Take the Survey**](https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=bJULgGaKB06zSPCxzeoIsqB8nqpDcTRNsWhUQOf7s2ZUMTk4N0lUUE9UVDREWTU5TTFENkFFMlpOMC4u&origin=lprLink) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Business Breakfast** | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  |  |  | | --- | | Join our next business breakfast meeting with an interactive workshop that engages minds, sparks ideas, and ignites action towards a greener future!  Meet new people and speak to professionals to grow your business. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Mark your diaries for Wednesday 13 March from 8am - 10am**  From Green Bean to Green Machine: Brewing a Sustainable Future for Your Business.  The Survey above will help shape this Business Breakfast and will enable us to support you with your green agenda.  It's free and breakfast is included, it's a great way for your business to start the new year, but spaces are limited, so be quick and book your spot today! | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Book your place here**](https://www.blaby.gov.uk/business-licensing-and-investment/business-support/events-training-and-skills/) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Leicestershire Business Advice Service** | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A hand holding a pen and writing on a notebook  Description automatically generated |  |  | | --- | | **Unleash your Business potential with free support and workshops with Leicestershire Business Advice Service (LBAS)**  Stuck juggling regulations, marketing, and cash flow? | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | If you're dreaming of growth but unsure where to start, Leicestershire Business Advice Service is here to fuel your entrepreneurial drive, free of charge!  This fully-funded program, available to all business owners and aspiring entrepreneurs in Leicestershire, offers a powerful toolkit for success:  **Expert One-to-One Advice**: Get personalised guidance from business support specialists at Exemplas, tailoring solutions to your specific needs and challenges.  **Skill-Boosting Workshops**: Dive into practical sessions covering everything from marketing mastery to financial finesse, leaving you empowered and confident.  **Key Business Themes**: Conquer crucial challenges with workshops on regulation & tax, money management, business planning, digital transformation, and much more!  This service is open to everyone in Blaby, Harborough, Hinckley & Bosworth, Melton, Northwest Leicestershire, and Oadby & Wigston, whether you're a solopreneur, a small or medium-sized enterprise, or a social venture. Unleash your full potential with Leicestershire Business Advice Service:  To claim your free support, click the button below and complete the contact form to request one-to-one guidance. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Free support form**](https://web.exemplas.com/lbas) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Support your young people** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Local Skills Improvement Plans**  Building a brighter future, together. Blaby District Council's Young Persons Work and Skills officer bridges the gap between local businesses and young people (16-24 years old) seeking work experience and job opportunities.  Whether you're a business owner looking to nurture future talent or a young person eager to gain practical skills, we're here to make it happen. Let's work together to create a thriving local economy where everyone benefits.  Contact our Work and Skills Officer, Lewis Austin to be part of the solution!  You can contact Lewis by emailing lewis.austin@blaby.gov.uk or you can call 07880 393338. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Free Resources and Training** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | Improve your business by taking advantage of the resources available to you below. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **De Montfort University helps businesses, especially SMEs, get funding through:** Free expert advice: Navigate funding options & grants. Partnerships: Collaborate with academics, get up to 67% project costs covered. Grants: Up to £500k for R&D. Boost your business with DMU funding support!  [Funding your business (dmu.ac.uk)](https://www.dmu.ac.uk/business/grow-your-business/funding-your-business.aspx)   **Help to Grow: Management Course – 90% fully funded:** Thousands of small business leaders from every type of organisation across the UK have taken part in the course. Before you sign up, here is a quick reminder of the eligibility requirements.  To join the Help to Grow: Management Course you need to:   * Work for a Small or Medium-sized Enterprise based in the United Kingdom * Employ between 5 and 249 employees * Be a member of the senior leadership team and have direct reports.   [Request More Information | Small Business Charter](https://smallbusinesscharter.org/h2gm-find-out-more?h2gmc=999cd1e2-cfc9-4070-80c7-75f5fc305436)  **EMC² empowers regional creative businesses in Leicester, Derby, Lincoln, and Rutland to scale up:** They offer: Funding: £1.2 million to help high-potential firms prepare for growth. Mentoring: Expert guidance from seasoned professionals. Peer networks: Collaboration opportunities with other creatives. Focus: Helping under-recognised creative industries in the East Midlands thrive. If you're a local creative business seeking support to level up, EMC² is your partner. [Homepage - EMC² (eastmidlandscreategrowth.co.uk)](https://www.eastmidlandscreategrowth.co.uk/)  **Refurb IT Scheme:** ReFurb IT is a local LLEP area scheme that refurbishes unwanted IT devices for re-use in the community, led by area voluntary sector experts Reaching People. Reaching People want businesses and wider organisations to donate unwanted equipment.   They will collect your equipment - all you need to do is let them know that you would like to donate.  <https://www.reachingpeople.co.uk/> and <https://www.reachingpeople.co.uk/our-projects/refurb-it/> | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Defence Employer Recognition Scheme** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The Defence Employer Recognition Scheme (ERS) encourages employers to support defence and inspire others to do the same. The scheme encompasses Bronze, Silver and Gold awards for employer organisations that pledge, demonstrate or advocate support to defence and the armed forces community, and align their values with the Armed Forces Covenant.  The ERS is designed primarily to recognise private sector support although public sector organisations such as the emergency services, local authorities, NHS trusts and executive agencies are also eligible to be recognised.  Blaby District Council currently hold a silver award and will be going for the gold this year.  To find out more please visit [Defence Employer Recognition Scheme – GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/defence-employer-recognition-scheme/defence-employer-recognition-scheme#gold-award) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Help after storm Henk** | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | | Financial support has been announced by the government to help communities like those in Blaby District which have been impacted by Storm Henk. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | The support will be made available through a scheme called the Flood Recovery Framework. This is used in exceptional circumstances to help Council's and communities following severe flooding.  If eligible help will be available for:   * Households and businesses significantly affected. They can gain 100% council tax and business rates relief for at least three months. * Small-to-medium sized businesses. They can apply for up to £2,500 from the Business Recovery Grant to help them return quickly to business as usual. * Flood-hit property owners, who can apply for up to £5,000 to help make their homes and businesses more resilient to future flooding.   For more information about the financial support available to residents and businesses affected by Storm Henk please visit: [Help after Storm Henk (blaby.gov.uk)](https://www.blaby.gov.uk/your-council/news-and-awards/news/help-after-storm-henk/) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Your Business Hub** | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | Our Business Hub is on hand to offer dedicated help and support.  Our friendly team is only a call or email away: if we don’t know the answer we promise to find out.  There are so many resources available, many included in this newsletter, and we want to encourage you to access them.   You can get in touch by completing the form at the link below. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | [**Request support**](https://www.blaby.gov.uk/business-licensing-and-investment/business-support/support-and-advice-for-businesses/) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | |  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **Received this newsletter from a friend?**[Subscribe](https://mailchi.mp/blaby/signup-form) to future editions of the Blaby Business Newsletter to get the news straight to your inbox.  There is an unsubscribe link at the bottom of every email. | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | **For more regular updates please join us on social media.** | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | [Twitter](http://www.twitter.com/blabydc) | [Twitter](http://www.twitter.com/blabydc) | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/blabydc) | [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com/blabydc) | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/blabydc/) | [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/blabydc/) | | |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | |  |  | | --- | --- | | [Website](http://www.blaby.gov.uk/) | [Website](http://www.blaby.gov.uk/) | | | | | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | You can also visit us online to view the range of business support available. Visit our webpage [Support and Advice for Businesses.](https://www.blaby.gov.uk/business-licensing-and-investment/business-support/support-and-advice-for-businesses/) | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | | |  | | --- | | A Great place to Live, Work and Visit | | |