

Supporting Local Business

www.midulstercouncil.org/business

Mid Ulster Business News and Events

As a business in Mid Ulster District Council area, we would like to make you aware of current business programmes, events and awards that may be of interest to you.

Please note that Mid Ulster District Council have a dedicated Business Support Section established on its website providing up to date information to our business community.

[Visit our Business Support page](#)

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Go Succeed

Building Your Start Up Business Plan

This workshop is designed for entrepreneurs, start-ups, and small business owners in the early stages of their business journey or looking to enhance their existing business plans.

Facilitated by an experienced business professional, it aims to increase knowledge on:

- The purpose of a business plan.
- Clarity in setting business goals.
- Conducting market research and validation and interpreting the results.
- Operational planning.
- Preparation for meeting with a business adviser.
- Business plan drafting.
- Financial planning.
- Sales Forecasting and cashflow.

Date: Tuesday 23 April 2024

Time: 10am-12pm

Location: Online

To register, click on the venue link above, or see below for upcoming events

Go Succeed: Event Schedule

Mid Ulster District Council – Corporate Objectives

Mid Ulster District Council is currently consulting on its draft 2024 - 25 Performance Improvement Objectives and would like to hear your views on its proposed objectives.

The consultation runs until 12 noon on Friday 19 April 2024 and we would encourage you to give your views by completing a short online questionnaire using the link below.

Corporate Improvement Consultation

Invest NI Innovation Vouchers

Invest Northern Ireland (Invest NI) Innovation Vouchers provide businesses access to the skills and expertise of universities, colleges or Institutes of Technology in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

Examples of projects supported through Innovation Vouchers include:

- helping to create or improve products, services or processes
- access to specialist expertise on new materials
- tapping into research and scientific expertise

[Innovation Vouchers More Information](#)

The closing date for applications is 3pm on Friday 3 May 2024

Tenfold NetZero Accelerator

In partnership with Digital Catapult Northern Ireland, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) is starting a new phase of their Tenfold NetZero Accelerator Programme.

The programme aims to help businesses drive towards net zero. Applications from technology startups and small businesses wishing to work alongside AgriSearch, Dale Farm, and Encirc on developing new solutions.

Each successful technology provider will receive £20,000 in funding from the industry partners, as well as support from Digital Catapult experts during development phase.

The closing date for applications is 11:59pm on Sunday 12 May 2024.

[Tenfold NetZero Accelerator: Application](#)

InterTradeIreland Seedcorn Competition

For start-ups and early-stage businesses, the Seedcorn Investor Readiness Competition is an opportunity to get 'investor ready'. The Seedcorn contest mirrors the real-life investment process. Participants, who have an opportunity to win a share of a €300,000 cash prize fund, to secure expert feedback on their business plans and pitches, improve investor readiness and gain exposure to investors, while boosting the firm's profile.

The closing date for applications is 1pm on Friday 26 April 2024

Seedcorn Competition

Female Entrepreneurs Pitching Competition 2024

Women in Business NI is hosting an All-Island Female Entrepreneurs Pitching Competition to support new and emerging business owners with innovative ideas.

Applicants will get a chance to pitch their ideas to an online panel of expert judges who will choose six pitch award winners, offering £3,000 each, under the categories below.

Category 1: Idea Stage/Pre-revenue includes businesses not 'trading' but may have sold a few products as part of "testing" a business idea. If you have had any sales, they will only be very nominal, and not more than £2,000 sales in the past 12 months.,

Category 2: Early start-up/ Trading. This includes businesses making or selling a product, providing a business to business, or business to consumer service. This category includes technology/software based products such as an app or technology solution. The business must not be trading more than 3 years or achieving an annual turnover over £30,000

*If you're unsure which category to apply for, email roisin@womeninbusinessni.com for guidance.

The closing date for applications is 4pm on Friday 3 May 2024

Female Entrepreneurs Pitching Competition: More Information

JobStart Scheme

The Department for Communities fund the JobStart Scheme which allows employers to create new job opportunities to help young people aged 16-24 at risk of long-term unemployment to enter the job market. Employers in Northern Ireland can receive 100% Government funding to create 6 month job opportunities for 16-24 year-olds who are not in employment (or 9 month opportunities for those who meet certain criteria).

For each job opportunity funding covers 100% of the relevant National Minimum Wage for 25 hours of work per week; the associated employer National Insurance contributions; and employer minimum automatic enrolment contributions.

Employers can apply for JobStart by completing an online application form at the link below.

[**JobStart Scheme Application**](#)

Flexible AI Upskilling Fund: Expression of Interest

The Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) has launched a pilot scheme for the Flexible AI Upskilling Fund. This scheme will subsidise the cost of artificial intelligence (AI) skills training for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the professional business services sector.

The expression of interest is now open.

The closing date for expression of interest is 11.59pm on Tuesday 23 April 2024

[**Flexible AI Upskilling Fund: More Information**](#)

Navigating Growth – Support for Business Success

The Navigating Growth event has been designed specifically for business owners and entrepreneurs from minority and ethnic backgrounds, as well as the networks representing people and businesses from minority groups.

Each session will provide an overview of valuable resources and advisory support available to businesses, including accessing finance, innovation support and export advice.

Date: Thursday 30 May 2024

Time: 10am-11am

Location: The Junction, Dungannon, 12 Beechvalley way, BT70 1BS

***Register your place at the link below**

[Navigating Growth: More Information](#)

InterTradeIreland Trade Series Webinars

InterTradeIreland is hosting a series of free webinars to help businesses navigate trade between Ireland, Northern Ireland and Great Britain.

Supporting businesses of all sizes, these webinars will provide guidance to support future trade under the UK/EU Free Trade Agreement and the Windsor Framework and share up to date information and recommendations.

[InterTradeIreland Trade Series Webinars: Registration](#)

NI Tourism Conference 2024

The Tourism Conference 2024 is your opportunity to hear from a number of inspiring and interactive expert speakers and listen to panel discussions. You will also be able to engage with the Tourism NI team, their key partners, and industry peers.

Date: Tuesday 23 April 2024

Time: 9:30am to 2:30pm

Venue: Titanic, Belfast

Cost: Free

[NI Tourism Conference Registration](#)