

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

Items in this Edition

- 1. Home to School Transport Engagement Sessions
- 2. Becoming an Employer of Choice
- 3. Workplace Plus Webinar
- 4. Digital Transformation Flexible Fund
- 5. Go Succeed Business Events
- 6. STFC Hartree Centre Innovation Vouchers
- 7. Back in Business Rate Support Scheme
- 8. Individual Artists Digital Evolution Awards
- 9. Capacity-Building for Income Generation (C-BIG) Project
- 10. BSI Standards Training
- 11. Invest NI Sustainability Reports

The Education Authority (EANI) is running a number of Home to School Transport premarket engagement events in June 2024. The events will provide local private transport operators with an overview of the Dynamic Purchasing Systems (DPS) used by EANI to tender for requirements over the summer months.

The events will provide information on how to:

- · register on eTendersNI as a supplier
- apply to be successfully appointed to the DPS for bus and taxi services
- tender for runs published via the bus and taxi DPS
- · complete the financial response when bidding for runs
- ensuring you are associated with the correct lots for the 2024/25 school year
- upload driver, vehicle and escort details to the Private Operator Portal

There will also be Q&A sessions with members of the EA Transport, Procurement and Compliance Teams.

Antrim Engagement Session:

Date: Friday 7 June 2024

Time: 10am - 12pm

Location: EANI Antrim Board Centre, Antrim, BT41 4DH

Cost: Free

Omagh Engagement Session:

Date: Friday 7 June 2024 **Time:** 10:30am - 12pm

Location: EANI Omagh Office, Technology Education Centre, Omagh, BT78 1FA

Cost: Free

Armagh Engagement Session:

Date: Tuesday 11 June 2024

Time: 10:30am - 12pm

Location: EANI Armagh Office, Armagh, BT61 9AX

Cost: Free

Home to School Transport Engagement Sessions: Registration

Becoming an Employer of Choice in Mid Ulster- Last Chance to Register

top talent,and become an employer of choice. Two panel discussions will take place on Creating a Positive and Healthy Workplace and Removing Barriers. Includes a breakout session offering a choice, either Managing Change or Leadership Style and Communication Skills.

Panelists will include local successful businesses: Bloc Blinds, Edge Innovate, Linden Foods and Translink. Employers will also have the chance to meet a wide range of local support organisations face to face, for further questions, advice and support.

Date: Thursday 13 June 2024

Time: 8:30am-11:30am

Location: The Royal Hotel, 64-72 Old Coagh Road, Cookstown, BT80 8NG

If you have any additional queries, contact LMP Project Delivery Officer, **Colleen Bell**: colleen.bell@midulstercouncil.org

Becoming an Employer of Choice: Registration

Workplus Webinar: Helping Employers Tackle Their Skills Shortages

The webinar outlines the framework of hiring an apprentice as well as the benefits and considerations for employers. It will also go through the role Workplus can play in making the process smoother and easier for employers.

Stephen Houston, CTO of TeamFee Pay, will be sharing his company's experience of hiring an apprentice and Cassie McArthur, current Quantity Surveying Apprentice at NIE Networks.

Date: Thursday 6 June 2024

Time: 11am-11:45am Location: Online

Cost: Free

For any further enquiries, please contact **Andrew Elliott** via email <u>andrew@workplus.app</u>

Workplace Plus Webinar: Registration

The Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (DTFF) aims to help small and micro businesses in Northern Ireland to invest in advanced digital technologies. It establishes a grant fund to support eligible businesses with investments in capital equipment that is critical to achieving their digital transformation ambitions.

Expressions of Interest for Call 3 will be opening on **17 June 2024**. Interested applicants are recommended to attend a pre-briefing session before submitting an expression of interest.

The **online** and **in-person** workshops delivered by digital experts to brief businesses regarding the DTFF opportunity are now available for booking. **Mid Ulster's** in-person Workshop is:

Date: Thursday 20 June 2024

Time: 9.15am-10:30am

Location: The Burnavon Arts & Cultural Centre, Burn Road, Cookstown

Registration via https://dtff.co.uk/pre-briefing-sessions/

Supporting Digital Transformation Webinar Series

One hour Webinars for businesses to hear more about each of the technologies and how they can be used in business have commenced. Registration and information via: <u>Supporting Digital Transformation Webinar Series – Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (dtff.co.uk)</u>

DTFF: More Information

Go Succeed Events

Click on the links below to view some of the free upcoming business events being hosted by Go Succeed, the council support service for Northern Ireland businesses.

Product Launch and Commercialisation: Take Your Product to Market

This workshop is tailored to equip businesses with the knowledge and tools to propel a product from launch to the market, discussing the crucial steps of the journey from product launch to full commercial success

Date: Tuesday 11 June 2024

Time:10am-12pm Location: Online

The workshop covers various topics such as building and maintaining relationships, leveraging social media platforms for networking, and maximising networking organisations and events.

Date: Tuesday 11 June 2024

Time: 2pm-4pm Location: Online

Marketing Planning for Online Success

This online workshop will discuss Developing Content Pillars to guide and produce content, brainstorming Content ideas and Chat GPT, reviewing the benefit of a Content Planner, and the main points businesses need to now regarding e-commerce.

Date: Thursday 13 June 2024

Time: 10am-12pm **Location**: Online

STFC Hartree Centre Innovation Vouchers

As part of the BridgeAl programme, Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) Hartree Centre are offering Innovation Vouchers worth £5,000 and £15,000 for businesses in the construction, transport, agriculture, and creative industries.

These vouchers can be used to access expert technical support in data science and artificial technology (AI).

BridgeAl Innovation Vouchers - £5,000

The £5,000 voucher facilitates 8 to 10 days from technical experts in data science and Al technologies.

BridgeAl Innovation Vouchers - £15,000

The £15,000 voucher facilitates between 24 and 31 days of support from technical experts in data science and artificial intelligence technologies.

The closing date for expressions of interest is 5pm on Friday 26 July 2024

STFC Hartree Centre Innovation Vouchers: More Information

ratepayer who moves into premises, which were previously used for retail purposes and have been unoccupied for 12 months or more.

Through the Scheme, businesses will have certainty over their rates bill for two years should they continue to meet the criteria.

Rate Support Scheme: More Information & Application

Individual Artists Digital Evolution Awards

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland and Future Screens NI have opened for applications their Individual Artists Digital Evolution Awards.

These awards are designed to upskill artists in the use of new, emerging and immersive technology, lead to the creation of excellent digital art, and encourage cross-sector collaboration.

The maximum award value is £10,000.

The closing date for applications is 12 noon on Friday 28 June 2024

Individual Artists Digital Evolution Awards: More Information

Capacity-Building for Income Generation (C-BIG) Project

Funded under the Shared Island Civic Society Fund, and led by Social Enterprise Republic of Ireland (SERI) and Social Enterprise Northern Ireland (SENI), C-BIG aims to increase the traded income of social enterprises on both sides of the border through a comprehensive capacity-building programme. Participants will benefit from:

- 4 x specialised workshops covering essential topics such as business and product development, marketing, and pricing strategies.
- One-to-one time with experienced mentors for personalised guidance and support.
- Engage with peers on a cross-border basis to exchange innovative practices and collaborative solutions.
- The project will run from late June 2024 until late September 2024.
- Activities will be hosted in border counties and include both in-person and virtual formats to accommodate all participants.

your interest by Friday 7 June 2024 by completing the short form here

BSI Standards Training

As part of Innovate UK's BridgeAI programme, BSI (British Standards Institution) is offering expert-led training on internationally recognised digital standards for SMEs looking to harness the power of Artificial Intelligence (AI).

The training focuses on information security management systems and risk management.

The closing date for registration is 5pm on Tuesday 3 September 2024

BSI Standards Training: Expression of Interest

Invest NI Sustainability Reports

Invest Northern Ireland is offering free Sustainability Reports for businesses, a holistic assessment and understanding of your environmental performance.

This support will enable businesses to measure, monitor and report on environmental impacts.

This support is available to all businesses with annual energy and resource spend of more than £30,000, which could include the combined value of heating, electricity, water, waste disposal or raw material billings.

For any detailed enquiries and to find out more about how to get a free Sustainability Report, contact the Energy and Resource Efficiency Team at Invest NI by emailing ere@investni.com.

Our mailing address is:

Economic Development Department, Mid Ulster District Council, Circular Road, Dungannon BT71 6DT Telephone: 03000 132 132 Email: business@midulstercouncil.org

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