



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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Free Training Needs Analysis Workshops

economic climate locally and globally, it is important to review business skills requirements regularly. At these workshops businesses will gain an insight into the tools and techniques used by learning and development professionals to analyse training needs. This will enable businesses to increase productivity and improve staff skills through targeted training going forward.

Please find link to both workshops below. It is recommended attending both, but this is not compulsory.

Thursday 10 October 2024 12.30pm - 4pm - [Event Details](#) · [Invest NI Customer Portal](#)

Tuesday 12 November 2024 12.30pm - 4pm - [Event Details](#) · [Invest NI Customer Portal](#)

Places are limited. For any queries contact Colleen Bell, LMP Project Delivery Officer via email: colleen.bell@midulstercouncil.org or Telephone: **07919 496306**

Showcase Your Business - Tech For The Future Event

Mid Ulster LMP and South West College are hosting Tech for the Future - Be Part of IT event. The event will showcase local employment and training opportunities for IT/Tech roles within Mid Ulster. Attendees will be young people and their parents/guardians at the event there will be an opportunity to introduce and explain roles within your organisation and to inspire our youth through meaningful conversations with IT/Tech staff. This is an opportunity to demonstrate the various pieces of equipment/kit that is used within business and provide hands-on, interactive experience where possible.

If your business would like to join us as an exhibitor, click the link below and complete an Expression of Interest form by **Friday 13th September 2024**.

Date: Wednesday 2 October 2024

Location: South West College, Dungannon Campus

For further information contact Colleen Bell LMP Project Delivery Officer via email: colleen.bell@midulstercouncil.org or Telephone: **07919 496306**

[Tech For The Future: Expression of Interest](#)

Innovation Vouchers: September 2024

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

Applications for the next call open on Monday 9 September 2024 and close at 3pm Friday 27 September 2024.

[Innovation Vouchers: More Information](#)

Digital Catapult Technology Access Programme

Digital Catapult is inviting applications for a new cohort of its Digital Security by Design (DSbD) Technology Access Programme. The programme offers businesses the opportunity to use advanced technology to improve the security of their products.

Participants get access to two evaluation boards: the Sonata board from lowRISC and the Morello board from Arm. These boards feature cutting-edge CPU Architectures designed to enhance security.

By joining the programme, businesses can experiment with technologies to identify and fix security vulnerabilities in their own products, receive the necessary hardware, along with access to the CHERI software stack, technical guides, and expert support.

This five-month programme has two tiers: Tier 1 for UK companies with fewer than 250 employees, and Tier 2 for those with more than 250 employees.

Applications are now open and close on Sunday 22 September 2024.

[Technology Access Programme: More Information](#)

Arts Council NI Funding Programmes

The Arts Council of Northern Ireland has opened a series of funding programmes to support local artists, organisations, and communities.

See below the list of the current opportunities and their deadlines - click on the relevant title for further information or to apply.

Four awards of up to £15,000 each are available to create the circumstances in which established artists with national/international recognition may develop extended or ambitious work. Costs can be for specific projects, specialised research, personal artistic development and materials/ equipment.

Application deadline: Monday 9 September 2024

[National Lottery Artists' International Development Fund](#)

This programme supports early-stage international development opportunities for individual, freelance and self-employed artists and organisations based in Northern Ireland.

Application deadline: Monday 9 September 2024

[National Lottery Minority Ethnic Artists Mentoring & Residency Programme](#)

The programme aims to create opportunities for specialised training, research, cultural exchanges, networking and learning for individual artists, creative practitioners and arts administrators from minority ethnic and migrant backgrounds.

Application deadline: Thursday 12 September 2024

[National Lottery Project Funding for Individual Artists](#)

Grants of between £3,000 and £10,000 are available to support the wide range of activity that can be undertaken by artists of all disciplines in relation to their practice.

Application deadline: Wednesday 18 September 2024

[Musical Instruments for Professional and Non-professional Performing Groups](#)

Support is available for the purchase of musical instruments by groups involved in the professional and non-professional performance of music and to respond to a broad range of capital needs within the music sector in Northern Ireland.

Application deadline: Monday 30 September 2024

[National Lottery - Travel Awards](#)

These awards enable individual artists and established music groups (up to two members) to travel from Northern Ireland to develop their skills and expertise.

This is a 'rolling' application process.

Arts Council NI Funding Programmes: More Information

The Supporting Digital Transformation webinar series is designed to help businesses grow and evolve using advanced digital technologies.

Over eight sessions covering six key digital technologies eligible for funding through the Digital Transformation Flexible Fund (DTFF).

Delivered by the William J. Clinton Leadership Institute and Queen's Business School, the webinars will introduce the DTFF and explain the steps to apply for a grant.

Learn about key technologies for transforming business operations and hear from industry experts on experiences, insights, and tips to digital transformation.

Webinar schedule

This series consists of eight webinars taking place in October and November 2024:

- 8 Oct - 2pm - 3.30pm | [Leveraging digital transformation for a sustainable business](#)
- 15 Oct - 2pm - 3pm | [What is big data?](#)
- 22 Oct - 2pm - 3pm | [What is IoT & smart tech & what can it do for your business?](#)
- 29 Oct - 2pm - 3.05pm | [How robotics can deliver process automation](#)
- 5 Nov - 2pm - 3.05pm | [How to drive business improvements with AI and ML](#)
- 12 Nov - 2pm - 3pm | [Enhance customer experiences with immersive technologies and drive sales](#)
- 19 Nov - 2pm - 3pm | [Understanding blockchain and what it can do for supply chain](#)
- 26 Nov - 2pm - 3pm | [How to plan and build your digital strategy](#)

The Supporting Digital Transformation webinar series is aimed at boosting innovation in Northern Ireland.

Find out more about the [Digital Transformation Flexible Fund](#).

Supporting Digital Transformation Webinar Series: More Information

Travel Support for UK Businesses to Attend European Events

Innovate UK is offering travel support for businesses to attend consortia-building events in Europe. The travel awards support businesses who want to expand their networks across Europe and make an impact in collaborative international research and development (R&D) projects.

Horizon Europe and EUREKA). Up to £700 is available to help cover travel and subsistence costs needed to attend the following events (click on title of event for further information):

- [European Space Agency – Industry Space Days 2024](#), 18-19 September 2024, Noordwijk, The Netherlands (Application deadline: 27 August 2024, Notification date: 30 August 2024)
- [NetworkNature Annual Event 2024 | Busting myths: People with Nature Biodiversity event](#), 25 September, Brussels, Belgium (Application deadline: 3 September 2024, Notification date: 5 September 2024)
- [Low Carbon Technologies: EUROGIA Partnering Day](#), 30 September 2024, Paris, France (Application deadline: 9 September 2024, Notification date: 12 September 2024)
- [European Automotive Research Partners Association \(EARPA\) Autumn Meeting 2024](#), 30 September-1 October, Brussels, Belgium (Application deadline: 4 September 2024, Notification date: 5 September 2024)
- [10th European Conference on Sustainable Cities and Towns](#), 1-3 October 2024, Aalborg, Denmark (Application deadline: 2 September 2024, Notification date: 5 September 2024)
- [14th EASN International Conference – Innovation in Aviation & Space towards sustainability today & tomorrow](#), 8-11 October 2024, Thessaloniki, Greece (Application deadline: 4 September 2024, Notification date: 6 September 2024)
- [B2B Match-Making Event Contact-Contract](#) (Part of the Brno International Engineering Fair), 8-11 October 2024, Brno, Czech Republic (Application deadline: 9 September 2024, Notification date: 12 September 2024)
- [EUREKA-Xecs Matchmaking: Electronic Components and Systems](#), 15 October 2024, Hamburg, Germany (Application deadline: 9 September 2024, Notification date: 13 September 2024)
- [2nd Swiss Translational Medicine Conference](#), 24 October 2024, Bern, Switzerland (Application deadline: 23 September 2024, Notification date: 26 September 2024)
- [Smart City Expo World Congress](#), 5-7 November 2024, Barcelona, Spain (Application deadline: 23 September 2024, Notification date: 26 September 2024)
- [17th European Public Health Conference 2024](#), 12-15 November 2024, Lisbon, Portugal (Application deadline: 22 October 2024, Notification date: 25 October 2024)
- [EU Hydrogen Week](#), 18-22 November 2024, Brussels, Belgium (Application deadline: 14 October 2024, Notification date: 17 October 2024)
- [POLIS Annual Conference 2024](#), 27-28 November, Karlsruhe, Germany (Application deadline: 15 October 2024, Notification date: 18 October 2024)

Lough Neagh Blue Green Algae SBRI Challenge

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) has launched Phase one of the Lough Neagh: Blue-Green Algae Small Business Research Initiative (SBRI).

The SBRI has two phases:

- Phase one - five applicants selected to develop proof of concepts
- Phase two - two to three concepts selected and developed as potential pilot solutions

A total funding package of £450,000 has been secured via DAERA and the Department for the Economy (DfE) through its SBRI Challenge Fund for Phase one.

The closing date for applications is 3pm on Friday 13 September 2024.

SBRI Challenge: More Information

Skill Up Programme Free Training Courses

Skill Up is a fully funded initiative from the Department for the Economy and the Northern Ireland Office, organised by Queens University, Belfast. The programme offers further and higher education training places in a wide range of subject areas for accredited qualifications ranging from Level 1 to Level 7.

Most courses will be delivered online and will provide an opportunity to re-skill and upskill your staff in areas where job growth is expected contribute to the development of the Northern Ireland economy.

Due to high demand you are advised to apply as early as possible.

Skill Up Programme: 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

[Lean Business Processes for Small Business Owners](#)

Location: Online

[Sustainability and Net Zero](#)

Date: Thursday 12 September 2024

Time: 10am-12:30pm

Location: Online

[Effective use of AI in Digital Marketing](#)

Date: Wednesday 18 September 2024

Time: 1pm-2pm

Location: Online

[Marketing your Social Enterprise](#)

Date: Thursday 19 September 2024

Time: 10am-12:30pm

Location: Online

[Using CRMs to help Grow your Business](#)

Date: Wednesday 25 September 2024

Time: 1pm-2pm

Location: Online

[Cyber Security for your Business](#)

Date: Thursday 26 September 2024

Time: 10am-12:30pm

Location: Online

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