# ROSSENDALE NEWSLETTER FOR BUSINESSES-SPRING 2022



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# INTRODUCTION

#### **Welcome to our Business Newsletter for Spring 2022**

As we enter the new financial year, we also have a new Interim Economic Development Officer at the Council! A major part of my role is to support you, our Rossendale Business community. Details about this support, including general information, funding details and business news from your area are outlined in this newsletter.

Restrictions have been lifted, our businesses are seeing increased orders, and footfall is growing but things are not fully back to normal. Some sectors are still struggling and even though our businesses are recovering, most would agree they are not where they need to be.

However, we need to make a real push to get ready for spring and summer trading. Get back in contact with your customers, build bridges that may have been broken due to Covid and dust off your growth plans ready for 2022!

Your council is here to support you. Contact us to find out what we can do for you!

#### Lydia Williamson

INTERIM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER ROSSENDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL

lydiawilliamson@rossendalebc.gov.uk
01706 252483



# INTERFLOOR PRE-EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME SUCCESS

Four young people were offered full-time employment at Interfloor in Haslingden, following a week-long pre-employment programme.

Lancashire Adult Learning provided the pre-employment programme participants with valuable employment training, CV development assistance and interview skills coaching. Interfloor also provided participants with in-house training, including health and safety training. Each participant walked away from the week with accredited training.

The programme candidates were part of Rossendale Works, a project helping individuals in to work. Since 2021, Rossendale Works have assisted over 100 people in finding employment.



The programme was a successful collaboration between Rossendale Works, Active Lancashire, Rossendale Borough Council, Interfloor and Lancashire Adult Learning.

Hear from Dylan, one of the successful candidates who secured employed at Intefloor, first-hand: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=486185942964754&ref=sharing">https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=486185942964754&ref=sharing</a>.

Contact Economic Development at Rossendale Borough Council for support in recruiting local staff. Email <a href="mailto:EconomicDevelopment@rossendalebc.gov.uk">EconomicDevelopment@rossendalebc.gov.uk</a>.











# **BUSINESS HEALTH** MATTERS

#### **MARCH 2022 EVENT**

Active Lancashire recently held a successful Business Health Matters workshop here at the Council.

The free workshop was well attended by local businesses, who learnt about how to improve employee health and wellbeing.

For more information about the Business Health Matters programme, visit: https://www.lancashiremind.org.uk/articles/302-8-million-workplace-healthprogramme-business-health-matters-launches-in-lancashire



#### **ATTEND A FOCUS GROUP**

Active Lancashire are running sector specific focus groups in May, aimed at learning more about businesses current challenges, priorities and views on health and wellbeing.

Organisations taking part will receive five free health screenings and be reimbursed for travel expenses.

Full details can be found at:

https://www.businesshealthmatters.org.uk/make-an-impact-on-lancashiresworkplace-health/







### FREE WORKSHOPS -EMBRACE DIGITAL PROGRAMME

The Embrace Digital programme is offering **free online training workshops and 1:1 opportunities** for businesses throughout Lancashire.

The programme is offering a huge range of workshops on topics including **digital and email marketing**, online **sales**, social media, photography and video.

To **book a free 1:1 call** with a digital expert or to view and **book on to one of the many workshops**, visit:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/embrace-digital-lancashire-33732565553

The workshops and 1:1 sessions are to help businesses decide which digital software can support their **future resilience and growth.** 

The **programme is fully funded** for Lancashire businesses by the UK Government through the UK Community Renewal Fund.

Make the most of this free training and support!

Start Selling on Amazon (Lancashire)

Monday 16th May

Facebook and Instagram Ads

Tuesday 17th May

Get Started with Mailchimp

Tuesday 31st May





# UPCOMING MANUFACTURING JOBS EVENT 2022

Are you a manufacturing business based in Rossendale?

We still have a small number of spaces left to exhibit at this jobs event!

Ontact us now on 01706 252483

**OL13 0BB** 



# BUSINESS NEWS

#### **GROWTH AND INNOVATION FUND**

#### The Growth and Innovation Fund has now closed.

Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley received £994,083 of Government funding from the UK Community Renewal Fund. The funding is to deliver a grants programme to local businesses, to enable job creation, growth and innovation.

The scheme is now closed to applications; thank you to all businesses that submitted an application. Growth Lancashire will directly contact businesses that have been successful.

#### **NEW COWORKING SPACE IN BACUP**

Located at the Former Lancashire and Yorkshire Bank, **The Alliance** will be operated by Valley Heritage, a not-for-profit organisation based in Rossendale.

The formerly derelict building has been **transformed through grant funding** schemes, working with Historic England, National Lottery Heritage Fund and Rossendale Borough Council.

Building works are **nearing completion**, enabling The Alliance to soon provide co-working space for local businesses, some housing and temporary accommodation. To register your interest, visit: <a href="http://www.alliance-ly.org.uk">http://www.alliance-ly.org.uk</a>



NEWSI ETTER

## **BUSINESS NEWS**

Tracy Heatley is the Owner of Be Better Services which encompasses her business, marketing, and networking background. With a range of packages designed to help business owners find their networking drive and how to get the right marketing for their brand.

Well known across the Northwest for her **BoB Clubs business networking groups**, a place where local businesses can get together over breakfast to swap referrals and discuss how their business is going. These meetings take place **every two weeks** and have been regularly exchanging referrals amounting to millions of pounds worth of business.

As a Chartered Marketer with over thirty years' experience under her belt, she found herself mentoring business owners during the pandemic. Providing guidance on how to put marketing measures in place, she helped businesses to succeed. This led her to create the range of **Be Better services** which are newly launched. Tracy uses her wealth of knowledge to mentor people in networking and marketing. She runs **regular workshops** and **online one-to-one sessions** with clients. There are loads of **free resources** for businesses on her website too, including blogs, reviews, podcasts and interviews with other successful business owners.

Tracy also has her own radio show, giving small businesses a voice. Radio shows can be listened back to via her recently revamped website too.

To contact Tracy – you can contact her through tracyHeatley.com or email **info@tracyheatley.com**. Look for tracyheatleyuk on social media platforms. Alternatively, the website for her networking groups is **bobclubs.com/nw** 



JEWSI ETTER

# WORKSHOPS FOR BUSINESS

Our programme of online Rossendale focused workshops to support our businesses in 2022 continues.

We are now planning workshops for the remainder of the year, which we will be circulating in due course.

However, we need your help! The workshops that we host are for the business community and we want to tailor this service to your needs, but can only do that with your input.

If you have any ideas for training, workshops, classes or seminars that your business needs then please contact: <a href="mailto:lydiawilliamson@rossendalebc.gov.uk">lydiawilliamson@rossendalebc.gov.uk</a>

Thanks for your valued input.



VIEW/SI ETTER

### INVITATION TO TENDER - PROJECT CONTRACTOR

Rossendale Borough Council has published an invitation to tender for a project contractor to deliver construction works.

The Council has been successful in its Stage Two grant bid submission for a **five year town centre regeneration project** - The Haslingden National Lottery Heritage Fund Townscape Initiative.

It has secured £1.8million of grant funding to deliver a £2.3 million (grant, private contributions and RBC contribution) project within a designated area of Haslingden town centre – Upper Deardengate.

The Council is now required to procure a Project Contractor to work with the wider Project Design Team to **deliver a number of grant funded building restoration schemes** within the designated National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) area.

The NLHF is led by a dedicated Project Manager who oversees the day-to-day running of the project. Part of the Project Design Team is a Conservation and Heritage specialist and accredited Architect who will manage all aspects of the capital building and construction.

#### For further details, visit:

https://www.rossendale.gov.uk/downloads/download/11580/invitation\_to\_tender\_psica\_project\_contractor\_nlhf\_final

If you would like **to discuss the tender details or if you have any questions**, please email Mhorag Saxon, Heritage Regeneration Project Manager, at <a href="mailto:MhoragSaxon@rossendalebc.gov.uk">MhoragSaxon@rossendalebc.gov.uk</a>

Tender submission deadline: Wednesday 11th May 2022 - 5pm









# RESTORING YOUR RAILWAY SURVEY

Rossendale Borough Council was successfully awarded Department for Transport funding as part of the **Restoring Your Railway Ideas Fund.** 

Following an application by the Council, supported by Lancashire County Council, funding was achieved to develop a business case. Successful business cases will be awarded further funding to **reinstate lost rail routes**, enhancing **connectivity** and **regeneration**.

As part of the scheme, the Council are **asking all businesses to take part in a survey** on transport modes in the local area.

To take part, visit:

https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/BusinessResponse/



#### LANCASHIRE INNOVATION CHALLENGE 2022

Are you looking to innovate and bring a **new product or service** to market, but lack of funding is holding you back?

Do you have an idea, a product, or a process that **needs innovation?** 



Innovate Lancashire as part of the Business Growth team at Lancashire County Council, are running an Innovation Challenge where you can **win a share of a financial prize** to help develop and deliver your innovative business idea.

The challenge is **open to any size of business/entrepreneur with** an innovative idea/ project.

It is your chance to win funding of:

- £15,000
- £10,000
- £5,000
- plus 6 hours of mentoring

To find out more or to register your interest, visit:

https://innovatelancashire.co.uk/

Closing date for Register of Interest is 5pm on **Friday 13th May 2022.** 



# ROSSENDALE SCHOOLS & BUSINESS LINKS

Working with our education providers and schools in Rossendale is essential to safeguard the future of our staffing levels in Rossendale. By working with local schools through careers events, work experience placements and 'meet the business' visits we can ensure that our pipeline of local talent is kept in our Valley.

The role of Enterprise Co-ordinator liaising with schools and businesses is being arranged by our partner Inspira, and is being led by their co-ordinator Penny Heys.

Please contact Penny asap to discuss how you can help our school pupils gain employment. Her details are as follows:

P: 01931 711300

M: 07912575656

E: Penny.Heys@inspira.org.uk

W: www.inspira.org.uk

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#### YOUR STAFF-ROSSENDALE WORKS

#RossendaleYouthWorks #Rossendaleworks

#### Looking for staff?

Recruiting the right people based within the local area can sometimes be a barrier to business growth. We want to assist our businesses with their recruitment through Rossendale Works, a year long project in partnership with Active Lancashire Ltd and the DWP at Rawtenstall Job Centre.



About the project



People who are proactive in seeking a job will be referred to our Rossendale Works project.

The candidate will be assessed and matched to an appropriate **4 week** work placement opportunity.

As a minimum, the candidate must leave the completed work placement with a **reference** or alternatively offered a **paid position within the business**.

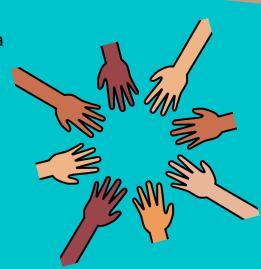
#### How to be involved

All businesses are welcome to offer work placements providing there is the likelihood of a job offer at the end of it which pays at a minimum the living wage

If you have a placement opportunity then please call us on **01706 252480.** 

You can also email any job profiles to economicdevelopment@rossendalebc.gov.uk

We will meet with you to discuss your placement requirements. You will be sent matched profiles for your consideration; you will then be given the opportunity to interview candidates before offering any work placements.



#### **Benefits to the business:**



- There are **no costs** during the placement as the candidate receives benefits
  Access to a pool of people based in the local area
  - Trial candidates for free before offering positions Help local people gain specific skills Free publicity from your local council
    - Add value to the company Tailored support throughout the process



jobcentreplus B







# CHAMBER LOW CARBON

East Lancashire Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in partnership with North & Western Lancashire Chamber of Commerce, Businesswise Solutions Ltd and BOOST, are supporting Lancashire businesses in saving money and reducing their carbon footprint.



This £6m European part-funded programme is committed to the provision of a **free suite of services** aimed to help businesses **improve energy and environmental efficiencies**, introduce on-site **renewable energy** generation and **save money**.

Grants of 50% up to £15k or 30% up to £25k are available to assist eligible Lancashire-based businesses with this.



# RE YOU A LANCASHIRE BASED BUSINESS? LOOKING TO REDUCE YOUR CARBON OOTPRINT, SAVE MONEY & DRIVE ENERGY EFFICIENCIES? WE CAN HELP YOU ACCESS



#### 1-TO-1 BUSINESS SUPPORT IN

- Reducing bills and raw material waste
- Energy efficiency
- Process resource efficiency
- Water efficiency
- Waste / resource management
- On-site energy auditing
- On-site carbon footprint analysis and action plan



#### BEST PRACTICE EVENTS

- Let us help you understand which low carbon renewable energy to choose and why
- Find out about low carbon technology, how you can use it and which is best for your business
- . We can help you calculate the pay back period
- Understand how it can be installed on your
  premises.



#### ADVANCED BUSINESS SUPPORT

- Behaviour change/On-site training
- Masterclass of management systems ISO 14001 and ISO 50001
- Masterclass into on-site energy auditing
- Introduction to environmental auditing















# GREEN ROSE PROGRAMME



#### What is Chamber Green Rose?

Chamber Low Carbon can help guide your business to implement a recognised environmental management system meeting the requirements of ISO 14001, ISO 14005 or BS 8555 or EMAS with our Green Rose Programme.

This six-month programme, delivered by the Chamber Low Carbon Team, will provide support and guidance in the development and implementation of each organisation's Environmental Management System.

- Access new customers requiring environmental credentials
- Prepare your business for certification to ISO 14001, ISO 14005, BS 8555 or EMAS
- · Peer to peer learning and support network
- Even if you are not going for ISO 14001 at this stage completion of the course and implementation of the guidance and advice will earn your business a Green Rose Certificate of recognition.
- Demonstrate your commitment to achieving Net Zero.

#### **How it works**

**Delivery of six half day workshop sessions:** 

**Session 1: The Environment and Why it Matters to Business** 

Session 2: The Environment and the Context in which the Business Operates

**Session 3:** The Need and Planning for Action

Session 4: Setting Objectives, Establishing Programmes and Achieving Them

Session 5: Implementation and Communication, Operational Control and Emergency

**Preparedness** 

Session 6: Internal Auditing, Non-conformance and Corrective Action, Management

**Review and Certification Process** 

#### On-site support (2.5 days)

DAY 1: Conducting baseline review | DAY 2: Documenting baseline review

HALF DAY: Pre-inspection audit Support and guidance provided throughout the 26-week period.

COST: Free Workshop Series for Lancashire based SME's.











# SUPPORT AND BOOK THE WHITAKER

Help support the Whitaker by becoming a Friend of the Museum! email: form1@mail.com for further details or visit the Friend's

page on the Whitaker website.

The Friends support the Whitaker with a variety of activities including fund raising for conservation work, education, new equipment and refurbishment.

We also promote a lively programme of monthly talks, walks and visits with a variety of topics of both local and general interest.





The Whitaker has spaces available to hire during the day for breakfast meetings, presentations, product launches, private dining and corporate away days!

Flooded with natural daylight and views across the Rossendale Valley, the space is well suited to working closely with colleagues or clients, offering an inspiring space to help fuel new ideas and creative thinking.

Due to its recent redevelopment the museum now offers traditional and modern spaces including an outdoor courtyard and we are always more than happy to organise guided tours of one of our celebrated galleries.

### REGIONAL TALENT ENGINES PROGRAMME

This **six-month** tailored programme of support is offered to aspiring engineering and technology entrepreneurs. The programme is designed to support those at the early stage of their journey and help transform great ideas into new engineering solutions, getting businesses off the ground and ready to pursue further support.

#### Who is the programme for?

- Recent leavers of further education who have achieved a technical qualification at levels 3-5
- Mid or late-career engineers or technologists who have been working in skilled jobs and are seeking a career change.



#### Launching your idea

The programme is designed to provide you with the practical support that you need to refine your innovation. By the end of the programme you will be ready to seek further support for your first investment to bring your innovation to market.

#### You'll have access to:

- Equity-free funding of £20,000 towards living and business support costs
- Expert mentoring
- Training, roundtables and events
- 1-2-1 coaching
- Lifetime access to our co-working and meeting space, the Taylor Centre, in central London.

As a charity, we're able to provide equity-free funding and lifelong Enterprise Hub membership, without taking anything in return.





### LANCASHIRE URBAN DEVELOPMENT FUND

The **Lancashire Urban Development Fund** is a £20 million fund, dedicated to the development of industrial workspace in Lancashire. The fund has been established by the **European Regional Development Fund** (ERDF) and is managed by Igloo Investment Management.

The fund will operate as recycling funding with repayments and interest contributing to resource and enable further investment to be made.

For businesses, the fund will be in the form of a repayable secured loan, to finance **speculative development /refurbishment/ repurposing**. It is not grant funding.



For more information, visit: **www.lancashireudf.co.uk** or contact Andrew Sykes or Robert Wood at Igloo Investment Management.









# INTERNATIONALISATION FUND NORTH WEST

Grant funding to support Lancashire companies looking to grow their international trade.

Companies in Lancashire are being urged to take advantage of the Internationalisation Fund to assist with international growth aspirations. The fund launched in 2020 and running until March 2023 will help businesses build back better following the pandemic.

In Lancashire SMEs can apply for match-funded grants of between £1,000 and £9,000 to support proposed future activities (subject to eligibility). It is easy and simple to apply and companies applying for the grant will be assigned a dedicated International Trade Adviser to help them through the process and plan for future activities.

#### Eligible Activity

The fund can be used to support areas including but not limited to:

- PR
- Market Research
- Consulting on IPR
- Translation/Cultural Advice
- Social Media and SEO
- Routes to Market

- Participation in trade shows
- Market Development including visits
- Overseas Business
   Environment/Due Dilligence

To find out more about the fund, please contact lynne.gillen@tradenw.org or call 07425 224023







# BOOST LANCASHIRE-BESPOKE SUPPORT FOR YOUR BUSINESS

# DO YOU THINK A MENTOR COULD HELP TAKE YOUR BUSINESS TO THE NEXT STAGE?

Boost Lancashire and Partners Growth Lancashire can offer support and mentoring services to our businesses in Rossendale.

We have streamlined the process now for support so follow the link to see the managers currently available to support your business with Free mentoring:

Meet the team - Boost (boostbusinesslancashire.co.uk)

If you want to take this support further then please email <a href="mailto:economicdevelopment@rossendalebc.gov.uk">economicdevelopment@rossendalebc.gov.uk</a> with your preferred mentor and we will do the rest!



NEW/SI ETTER

# LEP SKILLS IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Lancashire Enterprise Partnership (LEP) are working, in conjunction with Lancashire's three Chambers of Commerce to gather intelligence from businesses to inform Lancashire's Local Skills Improvement Plan.

The first stage in this process is to conduct a far reaching survey of Lancashire businesses.

The views of the business community are crucial in shaping the plan. Can you please complete the survey and communicate this survey out to your networks?

Lancashire has been chosen by the Department of Education as one of eight UK Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP) Trailblazers which aims to reshape the local technical skills system to better support the needs of the local labour market and the wider economy.

This will take place in the form of events, focus groups, interviews and online surveys.

The LEP are therefore writing to request your assistance in the first instance to complete the Employer Skills Survey here.

The results of this initial survey will provide us with the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding as to where the skills gaps exist and where further investigatory work will need to be undertaken.

Your feedback is of vital importance, please do get involved – this is your opportunity to really make a difference.

# **RESIDENTS SURVEY**

# We want to hear from YOU

# Residents Survey

bit.ly/RossendaleSurvey

Have your say before the **20th May 2022** to help improve council services







# FEEDBACK & SUPPORT

We are always looking to improve and we can only do that with feedback from you!

If you would like to tell us how we have done or how we can improve, then please email

economicdevelopment@rossendalebc.gov.uk

Our dedicated economic development team is here to support you in the following ways:

- Free business signposting
- A dedicated website for business in Rossendale
- Promotional videos
- Invest In Rossendale business workshops
- Business enquiry and property search function
- NNDR Relief Scheme

Here are the best ways to contact us:

Phone: 01706 252480

Email: economicdevelopment@rossendalebc.gov.uk

Rossendale Borough Council
The Business Centre
Futures Park
Bacup OL13 0BB