

Real Help for Businesses

Ride out the Recession Event

Business Link East Midlands



What is Business Link?

- A national business and skills brokerage service to help businesses
- Delivered by East Midlands Business Ltd in the East Midlands – ***Thinking Regionally, Acting Locally!***
- An impartial, independent business support service for all Small and Medium Sizes Enterprises.



Benefits

- A robust and impartial Business Review to help identify business and skills needs, leading to an agreed Action Plan
- Single point of access
- High quality information
- Knowledge of and access to a wide network of providers
- Free of charge.



Resources Available

- Network of qualified Business Link Advisers with business and skills knowledge
- Award-winning website

www.businesslink.gov.uk/eastmidlands

- Access to Business Support
- Skills Portal and Service Provider Register
- Brokerage to a wide range of partner organisations and providers to meet needs.



Real Help For Business

- **How can I save money?**
 - Get a health check for your business
 - Reduce waste and save energy
- **How do I find help to keep staff and improve productivity?**
 - Find funding to support your training and improve staff skills
 - Find out about training, recruitment and redundancy support
 - Avoid making redundancies
 - Help to deal with staff restructures and major change.



Funding Support for Businesses

- **Enterprise Finance Guarantee Scheme**

- Available through the Banks
- Government guarantee for 75% of the loan
- Most sectors and small businesses qualify
- Loans from £1000 to £1m and up to 10 years

- **Enterprise Loans East Midlands**

- Loans up to £20000 to support small businesses which are unable to access Bank Finance.
- www.enterpriseloanseastmidlands.co.uk



Grants

- Grant availability changes regularly
- Talk to your Business Link Adviser to find out what's available to support your particular project
- Have that discussion BEFORE you begin any project as funding cannot be applied retrospectively
- Grants are discretionary and must meet eligibility criteria.



Resource Efficiency Grant

- A Resource Efficiency Diagnostic is a pre-requisite
- Projects to purchase more efficient capital equipment may qualify
- Where applicable, equipment must be purchased from Energy & Water Technology lists
- 50% of project costs up to a maximum of £10,000
- Equipment may also qualify for Enhanced Capital Allowance.



Skills Support

- Train to Gain
 - NVQs
 - Apprenticeships (now all ages)
 - Skills for Life – literacy, numeracy, ESOL
 - Modules
- Leaders First
 - Grant funding to support development of Owner Managers/MDs.
 - Min 5 Employees – Max £1000



On-line self-help for businesses

- Web tools

www.businesslink.gov.uk/eastmidlands/creditcrunch

- Business Health Check

www.businesslink.gov.uk/eastmidlands

- Resource Efficiency Diagnostic

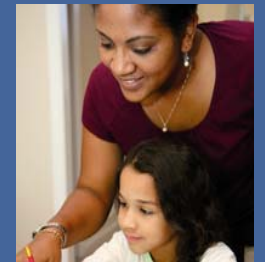
<https://diagnostic.businesslinkem.co.uk>

- Which Finance Scheme is suitable for me?

www.businesslink.gov.uk/eastmidlands/realhelp



Winning Public Sector Business



supported by



A programme of events across the East Midlands

- August 2009 – February 2010
- Helping SMEs to win business from the public sector
- August & September – 11 free information events
- September – December – 21 free full day workshops on 4 different themes
- January & February – Three Meet the Buyer events – just £25 per delegate inc. VAT

Winning
Public Sector
Business

Stage One – Information events

Winning
Public Sector
Business

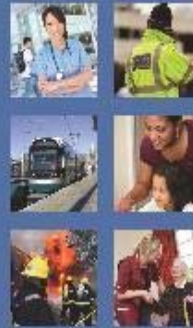
You are invited to our **FREE** events on

“Understanding Public Procurement”

Discover how small businesses like yours can best access the multi-million pound spend of the East Midlands public sector.

Monday 10th August 3:00pm - 5:00pm – Lincolnshire	Tuesday 11th August 8:30am - 10:30am – Nottinghamshire 3:00pm - 5:00pm – Derbyshire	Wednesday 12th August 8:30am - 10:30am – Leicestershire 3:00pm - 5:00pm – Northamptonshire
--	--	---

R.S.V.P. on attached card



Reply Card

Please select the date and time that is most convenient for you.

Please reserve _____ delegate place(s).

- | | | |
|--|------------------|---------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Monday 10th August | 3:00pm - 5:00pm | The Epic Centre, Lincolnshire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday 11th August | 8:30am - 10:30am | Nottingham Forest Football Club |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday 11th August | 3:00pm - 5:00pm | Pride Park, Derbyshire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday 12th August | 8:30am - 10:30am | Walkers Stadium, Leicestershire |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday 12th August | 3:00pm - 5:00pm | Kettering Conference Centre |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thank you for your invitation. Unfortunately I cannot attend any of the above events, please send me details of the September information events. | | |

Your tel: _____

Your e-mail: _____

Business description: _____

Please enter names of additional attendees: _____

The information you provide will be held in accordance with the Data Protection Act (1998) on our database and used by the event partners to inform you of any seminars that might be of benefit to you and your organisation. Please tick the box if you do not wish to have your details used for this purpose. ☐



Stage One – Information events

10 th August 2009, 3pm – 5pm	The EPIC Centre, Lincolnshire
11 th August 2009, 8:30am – 10:30am	Nottingham Forest Football Club
11 th August 2009, 3pm - 5pm	Pride Park, Derby
12 th August 2009, 8:30am – 10:30am	Walkers Stadium, Leicester
12 th August 2009, 3pm - 5pm	Kettering Conference Centre, Northamptonshire
8 th September, 8:30am – 10:30am	The EPIC Centre, Lincolnshire
8 th September, 3pm – 5pm	Barleythorpe Conference Centre, Oakham, Rutland.
9 th September, 8:30am – 10:30am	Nottingham Forest Football Club
9 th September, 3pm – 5pm	Pride Park, Derby
10 th September, 8:30am – 10:30am	Walkers Stadium,
10 th September, 3pm – 5pm	Conference Centre, Northamptonshire

Further information

- Please visit www.procurementem.co.uk
- To book for the information events book online, complete an invite and post, or please contact:

Kim Newton

Tel: 02476 236 290

Email: Kim@btob.co.uk

Business Link East Midlands

0845 058 6644

info@businesslinkem.co.uk

www.businesslink.gov.uk/eastmidlands

