

BLACKBURN WITH DARWEN... OPEN *for* BUSINESS 2016



In this leaflet you'll find a summary of what's available to help support your business to **grow and thrive in Blackburn with Darwen**.

Found this useful? Keep up-to-date with key updates by joining Hive – the borough's business leaders network:

www.business-hive.co.uk/join_hive



HIVE

BLACKBURN AND DARWEN
BUSINESS LEADERS
NETWORK

Acquiring new machinery, improving or buying property, expanding your premises or making infrastructure improvements?

Non-repayable capital grants from **£10,000** for existing businesses with growth projects.

Access **funding and additional support** via the Boost Business Lancashire programme.

Website:

www.boostbusinesslancashire.co.uk

Email:

info@boostbusinesslancashire.co.uk

Freephone: 0800 488 0057

Interested in doing business with the Council and its partners?

Register your business for free with **'The Chest'** to be notified of opportunities to supply the Council and other North West Local Authorities. Suppliers should also visit **'BuyBwD'** – the gateway for local suppliers looking for wider contract opportunities in Blackburn with Darwen and further afield.

Website:

www.the-chest.org.uk and www.buybwd.co.uk

Email:

procurement@blackburn.gov.uk

The Hive Blackburn & Darwen Business Awards are back!

Backed by the Hive business leaders network, find out more about entering or attending the **2016 Blackburn and Darwen Business Awards**.

Website:

www.hivebusinessawards.co.uk

Email:

hiveawards@fettleevents.co.uk

One Cathedral Square

Stunning Grade A Offices To Let overlooking the new Cathedral Square. Up to 28,127 sq ft over 5 floors. Building includes ground floor retail or restaurant units, alongside new 60 bed Premier Inn Hotel, Cathedral Court and Bus Interchange fronting Blackburn Railway Station.

Website:

www.cathedralquarterblackburn.com

Phone:

Caroline James, Trevor Dawson on 01254 681133 or David Porter, Knight Frank on 0161 833 7725. For the retail/restaurant units, contact John Brady on 0161 839 1213

Looking for other premises in the borough?

Check out the Council's **land and property portfolio**, in addition to our managed Business Centres at Eanam, Greenbank and Furthergate.

Website:

www.blackburn.gov.uk/Pages/Businesses.aspx and www.blackburnbusinesscentres.co.uk

Looking to improve, extend or make alterations to your premises?

Find out if Building Regulations are applicable by contacting **Pennine Lancashire Building Control**, your Local Authority Building Control service.

Website:

www.penninelancsplace.org/buildingcontrol

Email:

building.control@blackburn.gov.uk

Phone: (01254) 505022

How can you keep your business resilient when faced with disruption?

Every year **1 in 5 businesses face a major disruption to their services**. 1 in 10 of these will cease trading. If your premises were to suffer a fire, flood, utility failure etc. how would you maintain your critical business functions?

Website:

www.blackburn.gov.uk/Pages/Business-continuity-advice.aspx

Want to export?

Local support is available to **new and existing exporters** looking to access new markets, increase sales and reduce costs. Contact the International Trade Team at the East Lancashire Chamber of Commerce or visit the UK Trade and Investment website.

Website:

www.chamberelancs.co.uk

www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-trade-investment

Phone:

(01254) 356400 (East Lancashire Chamber of Commerce)

Want to upskill your workforce?

Skills Support for the Workforce is set to return later this year (2016). Available to enterprises across Lancashire, it offers fully-funded and accredited training to support individuals to improve their existing skills and knowledge. Keep checking the website for details of the re-launch.

Website:

www.lancshireskillssupport.co.uk

Phone:

0800 488 0057

Looking to promote your business?

An exciting opportunity has arisen to **advertise on the Council's bus shelters** across Blackburn and Darwen. With over 100 sites available to advertise your business, you could have access to the 3 million bus passengers a year, or the 25,000 drivers that use our roads on a daily basis. For only £50 a week, your advertising campaign can last as long or as short as you require.

Contact the Council: 01254 585551

Hiring an apprentice?

An **Apprenticeship Grant** for Employers worth £1,500 is available for businesses with less than 50 employees, who are new to apprenticeships or haven't enrolled a new recruit or existing employee onto an Apprenticeship programme in the previous 12 months. Employers can be paid up to 5 grants in total, subject to availability.

Website:

www.gov.uk/take-on-an-apprentice

Phone:

08000 015 0600 (National Apprenticeship Service)

Recruiting?

Blackburn Jobcentre can help. Based on your requirements, the Jobcentre will source and refer the best candidates for your vacancies for **FREE**.

For further information please contact the Employer Adviser Team at Blackburn Jobcentre plus on 01254 343620/343621 or email Julia.Murray1@dwp.gso.gov.uk