



This is a busy newsletter with information on a range of help and support for businesses. Please feel free to share.

EnterprisingYou is a fully funded programme supporting self-employed, gig economy and small business owners who are residents of Greater Manchester. EnterprisingYou offers all participants access to a dedicated Business Coach, plus much more. The programme includes access to free training and development, paid for co-working spaces, access to specialists in finance and health & wellbeing, as well as the opportunity to work with a mentor with a wealth of experience running successful businesses. EnterprisingYou work flexibly around the participants commitments and offer 24 hours access to our knowledge bank of business and wellbeing resources on mobile app and web.

Eligibility Criteria

18+

Income of less than £27,000 after business expenses per year*

Trading for 4 months and above (No cap thereafter)

GM Resident (Business can operate outside of GM or online)

*This includes income from salary, dividends, expenses, profit, pension, benefits etc but is not the turnover or sales of the business

For more information please take a look at: <https://www.enterprising-you.co.uk/>

Could you benefit from some **peer to peer support**? The Government has launched a programme seeing the creation of a series of peer networks (cohorts) through the Growth Hub network, with each group consisting of 8-11 owners or managers from the SME business community participating in each network. Led by an experienced facilitator, these peer networks will typically meet fortnightly as part of delivering 18 hours of action learning through 2-3-hour sessions. Individual one-to-one support (coaching, mentoring, or advice) will also be provided either directly by the programme, or from other existing schemes to help to implement and manage change. Active involvement in the peer network will enhance the leadership capabilities, knowledge and confidence of business owners and entrepreneurs within a local region. It will help build local connectivity and strength within the SME business community.

Eligibility for the programme

Essential criteria:

GM based businesses

In operation for 1 year+

At least 5 employees*
An aspiration to improve
A turnover of at least £100,000

For more information please see : <https://www.peernetworks.co.uk/>

Rochdale Training are reaching out to employers across the Rochdale Borough, Greater Manchester and the North West to understand what **skills and training support** they can offer you in these difficult times.

They have recently secured substantial Government funding to support employers to develop the workforce throughout 2021. To enable Rochdale Training to help you, they need your help to provide information regarding the skills and training support your organisation needs. Please take 5 minutes to complete the attached short survey by no later than 15th February 2021. In return, they will allocate employers a training budget of up to £27,000 for each eligible employee or new employee/Apprentice.

Follow this link to access the survey https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1X4dGGcJ2KN8cc-1V7Xsps8aaf5f6_kd4twFUbiOP56Y/edit

Are you a manufacturer looking for support to develop and grow your business? The Business Growth Hub has launched its next cohort of the '**Made for Manufacturing ' Programme**. It will offer tailored advice and workshops from speakers, peer-to-peer learning and one-on-one support from one of the Hub's specialist Manufacturing Advisors. Other support will include virtual factory tours to observe industry best practices, workshops, and practical exercises to help business leaders commit to actions and continuous improvements. It will also identify opportunities and priorities for competitive advantage through digitisation, additive manufacture and automation. The third Made For Manufacturing programme will run March to July 2021.

The application deadline is 12 February 2021. Further information and the online application process are available at <https://www.businessgrowthhub.com/manufacturing/made-for-manufacturing> or call Nick Brandwood, Programme Manager on 07718 301 235.

We all know we face the challenge of clean growth and clean cities. Would you like to know more about the technologies that could help and consider the **wider clean growth strategy**? MMU are running a short free online course.

On the course, you'll explore the latest research that's contributing to the decarbonisation of the UK, as well as exploring the current targets which are forecast to be met using technologies and solutions such as hydrogen in the gas network and large-scale deployment of fuel cells. You'll learn about the future green skills economy and equip yourself with the skills to be part of the workforce that helps regions achieve their carbon net zero targets. You'll also consider the impact of the successful meeting of these targets on climate change and sustainable industrial development.

For more information please see here: <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/clean-growth-and-cleaner-cities>

Are you looking to grow ideas, boost productivity and unlock your creativity? If so, how about using an innovation culture to do so? **Inspiring innovation**, the new fully-funded online programme from

the Manchester Business School is designed to help Greater Manchester SMEs boost productivity, growth and creativity by **exploring the potential of Additive Manufacturing**.

With access to their team, innovation research and cutting edge technology, the PrintCity Network is a two phased programme offering businesses the skills to commercialise a product ready for market, through research and development to a commercially proven innovation process. You will be able to draw upon their university resources, established PrintCity facilities and strong business links. The fully-funded practical programme will assist businesses to:

- Explore business opportunities in response to market trends and current business activity
- Gain an understanding and knowledge of the latest additive manufacturing technologies and processes to explore how they can benefit their business
- Identify and explore key opportunities for new processes or products, inspiring innovation
- Join a community of Greater Manchester SMEs to build a support network

Those that progress to phase 2, will then have the potential to access equipment of an industrial grade, capable of producing fully functional commercially ready parts and products. Businesses will look at Additive Manufacturing from a digital workflow perspective, applying creativity and innovation to the development of a product. For more information please see: <https://www.mmu.ac.uk/business-school/business/sme-support/printcity-network/>

The Business Growth Hub are currently recruiting for cohort 5 of their **Recipe4Success programme**, a comprehensive programme of funded support for Greater Manchester-based SME food and drink businesses with the aspiration to grow.

Consisting of a tailored series of food and drink specific workshops and networking events designed to help businesses overcome barriers and succeed. The programme culminates in an exciting opportunity to pitch product to a panel of buyers, ranging from hyperlocal to nationwide chains.

The programme is for Pre-start and Early-stage businesses (0-3 years trading). More details as well as where to register interest can be found here: [Recipe4Success | GC Business Growth Hub](#) Registration to the programme closes on February 16th 2021.

Rochdale 6th Form college are trying to bring their work experience programme to a virtual setting in order to try and give the students valuable and meaningful **work experience opportunities** to help improve their knowledge and employability skills. They are looking for employers to:

- Deliver career talks, Q&A's or webinars on their job role, experience or company
- Help put together a form of virtual work placements where students could be given tasks/projects to do and receive feedback from the employers
- Virtual tours of their company (these could be pre-recorded videos)
- Mock Interviews
- Participate in Apprenticeship week (8th of Feb) If your company takes on apprentices it would be great if a talk could be delivered on the ins and outs of apprenticeships, specifically degree level apprenticeships.

If you would like to help, please contact Jemma Biddulph, Employability Co-ordinator j.biddulph@rochdalesfc.ac.uk or call 01706 769990.

The Growth Company has developed a **Mental Health and Wellbeing Resources Pack** providing information on how the pandemic may affect mental health along with advice and guidance on how to best manage this during these challenging times. A library of resources and local, national and international support services is also included in the pack.

And a reminder to Stakehill based businesses....to register for the next BID on 3rd February event please see <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/stakehill-bid-31275449301>

If you have received this from a colleague but would like to receive it direct in future, please sign up here: <https://investinrochdale.co.uk/contact-us/email-updates>
If wish to stop receiving the newsletter, please return the email with the word 'UNSUBSCRIBE' in the subject line.

Kind regards

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