

Merseyside Business Support Programme - Supporting Business Growth and Employment in Sefton

Sefton Council has secured a share of £10m ERDF funding, aimed at boosting the Merseyside economy, and supporting business growth, and employment opportunities.

The Merseyside Business Support (MBS) programme (2012-14) is a business-led initiative developed through a partnership involving the six Liverpool City Region local authorities, business organisations, and the community and voluntary sector.

Sefton Council's Merseyside Business Support Programme is being delivered by InvestSefton and Sefton@Work, the Council's specialist enterprise business support, investment and employment & skills services. Businesses from across the borough are benefiting from funded employment and business support services on a one-to-one basis and through business workshops and referrals to specialist agencies.

Sefton Council has assisted hundreds of businesses to grow, helping to create over 2,500 jobs and £17million of private sector investment.

Support includes:

- Detailed diagnostic and tailored support
- Business operations and business planning:
 - Helping businesses to access finance and grant funding
 - Business planning, cashflow, cost reduction
 - HR, employment & skills support including recruitment, contracts, disputes
- Businesses winning business:
 - Sales and marketing, optimisation of web sites, using social media to sell your business
 - Tendering support, using The Chest, free tender alerts
 - International Festival for Business 2014, Export, Import support
 - Construction Forums, opportunities for local businesses to become part of the supply chain
- Sites and premises search and free advertising of your vacant commercial properties
- Sectoral support for businesses in key sectors including low carbon, SuperPort, manufacturing, digital economy

For further information on how your business could benefit from the Merseyside Business Support Programme please contact :

InvestSefton: (Business Support)

Sefton MBC
Magdalen House, 30 Trinity Road
Bootle, Liverpool L20 3NJ

0151 934 3452
info@investsefton.com
www.investsefton.com

Sefton@Work: (HR and Recruitment)

Sefton MBC
286 - 288 Stanley Road
Bootle, Liverpool L20 3ER

0151 934 2875
paula.cain@sefton.gov.uk
www.seftonatwork.net

The Merseyside Business Support Programme is funded through the European Regional Development Fund. Participation will be counted as direct support to your business, and will need to be included in any De Minimis Declaration under State Aid. www.communities.gov.uk/erdf