

investsefton



## Investsefton Newsletter Issue 38 January 2015

Welcome to the latest edition of the Investsefton newsletter, which we hope will give you the opportunity to find out more about the latest business news, opportunities, events, funding, incentives and support available to businesses in Sefton.

### Funded support for new social entrepreneurs

Want to change something in society for the better and think business could be the way to do it?

Then you may want to consider social enterprise. Shared Future CIC is launching their 'Lattice Works' social enterprise support service in January 2015 with one-to-one support 'surgeries' available in Southport. Those outside the area can access the support, but must be willing to travel to Southport.

Read more on our [website](#).

### New Ways of Doing Business with Sefton Council - 'Ask the Buyer'

Sefton businesses had the opportunity of attending an 'Ask the Buyer' event recently, when purchasing officers from Sefton Council participated in six InvestSefton business workshops on New Ways of Doing Business with Sefton Council. Sefton Council spends £millions per annum with businesses of all sizes, including sole traders, and small firms. The Council has a commitment to achieving value for money, and actively encourages competition, welcoming proposals from new and existing suppliers.

Over 100 businesses attended events in Bootle, Southport and Aintree, to learn about the Council's new Risk-Based Sourcing approach for Requests for Quotes, which will make it easier for small firms to do business with Sefton Council. Topics also included The Chest contracts portal, which has opportunities with 47 NW Councils and sub-contract opportunities with 1st tier suppliers, and tendering support available through InvestSefton under the Mersey Business Support Programme. Businesses also participated in open forum 'Ask the Buyer' sessions at the events, covering topics including accreditations, pre-qualification, and opportunities for new suppliers. Feedback was excellent, with businesses who have not supplied the Council before saying that they will consider doing so in the future, with support from InvestSefton.

To learn more about New Ways of Doing Business with Sefton Council, please contact Julie Swarbrick on 0151 934 3441 or email [Julie.Swarbrick@sefton.gov.uk](mailto:Julie.Swarbrick@sefton.gov.uk)

## Southport Rail Transport Forum Survey

Please complete a short survey at  
[www.srtf.org.uk](http://www.srtf.org.uk)  
by 31 January 2015

Southport Rail Transport Forum (SRTF) is inviting Sefton's business leaders to take part in a nine question survey to help us build a comprehensive 21st century Rail Modernisation Plan for Southport and North Sefton. The object is to regenerate Southport and North Sefton's economy.

The four point plan is aimed at improving and expanding connectivity to the prosperous city regions to the east and north. [Read More...](#)

## Joe Black Coffee brews up expansion

A Bootle-based coffee roaster, which has built up a loyal customer base throughout Merseyside and Greater Manchester, is expanding, with support from InvestSefton. Joe Black Coffee have been roasting coffee on Merseyside for more than fifty years, using traditional flame-roasted production techniques. Beans are sourced from among the best importers in the UK, and customers include museums, coffee shops, top restaurants, and hotels across the UK.

They recently received a £150,000 loan from The North West Fund for Loans Plus. Joe Black Coffee received the loan from the FW Capital-managed fund to cover additional stock,

marketing and other costs of its expansion plans, which will lead to the creation of new North West jobs over the next few years. FW Capital investment executive Carol Bolland, who worked with the team at Joe Black to complete the loan, said the company had “spotted a market opportunity as demand for premium quality coffee increases”. The business expansion is also being supported with recruitment and apprentice opportunities, via Sefton@Work, in conjunction with InvestSefton. Read more on this story on our [website](#).

To learn more about the support available from Investsefton please visit our [website](#).

## Investsefton Events

[Register Now](#) to attend “Selling Your Way to Success” - Sales & Marketing Workshops being held on Tuesday 3rd February at Bootle Town Hall and repeated on Tuesday 10th February, 2015 at Southport Town Hall. Further information and booking details can be found on our [website](#).

Upcoming events will include Accessing Finance and another Marketing workshop to be held in the south of the Borough.

Keep checking our [events calendar](#) for confirmed dates and venues for these events, and we will also send out email invitations.

## In the news this week....

Competition for small shops launched ([Read More...](#))

Fit for Work guidance published ([Read More...](#))

New rates guidance for home-based business ([Read More...](#))

Read these and all the rest of this weeks news stories on our [news page](#).

## Newsletter Registration

If you did not receive this newsletter direct from us but would like to be added to our mailing list please email us at [info@investsefton.com](mailto:info@investsefton.com) or complete our [online registration form](#).

Keep in touch with us! Visit our [Website](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).



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