

Coast to Capital Support Stakeholder Update

This is the latest update of the support that Coast to Capital LEP and the Coast to Capital Growth Hub Team are providing to businesses in response to the <u>COVID-19</u> pandemic, as well as the post <u>UK Transition</u> from the EU.

Support for Businesses - a statement from the Head of Services

"In 2020 our Services team were at the frontline of supporting local businesses. Throughout the course of the pandemic, the team have triaged more than 2,500 enquiries.

In addition, we are here to help businesses address the challenges faced now during the post Brexit Transition period. We know the challenges faced by business so far in 2021 and we remain committed to providing impartial and free advice."

Our Head of Services, Malcolm Brabon explains how the Growth Hub is supporting local businesses with the impact of COVID-19 and the Brexit Transition. Read the full blog post here.

The BEIS Peer Networks Programme

We have delivered this programme in partnership with MDHUB, to support business leaders during the pandemic through confidential peer learning, coaching and mentoring to allow open discussions on what their individual business needs were and where best to place them alongside other business owners.

The highly diverse group of business leaders, across all industry sectors in our area, have experienced the invaluable opportunity of the programme. Through exploring ideas on how to reposition and re-build their businesses through innovation, develop their leadership and management skills, share ideas on how to manage and motivate their remote teams and to evaluate and share experiences and information around the start of the EU transition period. The Cohorts, described by a recent attendee as "reassuring, challenging and empowering".

We look forward to sharing some success stories from the programme over the coming months.

Post EU Transition Service

We are working with delivery partners to deliver a range of services as follows.

Newable

Coast to Capital LEP is offering businesses in the area a tailored support service from experienced business advisers delivered by Newable.

The advisers can help businesses find answers to specific post EU transition questions as well as reviewing the impact these changes may have on businesses and help develop an action plan. They can provide 1:2:1 guidance and advice on challenges and opportunities in the following areas:

- Importing and exporting
- Regulations and standards
- Workforce and people
- Business and legal requirements
- Energy and climate
- Public procurement, IP and UK EU Funding

Brighton Chamber - EU Transition and Exporting Support

- Webinars with a panel of experts
- Your questions answered sessions
- Expert leaders in peer to peer support groups

If appropriate, Brighton Chamber will refer businesses to organisations who can further support business needs.

Gatwick Diamond Business and Company Connector Ltd - Support

- Brexit Transition Events
- Advice and guidance on numerous Brexit related topics

Grow Global - EU E-Commerce Support

- Help diagnose business current online trading activities with the EU and support you with any immediate concerns
- Review your online presence
- Provide 1-2-1 advice
- Create a personalised EU Transition E-commerce Action Plan for businesses

Surrey Chambers - EU Business Readiness Support

- EU Transition Helpline
- Brexit Transition webinars
- Question and answer sessions
- 1-2-1 advice

If appropriate, Surrey Chambers will refer businesses to organisations who can further support business needs.

Worthing and Adur Chamber of Commerce - EU Business Readiness Support

- Brexit Transition webinars
- Expert Hour sessions

KPMG Webinars

Coast to Capital are also working with Enterprise M3 and Thames Valley Berkshire to work with KPMG to deliver three specialist high profile webinars covering the key topic areas related to Post EU transition – International Trade, Indirect Taxes and Customs and Duties. Further information will be available shortly.

Please do feel free to share this information with your colleagues, network, and/or members. More resources and events on the UK transition can also be found on our Growth Hub Portal here.

Additional Business Support

A number of additional business support opportunities are still available, including GROWTHmapper Diagnostics and DNAsix, as well as advice through our Growth Relationship Managers and Growth Champions.

Growth Relationship Managers

Our team of Growth Relationship Managers work with businesses to assess their needs and introduce solutions. They can help identify potential sources of funding, facilitate growth strategies and connect clients with partner providers of support.

The Growth Relationship Managers undertake a structured review to identify the key areas to address to realise the business's growth ambitions. Following the review the Growth Hub team can fund a day of a specialist's time in a key identified area.

Fiona Anderson is acting Growth Relationship Manager in the East Surrey, Gatwick and Crawley area, with **Karen Tyrrell** covering the Arun, Chichester, Horsham and Mid Sussex area. This is alongside our Growth Relationship Team Leader, **Ryan Davies**, who heads up the Brighton, Worthing and Adur area.

More information about our Growth Hub Team.

Growth Champions

Eligible businesses can benefit from a free full day of funded support from a Growth Champion to address any barriers to COVID-19 recovery or UK transition from the EU. There is a network of 40 Growth Champions with expertise covering a wide area including Finance, HR, Marketing, Innovation, International Trade, Leadership and Management.

Businesses can contact the Growth Hub team for additional support through the online <u>Growth Hub Contact Form</u>, from which a Growth Relationship Manager will then be in touch.

The Business Hothouse

The Business Hothouse offers free support to pre-start and established businesses in the Coast-to-Capital area. From workshops to grant funding, it can provide expert guidance to get businesses growing. The Business Hothouse support programme is run by a consortium of expert delivery partners based in the Coast to Capital area, and is funded through the European Regional Development Fund and Local Authorities.

The program offers free expert business knowledge support and access to government grant funding. It is open to pre-start and established businesses and will run until September 2022. More information is available online here.

Information - Coast to Capital Growth Hub Portal

The Growth Hub Team continue to maintain the <u>COVID-19</u> and <u>UK Transition</u> section of the Growth Hub Portal with links to available support. We continue to collate partner information and place it in our COVID-19 Business Support <u>area</u> of the Coast to Capital Growth Hub.

The new design makes it even easier for businesses to access a number support services for the sector and location that businesses may operate in, including:

- Brexit Transition
- COVID-19
- Funding and Grants
- Growth Champions
- Growth Relationship Managers
- Peer Networks
- Employment and Skills

View our new Growth Hub Portal online <u>here</u> – please do share with your networks as you feel necessary.

We also regularly update our <u>event pages</u> on the Growth Hub website to include information from membership organisations, the private sector and business support providers.

We remain keen to work in partnership with business support organisations to deliver a coordinated range of activity during these challenging times.

- If you want to discuss any collaborations please contact <u>Lou Williams</u> in the first instance.
- If there are any updates, or you want to submit new content, for the portal please contact Ivy Silverton.