

SOUTH EAST LEP NEWSLETTER

Join us for our Annual Conference and AGM South East Futures: Our Evolving Economy

Friday 7th October 2022 | 9.00am-10.45am

Join us at this virtual event to hear more about what changing economic conditions mean for businesses and how we, along with our partners and Network, are encouraging growth and investment to support the South East economy to flourish.

Our Annual Conference will be followed by our Annual General Meeting, held from 11am-12pm on Friday 7th October 2022.



SIGN UP TO ATTEND

SELEP-backed The Plaza at Braintree's Horizon 120 business and innovation park holds official opening



SELEP Chief Executive Adam Bryan recently attended the opening of The Plaza at the Horizon 120 business park in Braintree. This £14.7m project received £7m from SELEP's Getting Building Fund and will provide 42 private offices for small businesses, as well as co-working space, conference and meeting rooms, and a highly energy efficient for new and young businesses to innovate and grow.

Govt unveils energy bill relief scheme for businesses

A new six-month scheme for businesses and other non-domestic energy users (including charities and public sector organisations like schools) has been unveiled by Business Secretary Jacob Rees-Mogg. The scheme is being offered by the Government to help protect businesses from soaring energy costs and provide them with the certainty they need to plan their business.



Navigators at SELEP's Growth Hub, the South East Business Hub, are available to provide businesses with support and guidance for the many schemes and funding programmes on offer in the South East.

VISIT THE GROWTH HUB

Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition – £60m R&D funding available for technology

UK SHORE have announced the launch of the third round of the Clean Maritime Demonstration Competition (CMDC), which will allocate £60m of match R&D funding for technology and system demonstrations in clean maritime solutions between April 2023 and March 2025. The application window will close at 11:00 on 9 November 2022. The CMDC programme is a multi-year R&D funding initiative and Maritime UK is working with the Department for Transport, Innovate UK and Innovate UK KTN to deliver a number of regionally focussed CMDC Industry Update Events.

The dedicated South East Regional Event will be held on Thursday 13th October 2022, 11.00-13.00 and you can register to attend [here](#). A CMDC National Networking Event is also taking place on the 7th October in London – book your place [here](#).

FIND OUT MORE

In other news...

SELEP Chair Christian Brodie chaired the recent LEP Network event, [Engaging Businesses in Local Government Conference 2022: Boosting Local Economic Growth](#). The conference focused on the need for local authorities to evaluate the way they engage with businesses in a post-pandemic economy, putting the knowledge, influence and expertise of local businesses to best use to drive new opportunities and encourage growth and recovery.

Lower Thames Crossing recently hosted two [Meet the Bidder](#) events for local businesses to learn more about the programme, project ambitions, procurement process and opportunities. LTC is also working with the [Supply Chain Sustainability School](#) to help upskill businesses that are keen to tender for work on the project. Further information can be [found here](#).

'[The Collaborative Coast](#)' was the focus of a very successful event hosted by the [Eastern Arc](#) on 22nd September. Academics and stakeholders came together to build collaborations to advance the prosperity of our coast, ranging from renewable energy, green-blue economy, art, culture and tourism and health and wellbeing, including an address from Prof. Chris Whitty.

The first round of Innovate UK's Accelerated Knowledge Transfer to Innovate (AKT2I) pilot scheme is now open. The [AKT2I pilot](#) will support a UK Higher Education, Further Education institution, Research Organisation or Catapult to work with a UK registered business, charitable company, or charity to deliver a short, rapid and targeted intervention, to accelerate the evaluation or development of an innovation project or concept. More information can be [found here](#).

Coming up...

SELEP Chief Executive Adam Bryan, among other SELEP partners, will be speaking at the upcoming [Tomorrow's South East](#) event, a major summit for councils across the South East, held by South East Councils and Localis and taking place on the 19th October. Leaders will come together to discuss the Levelling Up agenda, pressures facing local government, and plans for growth.

STEM Learning, a member of SELEP's Skills Advisory Panel, is co-hosting Green Careers Week from the 7th-12th November. More information will be available soon, so take a look and see how you could get involved.

[Maritime UK Week 2022](#) takes place 10th-16th October and will shine a spotlight on the latest developments in the maritime sector and engage people across the UK with the world of maritime. Details of how to get involved can be [found here](#).

I-Construct is holding several [Business Bootcamps](#), which are free, two-day interactive sessions designed to help businesses grow and boost their competitiveness. Taking place online or in-person, the first series runs on the 5th and 12th October, and is repeated on the 23rd and 30th November. I-Construct will also be discussing its [Supply Chain Collaboration](#) opportunities at its upcoming roadshows in Orsett Hall, Essex on the 19th October and Mercure Tunbridge Wells, Kent on the 9th November. [Sign up to attend these events here](#).

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