

News Bulletin: January 2020

FRH is an enterprise hub, managed by Sobus (a Fulham based charity), and supported by our Landlords, Peabody Housing Trust and the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea.



Our aim is to support local enterprise – through the provision of affordable office and meeting room space, as well as through access to training and support.

Forthcoming activities at Freston Road Hub

Happy New Year to all our licensees, room hirers and business community colleagues!

Sobus is pleased to continue to offer significant discounts for desk hire, hot desk, room hire and mailbox services for local businesses and entrepreneurs at our Freston Road Hub – please contact us for further information: reception.frh@sobus.org.uk

1-2-1 business support:

You've got your brilliant idea, gone on the business courses, finished the training, got positive feedback from everyone you've talked to, and yet....

Setting up your own business can be a daunting prospect – finding suppliers, figuring out what needs to be done first, and what the *right* first step is, can feel overwhelming. You know you've got a great idea, product or service – you just need a bit of help and support to nudge you into action, get moving in the right direction and start getting your brilliant business up and running.

Sobus can provide 1-2-1 support to RBKC entrepreneurs who need some mentoring and support to get their businesses going. We can help with:

- Developing your business and action plan
- Planning and developing your website
- Marketing and promotion
- Production and distribution
- Putting basic things in place

Through up to six (free) 1-2-1 sessions, together with discounted hot-desk and a free mailbox service for 12 months, Sobus will support you to take the first steps in getting your business idea off the ground, with practical, bespoke support and advice.

Am I eligible?

This services is available for free for RBKC residents. Priority will be given to individuals who are residents in the North Kensington ward of RBKC and/or are Peabody Housing Trust tenants in RBKC. Please note – priority clients (Peabody Housing Trust tenants and residents of North Kensington) ward are offered up to 8 free 1-2-1 sessions, plus additional discounts for hot desk, room hire and mailbox services.

For further information, please contact info@sobus.org.uk

Local business and enterprise news from RBKC

Entrepreneurs, start-ups and businesses get the latest news and information on events and opportunities in the borough – [Sign up now](#) to **The K&C Life newsletter** to avoid missing out.

PBC courses scheduled for January under the Rocket Launch Your Business Project part of the [Grenfell Community Leadership Programme](#) below. Demand is high, so register online paying a small **refundable** deposit.. If no places are available call PBC and they will add your name to our waiting list. For those not part of our Project yet, contact PBC (020 7460 5050 ~ info@pbc.co.uk) for the **promotional code required** for the online registration.

7th & 8th January 2020, 10am – 4pm: [Build a WordPress Website & learn the basics on SEO](#) – Course. Mike Loomey, an SEO expert and Julian Holden, a digital consultant will teach you the basics of how you can build a website with WordPress and make Google love it using SEO tricks. **Basic computer skills are required (browsing, downloading, saving, retrieving & opening files).** **Attendees have to bring their own laptops.** Please arrive 15 minutes early to facilitate the setup process. Learn more [here](#)



**PORTOBELLO
BUSINESS
CENTRE**

15th January 2020, 2:30pm – 5pm: [Start Your Own Business Introduction Seminar](#). If you have a deep desire to get paid for doing the work you were meant to do, this 2.5 hour seminar would be a great place to start. PBC's Senior Business Advisor, [Maria Stammers](#), will take you through the **basics** you need to know at the beginning. Learn more [here](#)

23rd January 2020, at 2pm – 5pm: [Set Up How To Set Up A Social Enterprise/ Not For Profit Organisation – Seminar](#). James Watkins, a business support advisor and economic development specialist will advise you on how to set up a Social Enterprise/ Not For Profit Organisation. Learn more [here](#)

27th, 28th and 30th January 2020: [Start Your Own Business – 3-Day Course](#). Laurie Bernard, Carole Pyke, Nina Risoli, Sunil Vadukul, Ranti Williams and Michael Campbell will cover Financial Planning, Legal Structures, Business Planning, Market Research, Marketing Strategy, Accounting and more. Learn more [here](#)

Funding from Innovate UK (IUK) Maximum value: £2m. Deadline: 22/04/2020. The UK's innovation agency, Innovate UK (IUK) works with people, companies and partner organisations to de-risk, enable and support innovation, and promote UK economic growth. All proposals must be business focused, rather than pure research. Applications can come from any area of technology (including arts, design, media or creative industries). Projects must start no later than October 2020 and end no later than October 2023. Click [here](#) for more.

Funding is available for businesses, community groups, and public sector organisations from Nesta. Maximum value: £10,000. Application deadline: 31/01/2020. The Democracy Pioneers Award aims to champion emerging innovations that are experimenting with ways to re-energise and reshape the future of civic participation and everyday democracy in the UK. All sizes and sectors will be considered, including start-up businesses, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Click [here](#) for more.

RBKC based The Founders Factory have a start-up competition 'The F Factor' for secondary schools and university students for a chance to win £10,000 to build a StartUp idea. **Click [Here](#) to Apply.** Deadline: Saturday, 25th January 2020, 23.59pm. Previous F Factor 14-18 year old National Winner announces first pop-up store in London. [Read more](#)

Open call to creative businesses, curators, artists, performers - Kensington + Chelsea Art Week has launched an to submit pre-existing artworks and/or ideas for projects to take place in a variety of public spaces during KCAW20. The deadline for submissions is 25 January 2020. Click [here](#) for more information

ULEZ scrappage scheme for microbusinesses. Details about the scrappage scheme and how to apply can be found on TfL's [website](#)

Apply for Tesco Community Grants. Maximum value: £ 2,000. Grants are available to support a wide range of community groups, organisations, charities, schools and other not-for-profit organisations. The Bags of Help Programme has been funded by Tesco customers from the proceeds of the 5p charge for plastic carrier bags as a result of a Government carrier bag levy. Click [here](#) for application details

Want to tell better stories about your brand an sell more? Join branding expert Michael Murdoch at the Museum of Brands as he takes your through the Story Cube formula that successful organisations use to tell their story and sell. Generously supported by The Marketors' Trust, **Brand Storytelling with Story Cube** is part of **The Museum of Brands' Professional Development Programme.** **Date:** 24th February at 6.30pm. Prices: £26, student and group discounts available - Book [here](#) now.

New location for arts businesses opens in May 2020. Cromwell Place provides Members access to 14 gallery spaces, along with permanent offices, hot-desking and shared office solutions, on-site art storage, viewing rooms, meeting rooms, a Members Club Room and a range of event support. Cromwell Place will offer Honorary Membership to museums and non-commercial arts organisations. For more information, click [here](#)

Business Guidance - Help and support for VAT. Get help with VAT by using videos, webinars, online courses and email updates from HMRC. Click [here](#)

New free resource for businesses in North Kensington. RBKC is working in partnership with Portobello Business Centre to provide bespoke business-support

through the new North Kensington Business Champion; Stuart Woodrow. Stuart can help businesses facing specific challenges in the area with financial planning, marketing, plus landlord, bank and employment issues. If you know a business who is looking for advice or guidance, or would like to be part of a North Kensington business forum, contact Stuart on 07387396397 - stuart@pbc.co.uk. See leaflet attached.



Award for people who have improved the lives of others. The RBKC Mayor's Awards. Do you know someone, perhaps an entrepreneur or a business, who is making a major contribution to life in the borough? The Mayor's Award recognises people who have served to community and improved life for others. [You can nominate online](#) or by post.

London Mayor's Start Up, Step Up London an initiative to help Londoners currently underrepresented in business start-ups and growth to develop their skills and open pathways. This programme is part of the London Mayor's commitment to supporting entrepreneurs from diverse backgrounds. If you are ready to start your business journey, register [here](#).

London & Partners' Business Growth Programme offers free impartial business advice and support to SMEs looking to grow across London. This programme can help unlock your business potential by identifying barriers to growth and providing tailored solutions including mentoring, workshops, business growth advice and opportunities across London & Partners network. Sign up to the programme via businessgrowth.london.

And finally, some inspiration from the Founders Factory

How to name your startup



Picking a name for your startup can be an emotional and challenging task for founders, but it doesn't need to be. [Bhavesh Mistry](#) our Brand, Customer Experience & Design Lead spoke to Techworld about his practical and fail-safe company naming process. [Read here](#)

From all of us in the economic development team at RBKC, we wish you a very prosperous 2020.

Regards, Antonia

Antonia Hollingsworth
Business Initiatives
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea



Key Resources

Health and Well-being support. Health and well-being support is available to everybody, that includes businesses. Please go to <https://grenfellsupport.org.uk> to find details on support

Jobs, Training and Skills. If you have work opportunities which you would like to offer to local people, please contact fiona.low@rbkc.gov.uk . See also www.rbkc.gov.uk and search for 'adult learning' for skills courses.

Business Support. The economic development team at the Council fund the Portobello Business Centre www.pbc.co.uk to provide advice and support to small businesses.

RBKC. Food Safety, Health and Safety and Fire Safety e-learning training courses see <https://www.rbkc.gov.uk> search for 'food safety' for more information

Supplying the Council Sign up to this website www.capitalesourcing.com. and receive notifications on new tenders as they go up from Councils across London