

# News Bulletin

# sobus



freston  
road  
hub

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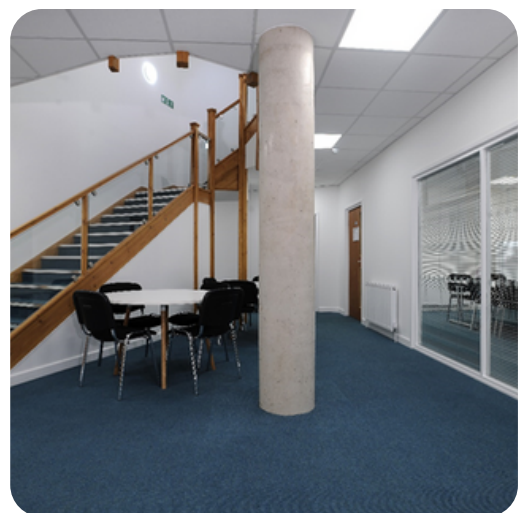
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## Business & Enterprise Support

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](mailto:reception.frh@sobus.org.uk)

Freston Road Hub 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.



**May 2022**

# Business Support at Sobus

## Business Support at Freston Road Hub



Sobus can provide 1-2-1 support to RBKC start-up businesses and local entrepreneurs who need some mentoring and/or support to establish or grow their business.

We can provide support around marketing and publicity included getting you to think about how you would reach your customers (traditional marketing, social media etc.), and put a plan in place to draw up your marketing strategy.

Support on how to conduct research to find and secure providers, and drawing up a list of the range of things needed to do to plan on how to undertake the manufacturing part of their business.

### Am I Eligible?

An introductory service is available for free for :

1.RBKC residents who run a business in RBKC which is less than 5 years old. Priority will be given to those who are residents in the North Kensington ward of RBKC and/or are Peabody Housing Trust tenants in RBKC.

2.Local businesses based in the North Kensington Ward of RBKC, and which started within the last 5 years.

3.RBKC entrepreneurs who are interested in setting up their own business. Again, priority will be given to residents from the North Kensington ward of RBKC, and Peabody Tenants residing in RBKC.

[Read more](#)

## Businesses at Freston Road

Freston Road Hub offers affordable, bright, modern office space and meeting rooms for enterprises, charities and social businesses.

Facilities offered are:

- 40 + workspaces complete available on a pay as you go or monthly hire basis.
- 4 high quality meeting and training rooms accommodating from 2-32 people.
- Registered Mailing address facility.

[Our price list](#)



Meterian is fast, AI-powered "invisible security" platform is designed for maximum precision, interoperability and efficiency. Forward-thinking developers and security officers of innovative organisations get instant information to make data-driven decisions for comprehensive risk control of components in their open-source software supply chain. Customers include companies from financial, health, information, technology, and cybersecurity services sectors. Meterian is headquartered in London, UK and backed by global technology and cybersecurity investors. Follow Meterian @MeterianHQ.

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Maisanda & Co. is a Chartered Management Accountants company. They work with their clients and their business to identify any areas of concern for effective resolution and regular monitoring. They specialize in SMEs and have a vibrant team based in Sobus, Freston Road Hub.

You will be able to download lots of free business advice and subscribe to Maisanda's monthly newsletter from their website

The company's CEO has written a brilliant article called **10 Tips to survive hard times in business – Post Covid19.**

[Read more](#)

[Visit Maisanda](#)

# Training & Events



## Have you heard about SOLID

At Sobus, we are delighted to offer SOLID, a FREE online training and learning system for Hammersmith & Fulham Voluntary & Community Organisations.

SOLID is the Sobus Online Learning, Information & Development tool for Hammersmith & Fulham Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) organisations registered with Sobus.

[Read more](#)

## Celebrating Business Success with Brunel For Business

Brunel for Business free event: Celebrating business success with Brunel Hive.

Small Businesses are the backbone of our economy - fuelling growth and employing 16 million people. Brunel Hive are inviting SME leaders in the community to celebrate YOU at this Brunel event.

They have planned a networking event for you that is designed for you to establish invaluable business relationships with like-minded individuals sharing similar experiences.

[Read more](#)

## Business Marketing Masterclass - LIVE Webinar for Business Owners

This is a hard and fast, warts and all workshop into the Five Fundamental Must Do's for marketing your business online!

Date and time  
Fri, 13 May 2022

11:00 – 12:30 BST

Location  
Online event

[Read more](#)

## Free digital marketing training for local businesses

Boost your business online with a series of free online workshops for businesses.

[Sign up here](#)



# Funding



## **Funding to Help Develop Novel Technical Ideas (UK)**

Applications can be made at any time until all the funds have been exhausted.

Grants of between £250 and £5,000 are available to individuals and small groups or organisations based in the UK who have a novel technical idea which they want to try.

The first award made in 2020 enabled a community in Wales to build a free standing, mobile, gravity fed, off-grid, handwashing station to enable them to re-open their outdoor site in a Covid-safe manner.

[Read more](#)

## **Help to Grow: Digital**

There's an unexpected way to receive free funding in 2022. Leading retailers will donate money when anyone connected to your organisation shops online with them via fundraising platform easyfundraising. For example, your organisation can receive up to £50 when someone takes a new car, home, travel or pet insurance policy, up to £45 when they switch their utility or broadband provider, or up to £30 if they book a holiday.

Join us for a Free webinar with easyfundraising on the 6th April to find out how your organisation can benefit from easyfundraising platform. Community Fundraising Manager Becky Coleman will demonstrate how it works, show you how to get started and answer any questions you have.

[Read more](#)

## **Government Funded Digital Scheme to Help SMEs Grow (UK)**

The UK Government has launched a new digital scheme to support small and medium sized businesses in adopting digital technologies so they can grow.

Under the Help to Grow: Digital scheme, businesses can receive discounts of up to £5,000 off the costs of buying approved Digital Accounting and Customer Relationship Management software that will help them to effectively manage their finances and build customer relationships, enabling them to scale up their operations.

Businesses can also access free, impartial online support on how to choose the right digital technologies to boost their growth and productivity. Discounts for additional software products, including e-Commerce software, are expected to become available soon.

No application deadline has been specified.

[Read more](#)

## **Social Investment Business**

Fund to support Black and Minoritised Ethnicity-led charities and social enterprises. Unrestricted grants alongside loans with up to 100% of the loan value if needed, bespoke business support, eligibility for RLF reduced from £400k turnover to £200k turnover and minimum loan size reduced to £50k from £100k. Deadline 20 May.

[Read more](#)

### **BBC Children in Need – We Move: Youth Social Action Fund**

UK non-profit organisations who work with Black children and young people aged 18. Particularly encourage organisations that are Black-led. Up to £50,000 over 18 months. Deadline to submit expression of interest 10 Jun.

[Read more](#)

### **Enterprise Development Programme**

Charities and Social Enterprises in England, with income of £50k to £1.5m, who have an environmental mission and wish to develop their trading ideas and models are welcome to apply. Support from the programme enables organisations to grow financial resilience and impact by providing a mixture of grant and learning support to help develop and grow enterprise ideas. Deadlines 10 May, 15 Aug and 8 Nov.

[Read more](#)

### **Useful Links:**

<https://www.learn-to-grow-your-business.service.gov.uk/about>

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/newsroom/kensington-high-street-benefit-ps5-million-investment-new-business-improvement-district>

<https://www.jrct.org.uk/movement-fund-pilot>

<https://smallbusiness.co.uk/small-business-grants-uk-2548113/>

# News & Opportunities



## QPR is hosting the Grenfell Memorial Cup

Queens Park Rangers will be hosting the Grenfell Memorial Cup at Kiyon Prince Foundation Stadium on Saturday 21 May to remember the 72 victims and all those affected by the Grenfell Tower tragedy. This free community event will run from 10am to 7pm.

[Read more](#)

## Community Breakfast Invitation

Lancaster West Residents' Association will be running its free monthly breakfast morning for the community, in partnership with Hyperoptic Broadband.

The next breakfast will be at the North Kensington Resource Centre on the estate on Friday 6 May, 10am-12pm and the theme will be French and English.

Lancaster West Neighbourhood Team will also be gathering feedback on the refurbishment of the North Kensington Resource Centre, so come along and have your say on the design (see below).

Please join us if you can. No need to book.

## Community Fridge Reduces Food Waste

Since opening in September 2021 Lancaster West Community Fridge has saved 1,133 kilos of food from going to landfill which equates to over two tonnes of CO2 emissions saved.

The fridge is based at North Kensington Resource Centre between Testerton and Hurstway Walk on Lancaster West and is open twice a week: Wednesday 2.30-5.30pm and Thursday 12-3pm. It's open to all local residents to come and share food and has become a space to socialise. It's the first community fridge in the borough.

A big shout out to Kim who runs it and all the volunteers who make it possible.

## Promote your business through Tea for the Queen

The Queen's Jubilee celebrations this summer is the perfect way to get your business front of mind and be a part of a once in a lifetime event. The Over 50s Forum in Kensington and Chelsea have partnered with the Council to organise 'Tea for the Queen' on Sunday 5 June. Over 400 attendees will celebrate and, as part of the event, receive a take home memento magazine. We're offering the opportunity for local businesses to feature in this magazine as well as including your materials inside the goodie bags which will be handed out. You can benefit from this exclusive promotion by sponsoring the event, either through cash donations, raffle prizes or even providing delicious cake. Help to mark this momentous occasion and be a part of an historical event by getting in touch via 020 3719 4954 or email below.

[Email here](#)

### **How can your business celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee?**

This year, Her Majesty the Queen will become the first British monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee. In honour of her 70 years on the throne, you may want to host your own celebration this June. You can apply to host your own street party for free by following a simple application process, which is open until Sunday 1 May 2022. We have created a step-by-step guide which gives you a breakdown of the process and some helpful tips about holding a fun and safe street party in your local area.

### **Take part in RBKC Windrush artefact exhibition**

RBKC are launching an exhibition celebrating the Windrush Generation at North Kensington Library and would love to feature your artefacts. This exhibition will give insight to the lives and experiences of these everyday heroes. It will offer the opportunity to hear individual accounts of their contributions before they are lost. They are looking for artefacts, documents, personal stories, and more. Email the taskforce to get involved.

[Get in contact](#)

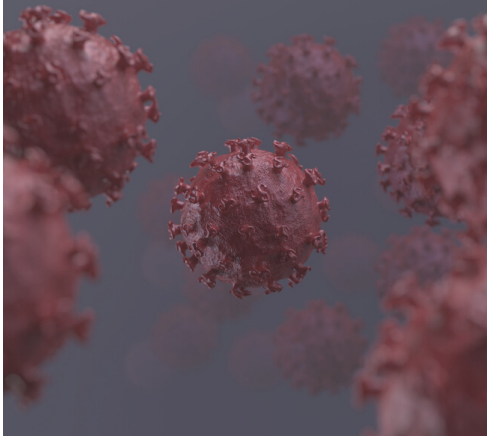
### **Portobello Business Centre**

Portobello Business centre offer and deliver one-to-one advice, training courses, seminars, workshops, business consultancy, and networking opportunities. They also provide advice on and access to business loans and finance for London-based businesses.

[Read more](#)



# Covid News



The Government has stated that from Friday 1 April, free lateral flow testing will no longer be available to the general public, instead they will be targeted at the most vulnerable residents.

This means we'll not have free home testing kits at Council sites. The use of voluntarily NHS Covid passes will also no longer be recommended.

People are still strongly encouraged however to take all possible steps to reduce the risk of catching and/or spreading Covid-19:

- Let fresh air in if meeting indoors, or meet outside
- Consider wearing a face covering in crowded, enclosed spaces
- Get tested if you have Covid-19 symptoms and stay at home if possible if you test positive

[Read more](#)

If you or your employees have symptoms of a respiratory infection, including Covid-19, a high temperature or if you feel unwell, the Government are advising people to try to stay at home and avoid contact with others. To ensure the safety of your staff, customers or clients, people should only return to the workplace when they feel well enough to resume normal activities and no longer have a high temperature.

Symptoms of Covid-19, flu and common respiratory infections include:

- continuous cough
- high temperature, fever or chills
- loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell
- shortness of breath
- unexplained tiredness, lack of energy
- muscle aches or pains that are not due to exercise
- not wanting to eat or not feeling hungry
- headache that is unusual or longer lasting than usual
- sore throat, stuffy or runny nose
- diarrhoea, feeling sick or being sick

If you or a member of staff test positive for Covid-19, it's advised to please stay at home and avoid contact with others for five days.

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) latest insights

A live roundup of the latest data and trends about the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic from the ONS and other sources.

[Read the latest insights](#)