

### Where can I get business support from?

**Regeneration – Business & Economy Team** [www.luton.gov.uk/business](http://www.luton.gov.uk/business)  
Telephone: 01528 547383 ; Email: [regeneration@luton.gov.uk](mailto:regeneration@luton.gov.uk)



Based in Luton Borough Council Regeneration, the Business Team can offer support, advice, guidance on pre-start ups, start-ups, enterprise, business growth and investment, premises, skills and training needs for you business, where to access grants etc. What we don't know we can find out for you.

**Business Link** [www.businesslinkgov.uk](http://www.businesslinkgov.uk)  
Telephone: 0845 600 9 006

Business Link is a national support organisation offering support and advice for starting and running a business. The website provides easy-to-use, tailored information on starting-up, improving or growing a business and offers access to online services such as tax assessments and step-by-step guides to financing business. Features also include 'growth and improvement services and tailored information and training to guide people through the start-up process. They also offer a mentoring service called '**MentorsMe**' to help businesses access support from business professionals and help connect companies with mentoring organisations that can support and guide their growth.



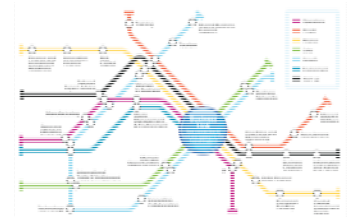
**Wenta** [www.wenta.co.uk](http://www.wenta.co.uk)  
Telephone: 0845 371 0891 / 015282 732704



Wenta is an enterprise agency which offers business advice and guidance, training and events, enterprise awareness programmes and many more services. They work with pre-start ups, start ups and established businesses and have a range of business advisors to help with all your business needs. Wenta also work with unemployed people looking to start their own business.

**The Business Map** [www.bizmapeast.co.uk](http://www.bizmapeast.co.uk)

It is essential for businesses in the East of England to have quick and easy access to advice and support. Use the Business Map website to quickly identify the information, advice or other support that's right for your business. The Business Map is an easy way to navigate through all the different business support available to businesses.





## Bedfordshire and Luton Chamber of Commerce

[www.chamber-business.com](http://www.chamber-business.com)

Telephone: 01582 522 448



The Bedfordshire Chamber of Commerce is a membership organisation which offers a range of services for all sizes of businesses. These services include business support, training, export documentation, networking events and representation and lobbying on your behalf. It is an accredited Chamber through the British Chambers

of Commerce (BCC), a non-political, not for profit organisation which works to influence national policy decision makers.

## Knowledge Hub [www.beds.ac.uk/knowledgehub](http://www.beds.ac.uk/knowledgehub)

Telephone: 0800 328 5334 ; Email: [knowledge@beds.ac.uk](mailto:knowledge@beds.ac.uk)

The University Of Bedfordshire's Knowledge Hub provides business services and solutions ranging from enterprise and entrepreneurship programmes, bespoke training and development, networking services, innovation for business growth service and monthly bulletins. They also provide graduate placements by giving access to expertise from a range of graduates to help in different areas in the business.



## Princes Trust [www.princes-trust.org.uk](http://www.princes-trust.org.uk)

Telephone: 01438 730 520 ; Email: [webinfoea@princes-trust.org.uk](mailto:webinfoea@princes-trust.org.uk)



The Prince's Trust Business Programme provides money and support to help young people aged 18-30 to start up in business. They offer practical support in the form of business skills training, helping write a business plan, one-to-one support and business mentors and loans to help young people start-up and establish their business. And, if you start a business, Princes Trust can access to a wide range of free and discounted products and services.

**Prince's Trust**

## Federation of Small Businesses [www.fsb.org.uk](http://www.fsb.org.uk)

Telephone: 01253 336 000

The Federation of Small Businesses is the UK's largest campaigning pressure group promoting and protecting the interests of the self-employed and owners of small firms. Formed in 1974, it now has 200,000 members across 33 regions and 194 branches. In addition, Member Services is committed to delivering a wide range of high quality, good value business services to members of the FSB such as legal advice from qualified lawyers, tax advice from HMRC specialists, business banking services and Insurance services.



## **National Apprenticeship Service** [www.apprenticeships.org.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk)

Telephone: 0800 150 600



Apprenticeships can help businesses across all sectors by offering a route to harness fresh new talent. UK businesses consider skills shortages and recruitment difficulties a bigger threat to performance than soaring oil prices and declining consumer spending, and more

than a quarter of these rate this form of vocational training higher than any other qualification. Apprenticeships ensure that your workforce has the practical skills and qualifications your organisation needs now and in the future. The mixture of on and off job learning ensures they learn the skills that work best for your business. NAS are a dedicated team of employer services managers who work with employers to help them introduce apprentices to their business, and contribute towards the costs of the training and qualification within an Apprenticeship.

## **Job Centre Plus** [www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk](http://www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk)

Telephone: **Employer Engagement Manager on 01727 773387**

Job Centre Plus provide a local contact for working in partnership to help fill vacancies, provide local information about available clients, details of the local labour market, and recruitment. Job centre Plus offer specialist help and advice on training, rates of pay, equal opportunities and employing people with disabilities or from overseas.

The logo for Job Centre Plus, consisting of the text "jobcentreplus" in a lowercase, sans-serif font, with "job" in green and "centreplus" in white, set against a green rounded rectangular background.

jobcentreplus

## **Health and Safety Executive** [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk)

Telephone: 01582 444200



HSE's job is to protect people against risks to health or safety arising out of work activities. They offer an advisory service for businesses on how to ensure the workplace is a safe environment to work in and also provide information and training on revised regulation and approved code of practice.

## **Resource Efficiency East** [www.resourceefficiencyeast.org.uk](http://www.resourceefficiencyeast.org.uk)

Telephone: **Elizabeth Stenton on 07917 685 299**

Resource Efficiency East (REE) delivers free specialist advice, guidance and support to small and medium sized businesses in the East of England, on how they can reduce their use of resources; water, energy and materials, and achieve financial savings as a result.

The logo for Resource Efficiency East, with "Resource" in black and "EfficiencyEast" in black, where "Efficiency" is in a smaller font and "East" is in a larger, bold font, both in a sans-serif typeface.

Resource  
EfficiencyEast

Support is delivered through a range of '1-2-1' services that help individual businesses address their resource efficiency issues. The three key services include Business Resource Review, Water Efficiency Review and an EMS initial Review.

## **Manufacturing Advisory Service East** [www.mas-east.org.uk](http://www.mas-east.org.uk)

Telephone: 0845 300 4443 ; Email: [info@mas-east.org.uk](mailto:info@mas-east.org.uk)

The Manufacturing Advisory Service in the East of England (MAS East) is a dedicated source of support to engineering, manufacturing and technology businesses within the eastern region. A team of Specialists can provide you with support via a free manufacturing expert helpline, a fully funded one-day business review or through subsidised practical, hands-on consultancy support. MAS east also makes referrals to technology or industry organisations, a resource packed web service and information on regional events.



## **UK Trade and Investment** [www.ukti.gov.uk/eastofengland](http://www.ukti.gov.uk/eastofengland)

Telephone: 0845 641 9955 ; Email: [info@uktieast.org.uk](mailto:info@uktieast.org.uk)



UK Trade & Investment (UKTI) works with UK-based businesses to ensure their success in international markets, and encourage the best overseas companies to look to the UK as their global partner of choice. UKTI help businesses trade internationally. They can put businesses in touch with a local International Trade Team who can advise on finding overseas partners, taking part in trade missions, export documentation, and more.

## **Enterprise Europe - East of England** [www.enterpriseuropeeast.org.uk](http://www.enterpriseuropeeast.org.uk)

Telephone: 01707 398024

Enterprise Europe – East of England is an information and partner brokerage service. They provide information on EU legislation and regulations and help businesses to feedback issues to the European Commission. They also help businesses to find business partners in Europe, promote their innovative products and technology to prospective partners, licensees and customers and also help to source new products, technologies or expertise meet a specific need.



Business Support on Your Doorstep

## **Minority Supplier Development UK** [www.msduk.org.uk](http://www.msduk.org.uk)

Telephone: 0116 253 2520



MSDUK is a private sector led, not-for-profit membership organisation created to provide a direct link between its corporate members and ethnic minority businesses to enable the building of mutually beneficial business relationships.

MSDUK helps SME's supply large corporate companies through training and educational workshops for suppliers in how to prepare for events and prepare for potential contract opportunities, opportunities to discuss business prospects with procurement professionals on a 1:1 basis at outreach events, networking opportunities to engage with other minority businesses and an interactive website to access information, resources and share best practice.