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#### October 2017

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# **Supporting Staffordshire Business Festival 2017**

Keele University is delighted to be a headline sponsor of the Staffordshire Business Festival for the second consecutive year. This year's Festival, taking place from 7-9



November, is a focused and fulfilling event spread over three days featuring an Inspiration Day, a Business Support Day, and a 'Made in Staffordshire' manufacturers exposition.

The Business Gateway team will be holding four seminars during the Business Support Day so come along and meet the team. Tickets are free for the event, which is being held at Uttoxeter Racecourse:

- 8.30am-9.30am <u>"Healthcare and Medical Markets: Opportunities for Business Growth"</u>
- 10am-11am "Creativity and Innovation with KRISP"
- 11.30am-12.30pm "How to Access New Markets for Your Business"
- 2.30pm-3.30pm "Creativity and Innovation with KRISP"

### **Boost your innovation leadership for business success**

Twenty-two ambitious Staffordshire entrepreneurs have benefited from a unique innovation leadership programme, the first cohort of which concluded on 13 October.



### The Mercia Centre for

Innovation Leadership (MCIL) provides a fully-funded programme combining taught sessions from leading academics and external experts with action learning and focused in-business coaching from Keele University's Entrepreneurs in Residence. The second programme, starting next month, is fully booked, but places on the third programme are still available for a Spring 2018 start.



Innovative smart energy network open to Staffordshire businesses

Already a world-leading sustainable university, Keele is developing the largest smart energy network demonstrator in Europe.

The University is inviting companies in Staffordshire to use the network as a platform for smart energy product development.

Participating companies will benefit from a three-year



**Health Apprenticeships Hub** 

Keele University has secured funds to establish the Keele Health Apprenticeships Hub, as part of preparations to develop apprenticeship delivery in nursing and related healthcare disciplines in 2018. The funding will allow Keele to work with employers and develop resources to support apprentices and their advisors.

Degree apprenticeships enable the development of high level skills, providing an alternative route to a degree and a career by te associate to support combining higher education s

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the smart network which will service the University's houses, flats, teaching facilities, Science Park and numerous other buildings across the 600-acre site.

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For more details of opportunities available, please click here.

number and range of degree apprenticeships allows more people to access higher education opportunities and develop in the careers of their choice, earning while they learn.

Full story.

## **News from Keele University Science & Innovation Park**

### **DIMEC** set to revolutionise repeat prescriptions



Keele pharmacy graduates Chris Turner and Andrew Bailey are set to revolutionise the pharmacy sector, thanks to support from the Business Bridge programme - a collaboration between Keele University and University

Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust. The funding and support from the programme has helped DIMEC to develop a smartphone app which puts patients at the centre of prescription ordering, digitally linked to their GP and chosen pharmacy. The app is now operational prior to full national launch. Full story.

#### **Cobra Expansion**

Cobra Biologics is looking to invest more than £7million into its presence at the Science and Innovation Park, creating 25 new jobs in the process. It is part of their £15million plan to support its R&D and manufacturing capabilities in the UK and Sweden. The



expansion, over the next two years, will see Cobra relocate some operations to the Park's new IC5 building as well as upgrading its quality control areas and the creation of new production suites. For more details, please see the <u>full story available on The Sentinel website</u>.

### **Exploring Brexit Seminar**



The Caja Group, based in Innovation Centre 1, is hosting a breakfast seminar from 8am on Thursday 9 November 2017 to explore how Brexit may impact on Staffordshire businesses. The seminar is set to feature representatives from Chiron Risk, Department of International Trade, Staffordshire Chambers of Commerce and Russell Business Services Ltd. For more information, and to book your place, please click here.

On Wednesday 18 October, Keele held a reception together with the Constellation Partnership at the Institute of Engineering and Technology in London, which allowed the University to showcase investment opportunities for businesses wanting to inwardly invest in Staffordshire.

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The University has an ambition to significantly grow its established collaborative community of companies who share its commitment to innovation-driven growth. With a number of investment and development-ready plots, the Park has the potential to add an additional 1.5million sq.ft. of first-class business accommodation to the local area. Full story.

# Dates for your diary

Keele University is proud to sponsor the **2017 Staffordshire Business Festival**. Taking place from 7-9 November, the Festival is set to be a meeting point for the county's ambitious businesses and naturally we'll be there too. Find out more at www.staffordshirebusinessfestival.co.uk.

We are pleased to be sponsoring this year's Tamworth and Lichfield Business Show on Wednesday 22 November. We'll be discussing the opportunities available to local businesses at the event, so reserve your free place today by visiting www.tlbusinessshow.co.uk.

Meet us in Telford at the Low Carbon Networks & Innovation Conference on 6 & 7 December 2017 - we'll be there to showcase our Smart Energy Demonstrator Network programme and discuss opportunities for business.

Certain support programmes available within the Business Gateway are receiving funding from the England European Regional Development Fund as part of the European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme 2014-2020. The Department for Communities and Local Government (and in London the intermediate body Greater London Authority) is the Managing Authority for European Regional Development Fund.



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