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BUSINESS NEWS

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01782 733001

The Business Gateway is the one-stop shop to boost your business through Keele University's world-class research, facilities, knowledge and talent, backed by substantial funding opportunities.

For a confidential discussion, and to find out how your business can benefit, please contact us on 01782 733001, business.gateway@keele.ac.uk or visit keele.ac.uk/business.

February 2019

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Healthcare business support programme announces second phase



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its second phase after receiving more than £1m of additional funding.

The University's Business Bridge* programme, which has already supported 35 local businesses in creating, developing and getting new healthcare-related products and services to market in its first phase, has received funding from the European Regional Development Fund that will enable the project to support a further 39 businesses between January 2019 and December 2021.

The programme offers businesses fully-funded innovation vouchers worth up to £5,000 each, as well as opportunities to collaborate with Keele academics on specific development projects that will enhance the business and its products and services.

To find out more about how Business Bridge could benefit your business, [please click to read the full announcement](#).

New agreement aims to boost the local creative economy by £36million



A new collaboration between local cultural and civic organisations, led by Keele University, is set to boost the local economy by £36m over the next decade.

Launched on 23 January 2019, *Keele Deal | Culture* is a landmark agreement between Keele University and Stoke-on-Trent City Council, The New Vic Theatre, B arts, British Ceramics Biennial, Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council and the Staffordshire Chambers of Commerce, setting out shared ambitions to realise the full potential of the University's cultural resources and assets for the benefit of the local area.

Through a range of innovative business support programmes, the Deal will create over 300 new jobs in the next 10 years, boosting the local economy by over £8.6m. It will help 150 businesses in the creative and cultural sectors through funded innovation projects and provide leadership development programmes to 75 owners, directors and managers in the creative and cultural sectors.

Professor Trevor McMillan, Vice-Chancellor of Keele University, said: "Creativity and culture play a huge role in Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire's economic and social futures. The Deal is a commitment from the University and its partners to invest in the growth of the local economy by supporting and helping to advance our cultural offer to the local community, through research, an exciting events programme,

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[student recruitment and retention and business support."](#)
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More details about *Keele Deal | Culture* can be found [here](#).

Business accommodation opportunities

Are you looking for new premises for your business? Keele University Science and Innovation Park may have the solution.

As one of the largest sites of its kind in the UK, the 70-acre Park provides a prestigious address, flexible accommodation and support facilities, as well as allocated car parking reserved solely for your business.

Ideal for start-ups, spinouts or larger companies, the Park currently has a range of accommodation available, starting at 108 sqf up to more than 4,000 sqf.

The Park is also now taking enquiries from businesses looking to move into the brand new Smart Innovation Hub (SIH), which is set to open later this year. With accommodation ranging from start-up offices, grow-on spaces and co-working offices, tenants will have unrivalled access to meeting rooms, boardrooms, lecture theatres and a number of business support programmes.



For more information on the accommodation opportunities available, [please visit the Keele University Science and Innovation Park webpages](#), call 01782 734321 or email kusip@keele.ac.uk.

Leadership programme now recruiting

Building on the success of the Mercia Centre for Innovation Leadership (MCIL)* programme, which has seen more than 80 local business leaders and entrepreneurs receive bespoke development from experts, Keele University is now recruiting participants for its latest cohort.

The fully-funded programme will consist of six two-day facilitated group learning sessions, led by a mix of Keele University academics and expert business leaders. Sessions will initially take place at Keele Hall, before moving to the new [Smart Innovation Hub \(SIH\)](#) when it opens later this year.

The leadership programme is open to directors or senior management of SMEs in Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire, with expressions of interest now being accepted

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for the cohort starting in May 2019. For more information, including dates, eligibility criteria and application forms, please contact the Business Gateway on 01782

733001, email business.gateway@keele.ac.uk or [visit the programme webpage](#).

Grants and achievements for low carbon technologies


Keele University's Professor Maria Heckl has been awarded a [€4 million grant from Horizon 2020](#) to support the development of emerging technology solutions that could replace fossil fuels and provide low-carbon energy solutions for combustion engines.

The new funding, combined with Keele's existing low-carbon energy research projects such as [HyDeploy](#), [SEND](#) and [Institute for Sustainable Futures](#), make Keele University a global leader for sustainable research.




Keele has also recently been [ranked amongst the top 20 universities in the world](#) for sustainability - for the third successive year.


Learn more about the University's Green initiatives at the free [Sustainability at Keele](#) talk, taking place on Wednesday 6 February 2019.



I gained a head start in my career, thanks to Keele.

Lauren
Keele University graduate





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**The following 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:*




- - Keele Research and Innovation Support Programme (Ref: 32R16P00711);

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- - Keele University Science & Innovation Park Smart Innovation Hub (Ref: 32R17P01691)

The Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (MHCLG) (and in London the intermediate body Greater London Authority) is the Managing Authority for European Regional Development Fund.

Established by the European Union, the European Regional Development Fund helps local areas stimulate their economic development by investing in projects which will support innovation, businesses, create jobs and local community regenerations. For more information visit <https://www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding>.



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