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BUSINESS NEWS

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European Union
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September 2019

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.

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Smart Innovation Hub welcomes first tenants

A brand new multi-million pound state-of-the-art landmark building housing modern business accommodation and innovative support programmes has welcomed its first tenants.

Based at the entrance to Keele University's renowned [Science and Innovation Park](#), the Smart Innovation Hub, which has been part-funded by the European Regional Development Fund*, offers a collaborative working environment which blends Keele's knowledgeable staff, talented students and expert academics with local business leaders and entrepreneurs, thanks to the Hub's unique co-location alongside the University's Business School.

Offering a range of lettable modern private offices, shared spaces and co-working environments, the Smart Innovation Hub has been designed to support the creation and growth of innovation-led businesses and start-ups, alongside major new facilities that will enable the University to grow its established programme of collaborative research, development and innovation support to local enterprises.



Among the first tenants to have moved into the new building are: **Lithium Werks**, an international producer of sustainable green energy battery storage; **Mondrem**, a public service transformation specialist; **Moneyshake**, a disrupter of the digital online price comparison industry; and **Bitjam**, a leading software research and development company.



Dr Nick Gostick, Director of the Smart Innovation Hub, said: “Our initial group of tenants are exactly the type of entrepreneurial and knowledge-intensive organisations that will thrive in the business ecosystem that we’re creating here at Keele.

“By providing collaborative workspaces alongside modern offices, meeting rooms and social spaces, we believe that the facilities will stimulate a new, more intuitive approach to business and innovation development. Coupled with the growth of our business support and incubator programmes, Keele’s capacity to contribute to the growth of the local economy and business community has never been greater.”

Find out more about the Smart Innovation Hub at keele.ac.uk/smartinnovationhub.

BREAKING THE MOULD AWARDS 2019

FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Keele University's Business Gateway is delighted to announce the finalists for the inaugural *Breaking the Mould* awards, sponsored by Siemens.

Hosted by journalist, broadcaster and TV presenter Naga Munchetty, the awards shine a spotlight on the growing innovation-led organisations that have benefitted from the suite of innovative support programmes available from Keele University.

Almost 70 nominations were received across the eight award categories, and the full list of finalists is available to [view on the Breaking the Mould website](#). The winners will be announced on Thursday 17 October at the *Breaking the Mould* celebration.

Stephen Roberts, Keele University's Business Gateway Manager, said: "We have had an overwhelming response from local businesses for these awards, and the high calibre of the nominations received has meant choosing our finalists has been extremely difficult. This truly is testament to the quality of businesses across Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire."

Keele University would like to thank all of the *Breaking the Mould* 2019 sponsors:

- **Siemens UK** – Headline sponsors / 'Collaboration of the Year award'
- **Engie** – Reception sponsors
- **Cadent** – 'Sustainability award'
- **Caja** – 'Leadership award'
- **Cobra Biologics** – 'Health and Wellbeing award'
- **Dains Accountants** – 'Bringing Learning to Life award'
- **Staffordshire County Council** – 'Future Enterprise award'
- **Synectics Solutions** – 'Social Inclusion award'
- **we are aspire** – 'Cultivating Talent award'

Find out more about the *Breaking the Mould* awards at keele.ac.uk/breakingthemould.

#BreakingtheMould19



Staffordshire Business
FESTIVAL

SAVE THE DATE
5 - 7 NOVEMBER 2019
KEELE UNIVERSITY & BET 365 STADIUM

**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:*



European Union
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- *Keele University Science & Innovation Park Smart Innovation Hub*
(Ref: 32R17P01691)
- *Smart Energy Network Demonstrator* (Ref: 32R16P00706);
- *Business Bridge* (Ref: 32R18P02530);

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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