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Business Gateway newsletter - 22 July 2020

With many local businesses viewing the current situation as an opportunity to review their ways of working, the business support programmes available at Keele University may be an ideal starting point for those looking to upskill or add elements of innovation into their business practices.

For a confidential discussion, and to find out how your business can benefit from a Keele University collaboration, please contact the Business Gateway at business.gateway@keele.ac.uk or visit keele.ac.uk/business.

Coronavirus vaccine to be manufactured at Keele University



A vaccine to combat COVID-19 is set to be manufactured at Keele University,

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Cobra, which has two facilities on the University's Science and Innovation Park, has signed a supply agreement with the global pharmaceutical giant to manufacture vaccine candidate AZD1222, previously known as ChAdOX1 n-CoV-19.

The production agreement is part of a programme with the University of Oxford to ensure broad and equitable supply of the vaccine throughout the world, at no profit during the pandemic.

News of Cobra's manufacturing agreement came less than two weeks after Keele University announced that it has [joined a key national programme to evaluative pioneering diagnostic tests](#) for the coronavirus.

For more information on the above, and other initiatives and activities that Keele University is doing as part of the national effort to tackle COVID-19, visit keele.ac.uk/coronavirus/response.

Fleet of Foot: Innovation on a budget

Tomorrow (23 July 2020) - 12pm-1pm

Part of the **Keele Talks Business** webinar series



Keele Talks Business
webinar series

**FLEET
OF FOOT**

**INNOVATION ON
A BUDGET**

23 July 2020
12 - 1 pm

**WHAT
COULD BE**
Teal Legal

**Keele
UNIVERSITY**

European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

Recent global events have meant more businesses than ever are looking to innovate in order to survive and thrive.

From changing methods of delivery to developing completely new products and services, your partners, clients and competitors are adapting to succeed.

Innovation doesn't have to be expensive. In fact, some of the cheapest methods can be the most effective, and make sure you don't waste time and money along the way.

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Holdway (Co-founder, Teal Legal), **Dr Colin Rigby** (Senior Lecturer, Keele Business School) and **Will Pritchard** (Entrepreneur in Residence, Mercia Centre for Innovation Leadership), to explore techniques for innovating on a budget, some of the best examples and opportunities available from Keele University to help local SMEs do it.

[Click here for more details and booking information.](#)

Sustainability webinar

Responding to the Climate Emergency - Opportunities for Energy & Resource Saving and Business Growth for SMEs

Thursday 20 August - 3.30pm-5.30pm



**Thursday 20 August 2020
3.30pm-5.30pm**



This workshop will present local delegates with a framework in which the environmental impacts of their operations can be measured and managed, as well as equipping them with the know-how required to achieve cost savings and business advantage.

[Click here for more details and booking information.](#) Registrations close Friday 14 August.

Introducing our new podcast series



Keele Talks Business podcasts

The Keele University Business Gateway is pleased to announce its Keele Talks Business podcast series.

The podcasts, which are audio recordings of the University's recent webinars and [available to download from the Business Gateway website](#), include:

- **Staffordshire County Council's response to COVID-19**, featuring the Council's Chief Executive John Henderson (recorded on 18 May 2020)
- **Working in isolation: Supporting yourself and others** (recorded on 12 May 2020)
- **Content is key: Discussing marketing approaching during COVID-19** (recorded on 5 May 2020)

More podcasts will be added in the coming weeks and months.

PPE available for Staffordshire micro-businesses

Staffordshire County Council is offering small businesses a boost by offering free PPE starter packs.

The packs, which are available to businesses with less than ten FTE employees, are made up of 30 Type IIR resistant surgical masks and approximately 25 pairs of gloves.

More than 1,000 packs have already been distributed to local businesses, with limited stock now remaining.

To see if your business is eligible, and to apply, [visit the County Council's website](#).

You are receiving this email as you have either subscribed to receive information about Keele University's business support opportunities, have interacted with a previous edition of this newsletter or have engaged with the University's Business Gateway in some form.

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



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

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.



**Research
England**

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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