

Business & Regeneration, Blaenau Gwent CBC

Overview of Services

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

We can help businesses explore a wide range of financial initiatives designed to encourage new investment and business development. Whether you are an established business or a new start-up, we can advise on what financial assistance is available . . . depending on the nature of your business and project.

SITES AND PREMISES

Blaenau Gwent has a wide range of industrial units, office accommodation and commercial land. The Business & Innovation team maintains a comprehensive database of land and property within the area, which is in both public and private ownership. We can undertake a property/land search with the aim of finding the most appropriate options available to meet your needs.

New exciting property developments are planned for 2023, including: -

RYB1



- 4,885 sq. m (52,582 sq ft)
- High quality detached industrial manufacturing unit
- Built to BREEAM excellent
- Designed to minimise embodied carbon within its structure
- Targeting operational carbon neutral

[CLICK HERE](#) for further details.

Regain 2

An exciting new hi tech office and hot desking facility will be available on The Works site, Ebbw Vale. The facility will provide short and long term office lets, hot desking and onsite conference and meeting rooms. More details coming soon...



BUSINESS SUPPORT

Business Growth

We provide support to existing businesses and inward investment projects by working in partnership with Welsh Government and business support providers to: -

- Help access grants, loans and equity capital.
- Identify suitable business premises
- Facilitate introductions to key businesses and Council contacts
- Organise 'Meet the Buyer' events to develop local supply chains
- Provide a venue and meeting facilities via the Business & Enterprise Hub
- Keep you updated on local business news and events via the Blaenau Gwent Business Hub – www.blaenau-gwent-business-hub.co.uk

Blaenau Gwent Business Hub

The Blaenau Gwent Business Hub is a free online service for business and includes local; property availability, business information, support and initiatives, investment opportunities, business events and news. Businesses based in Blaenau Gwent can also; profile their company and services, network with other Members and access information and advice.

www.blaenau-gwent-business-hub.co.uk

Business Engagement

We actively engage with local businesses from small enterprises to larger employers and social enterprises. Our business engagement model aims to provide a proactive and value added interaction. Supported by an advanced client management software package, we are able to know and understand more about local businesses and respond to their needs. We can provide different levels of intervention in managing business enquiries or issues. This can involve one-to-one support, liaising with internal Council departments, or making referrals to external partners. We will endeavour to help, whilst seeking to keep businesses aware of support initiatives available to them.

In addition, we are able to support businesses in accessing and building local supply chains through the ongoing development of a comprehensive local database, networking opportunities, events and proactive introductions.

Business Events & Networking

We work closely with business support organisations and other stakeholders to offer an extensive programme of exciting, inspiring and innovative business and networking events. All events are free to attend unless otherwise stated. For a list of upcoming business events [click here](#).

Conference & Meeting Facilities

We offer a variety of venues, attractions and spaces to host and hold business events, whether it is a meeting, a conference, an incentive or an exhibition. We also have country parks offering a wide range of team building and adventure activities.

Blaenau Gwent Council boasts its own General Offices – a grade II listed building situated at The Works, Ebbw Vale. This building offers conference/exhibition facilities to accommodate up to 50 people, with training and meeting rooms for hire.

Blaenau Gwent is the home of the National Health Service and is the perfect historical location to host pharmaceutical, medical and life science events.

We also have over 150 hotel and guest bedrooms locally and many more within easy reach across the region that are supported by a number of quirky, historic and modern venues that can cater for business events.

EMPLOYMENT & SKILLS

Aspire Blaenau Gwent

Aspire is a shared apprenticeship scheme which places Apprentices with a host of manufacturing and engineering companies for the duration of the apprenticeship (2-3 years). The rotation amongst companies allows the Apprentice to acquire a range of specialist skills. Apprentices are employed by Aspire Blaenau Gwent following a selection process and interview. The scheme aims to enhance skills development within the host manufacturing and engineering companies to develop business growth; whilst tackling unemployment and providing aspirational opportunities for young people across the local authority.

[Latest Press Release](#)

Recruitment and Skills Support

People are key to the success of every business. We offers a recruitment solution to help local employers find the right staff with the right skills. We work with key partners such as Job-Centre Plus, Working Links, local colleges and training providers to co-ordinate a complete recruitment and skills package.

We can meet with businesses on a one-to-one basis to assist with their recruitment and skills needs. By working with our employment and training partners, we aim to develop and connect people with local job opportunities.

Coming soon... THE HiVE

The High Value Engineering (HiVE) facility will be a world-leading training and education establishment. The facility will create a vibrant, world-class, high technology focus for Welsh-based manufacturing companies of all sizes spanning many key sub-sectors, including digital, cyber, AI, robotics, manufacturing providing employment that is challenging, rewarding and valued.

The 21,808 sq. ft. building will be located close to Ebbw Vale town centre. The ambition is to deliver a high-quality teaching space with the capacity for up to 600 students complete with classrooms, study areas and a range of workshop spaces, kitted out with state-of the-art robotics and manufacturing equipment available for use by both post 16 students and businesses taking on new technologies.

The facility will be available to all residents across Wales and will have the remit to encourage Learners and Students from under-represented groups into STEM careers.



TECH VALLEYS AND THE BLAENAU GWENT ENTERPRISE BOARD

TECH VALLEYS

Blaenau Gwent is becoming a hi-tech hot bed for developing new technologies and advanced manufacturing, with new infrastructure, superfast broadband, and a selection of properties for companies of all sizes - all backed up by full business support.

It's a team effort. The Welsh Government is investing £100m over 10 years to create 1,500-plus jobs. We're working with Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, industry and academia to invest in the infrastructure and skills to make it happen.

Tech Valleys is more than just a vision. It's happening right now.

We've invested millions in recent years to make this a hugely attractive place to do business. Tech Valleys doesn't exist in a vacuum. It's part of an integrated portfolio of projects that work together. Ebbw Vale has one of Wales' eight Enterprise Zones, meaning it's a priority area for business support, skills, first-class infrastructure, financial incentives, and property and development opportunities. It's part of the wider Cardiff Capital Region, a project that's investing £1.2bn of public money to leverage another £4bn of private investment across South East Wales.

Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council's business team works with Welsh Government to deliver what's needed. As a devolved Government, we don't need to wait for decisions from Westminster. So we can act fast to help businesses set up and thrive.

Click here to open and download our Tech Valleys brochure.....[Tech Valleys Brochure](#)

National Digital Exploitation Centre

The Welsh Government has worked with global technology company Thales to establish a £20m cyber centre at the heart of the Tech Valleys. The National Digital Exploitation Centre (NDEC) was founded in 2019, in its new purpose-built home. It's the first R&D facility of its kind in Wales and provides the perfect setting for SMEs and microbusinesses to test and develop their digital concepts.

BLAENAU GWENT ENTERPRISE ZONE

Within Blaenau Gwent we have the Enterprise Zone. It is one of the seven Enterprise Zones designated across Wales. Blaenau Gwent Enterprise Zone aims to be a high technology hotspot for manufacturing companies.

Whether you're a large and established business or a small start-up, there is financial support to help your business move and grow in the Ebbw Vale Enterprise Zone. The Zone has the space and business infrastructure to accommodate a wide range of projects – offering existing industrial space, commercial offices and 98 acres (40 hectares) of development land on a number of sites. Specific areas within the Enterprise Zone enable companies to apply for Enhanced Capital Allowances to cover the capital cost of investment in plant and equipment.

www.ebbwvale-ez.wales.gov.uk

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