

# BUSINESS NEWS



News and events for local businesses

DECEMBER 2017

**In line with the new GDPR law..**

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## DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

- £100 million open innovation calls including food, manufacturing, infrastructure, thermal efficiency, healthcare..
- Free mentoring advice to grow your business
- Support the campaign to save Devonport based assault ships
- Digital to improve your business
- Tapping into Plymouth University expertise
- Innovate UK regional event - how to innovate , find funding and partner
- Testing your business ideas at One Stop Idea Shop

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## NEWS



## Support the campaign to save Devonport-based assault ships

Plymouth residents and businesses are being urged to show their support for a campaign to prevent cuts to Devonport based ship and Royal Marines. ([Watch the video](#)). The cross-party campaign calls for a re-think on leaked Government proposals to decommission the amphibious assault ships HMS Albion and HMS Bulwark as part of a package of cost-cutting measures. Up to 1,000 Royal Marines are also said to be at risk. Find out more, [click here](#)

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## Sitel to create 300 new jobs in Plymouth

Global outsourcing expert Sitel is set for further growth in the South West. Plymouth, UK – December 8, 2017 – With a nationwide network of contact centres, global outsourcing leader Sitel is one of the big employers in the South West. Continuing the growth of their well-established operation in Plymouth, Sitel is set to create a further 300 jobs in January and February 2018. Find out more, [click here](#)

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## Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

The Industrial Strategy sets out a long term plan to boost the productivity and earning power of people throughout the UK. It sets out how we are building a Britain fit for the future – how we will help businesses create better, higher-paying jobs in every part of the UK with investment in the skills, industries and infrastructure of the future. Find out more, [click here](#)

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## Government to support development of next-generation nuclear technology

UK to become world-leader in developing next-generation advanced reactor programme. The government announced today significant support to help exploit the potential for the UK to become a world-leader in developing the next generation of nuclear technologies. Find out more, [click here](#)

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## Nuclear South West is the nuclear cluster for the South West of England.

The South West is set to become a nuclear hub in the next two decades, with 15 projects worth £50 billion to our economy. Hinkley Point C (HPC) will be the first new nuclear power station in the UK for a generation, capable of generating 7% of the UK's total energy requirement. Over 60% of the project's £20billion construction value is predicted to go to UK companies. The project will create 25,000 job opportunities, 1,000 apprenticeships and will pump £100m/year in to the regional economy. Click this [link](#) to find out more about how your business can get involved.

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## **PCH Manufacturing further expands workforce**

PCH Manufacturing has added four new members of staff to the workforce as they successfully expand into external markets. Two new window fitters, a maintenance engineer and PVCu surveyor have been employed as we support industry in Plymouth following a successful year for the company. The new members of staff join on the back of six new apprentices who were added to our business recently as we support people who want to learn a trade and work in a manufacturing environment. Louise Turner, Head of PCH Manufacturing said: We've added ten people in different areas which has been superb for team morale. Find out more, [click here](#)

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## **Government and life sciences sector agree transformative sector deal**

Business Secretary Greg Clark and Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt announce a Sector Deal with the life sciences sector. A transformative Sector Deal between the UK life sciences sector and the government has been announced on Wednesday 6 December. Find out more, [click here](#)

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## **Create your export journey**

Thousands of businesses like yours have increased their sales, growth and stability by selling overseas. Explore the potential of exporting with guidance, services and support from the Department for International Trade. Find out more, [click here](#)

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## **Business innovations to tackle brain injury and back pain**

60 projects with the potential to improve people's lives and grow UK economy share £15 million funding. Faster treatment of brain injuries and relief for people with back problems are some of the game-changing innovations being backed in Innovate UK's latest open funding competition. Find out more, [click here](#)

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## **£7m factory to be built in Plymouth**

Global defence spending hike is one reason manufacturer is investing and creating jobs in Plymouth. A Plymouth manufacturer is to build a £7million factory extension and create jobs. Find out more, [click here](#)

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## More than 1,000 jobs created in Devon, Cornwall and the South West with £8million regional funding

Ninety businesses have received up to £1million each from the South West Growth Fund. Supported by the Regional Growth Fund (RGF), the South West Growth Fund was secured by the University of Plymouth's GAIN team, SWMAS Ltd, South West Water Business and the Western Morning News. Find out more, [click here](#)

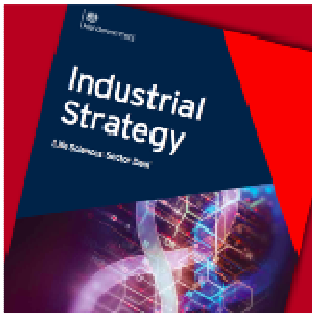
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## Multi-million pound luxury flats tower planned for Plymouth waterfront

Harbour Arch Quay block would have eight floors of apartments above a restaurant, shop or gym. The towering Harbour Arch Quay, if approved, will sit in between Pinnacle House and Salt Quay House, on Sutton Harbour's North East Quay, and, at nine storeys, will be of similar height to both of them. Find out more, [click here](#)

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## Sector Deals announced to boost productivity

Four new Sector Deals have been announced by the Department for Business as part of the UK's Industrial Strategy. The deals are partnerships between government and industry on sector-specific issues, which will create opportunities for business to boost productivity, employment, innovation and skills. The first sectors to be awarded deals are construction, artificial intelligence, automotive and life sciences. Deals for tourism, creative industries, industrial digitalisation and food manufacturing are expected to be announced in 2018. For more information about the Sector Deals, [click here](#)

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## Relocation support for Devon business as they expand into new premises

A family-owned commercial playground company, supplying playground equipment and safety surfacing, has relocated into larger premises after being referred to business funding opportunities by the HotSW Growth Hub. To find out more [click here](#)

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## Plymouth aims to grab Government cash as city building boom continues

Major summit hears how training is vital to keep city construction splurge on track. Plymouth is hoping to tap into millions of pounds of Government funding for training construction workers as the city's building boom is predicted to continue. Find out more, [click here](#)

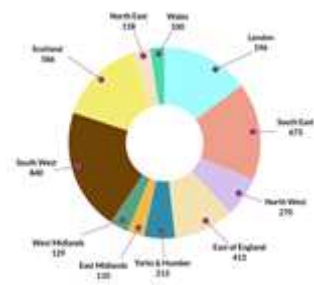
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## Review to evaluate take-up of business support services

A review of ways to improve the productivity and growth of small and medium-sized firms has been announced as part of the UK's Industrial Strategy. The review will "evaluate the role of digital services, data and information in the take-up of business advice and support services". The strategy also includes plans for the British Business Bank to promote regional growth and address regional differences in the availability of finance to business.

For more information about the review [click here](#) Read more about the British Business Bank plans [click here](#)



## A recent study by CareersBox has ranked Plymouth and the South West as one of the top cities and regions in Great Britain for marine opportunities

Plymouth is the number one hotspot for marine job openings 2016-2021 with 311 job openings, followed by Inner London West with 264 job openings. The South West is the number one region for marine jobs in 2016 with 4,066 jobs, followed by the South East with 3,735 jobs. It is also ranked number one for projected number of openings in marine occupations 2016-2021 with a projected 840 openings, followed by the South East with 673. You can view the full infographic [here](#).



## Royal appointment for University of Plymouth academic

Dr Natasha Stephen is now on the committee of the Royal Microscopical Society, which has been at the forefront of microscopy and imaging since 1839. Dr Natasha Stephen, Director of the Plymouth Materials Characterisation Project (PMCP) within the University's Electron Microscopy Centre (PEMC), has been appointed to the national committee of the Royal Microscopical Society. Find out more, [click here](#)



## Alderman Tooling crowned as UK's leading employer

One of the South West's leading metal engineering firms is celebrating success on a national scale, having won the Lloyds Bank National Business Awards UK 2017 Employer of the Year award. Alderman Tooling, based at Newnham in Plymouth, was announced the winner at a prestigious awards ceremony in London on 14th November, hosted by the BBC's Naga Munchetty, and featuring Sir Mo Farah as a guest speaker. Over 1,000 companies of all sizes from across the UK entered the awards, with ten companies being shortlisted in the Employer of Year category sponsored by law firm Howard Kennedy. Find out more, [click here](#)

## BUSINESS SUPPORT

### FREE Mentoring Support to Grow Your Business in the Region

The Growth Support Programme is an EU funded support package for ERDF Eligible businesses based in Devon, Plymouth, Somerset and Torbay. The programme offers an initial 3 hour diagnostic to businesses wishing to grow or expand. Find out more, [click here](#)

### Test your Innovation and Start-Up Ideas

The One Stop Ideas Shop provides practical a forum for individuals to talk through their inventions/business ideas in a confidential setting, receive face to face expert guidance to enable to them to understand how to protect them and explore any potential for business opportunity.

Find out more, [click here](#)

## **University of Plymouth Knowledge Transfer Partnerships**

Help to grow your business through collaboration and innovation. KTP is the programme that supports innovation and promotes business growth, (part funded by Innovate UK) provides resources and expertise to thriving organisations who wish to innovate, expand or improve their competitiveness and productivity. Find out more, [click here](#)

## **Plymotion at Your Workplace - Here to help**

Plymotion is working with companies to promote sustainable travel and encourage staff to be more active on their journey to work.

Plymotion at Your Workplace is a free programme which helps encourage sustainable travel for the daily commute . There is a range of initiatives on offer including free adult cycle training, bike maintenance, walk leader training and travel plan management tools. Why not have a look at our web pages and our latest newsletter which you can find [here](#)

## **International Trade**

Looking to overseas markets to grow your business is a big decision for any size business. To support you in your growth plans Devon Chamber offers International Trade advice and support, via our International Trade team and our involvement in [Devon International Trade Forum](#). Find out more, [click here](#)



## **Transform Foundation**

Transform Foundation aims to encourage investment in digital technologies, skills and marketing in the charity sector. Offering grants to charities (with annual revenue between £350,000 and £30million) to develop websites and advertise through Facebook. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** On going

## **Horizon 2020: EU Research Programme**

EU funding for large-scale, international collaborative research projects. New work programme for 2018-2020: UK businesses, universities, public bodies, charities and healthcare providers can still participate. Find out more, [click here](#).

**DEADLINE:** On going

## **£2 Million Building Thermal Efficiency Innovation Fund**

BEIS funding supports, through capital grants, the development and demonstration of innovative technologies, processes and business models that can be widely deployed to improve the thermal efficiency of existing UK buildings. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 2 January 2017

## **UK Announces £10 Million Innovation Loans Infrastructure Systems Funding Competition for UK SMEs**

Loans are being provided to UK SME businesses to commercialise innovative technologies in infrastructure systems projects. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 10 January 2017

### **DEFRA £50K Competition Launched to Boost Food & Drink Business Innovation**

The winners will be those who demonstrate their ideas are novel, achievable and support business growth. The money will allow food producers to invest in a range of innovative projects, such as reducing the use of water in growing vegetables, and creating new business opportunities. To find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 12 January 2018

### **Government Announces £3 Million Fund to Develop New Airport Screening Innovations**

The competition is looking for proposals to improve the ability of preventing explosives, hidden within electrical items in passenger baggage, from being taken on board an aircraft. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 17 January 2018

### **Innovate UK Announces £19M Sector Competitions in Manufacturing and Infrastructure Systems**

Funded projects will target opportunities that offer significant changes in productivity and cutting-edge innovations. The competition has two strands: a manufacturing and materials strand, and an infrastructure systems strand. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 31 January 2018

### **Electric Vehicle Charging, Sustainable Energy Solutions SBRI Competition - Phase One Open**

Projects should offer smart grid, storage and generation capabilities, to overcome the current limitations imposed by EV charging infrastructure. The solution should incorporate renewable on-site generation, battery storage, bi-directional smart meters and an innovative software system. To find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 7 February 2018

### **European Maritime & Fisheries Fund: Sustainable Blue Economy**

International partnerships to make innovative marine technologies market and investor ready or tackle marine litter. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 8 February 2018

### **EUREKA: PENTA Call 3 Launched**

PENTA is a EUREKA Cluster supporting innovation in micro- and nanoelectronics enabled systems and applications along the entire electronics value chain as described by the new ECS Strategic Research Agenda. The focus of Call 3 will be Transport & Smart Mobility, Health & Well-Being and Digital Industry, although projects in other areas will also be considered. To find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 13 February 2018

### **World Anti-Doping Agency - Call for 2018 Science Research Grants Open**

WADA issues a call for proposals for its 2018 Social Science Research Grant Program. For the 2018 Program, in addition to the topics below, WADA's Education Committee is making an open call for proposals. For more info [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 15 February 2018

## **Applications Open for Mülheim Water Award 2018**

People or institutions from Europe can apply with innovative procedures, products, concepts and new findings with a strong focus on practical use and application within water management. Application-ready solutions to meet future challenges in water systems and water analysis will also be accepted. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 27 February 2018

## **Clean Sky 2 Programme - Seventh Call for Proposals Now Open**

A Joint Technology Initiative (JTI), a public-private partnership that brings together companies, universities, public laboratories, innovative SMEs and the European Commission to develop and demonstrate breakthrough technologies for the civil aircraft market and to cut aircraft emissions and noise. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 27 February 2018

## **Innovate UK launch £19M funding competition to support small and medium-sized firms to develop innovative ideas.**

Projects must demonstrate significant innovation that will lead to new products, processes or services in any sector. Projects must last from six months to three years and have total eligible costs of between £25,000 and £1 million

**DEADLINE:** 28 February 2018

## **Second Active and Assisted Living Smart Ageing Prize Launch**

Entries need to focus on social participation and quality of life, with the aim to enhance the networks and social experiences of older adults in the real world through innovative digital technologies. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 30 March 2018

## **\$2 Million International GoFly Competition Open for Innovators to Create a Personal Flying Device**

The aim is to foster the development of safe, quiet, ultra-compact, near-VTOL (vertical take-off and landing) personal flying devices that are capable of flying twenty miles while carrying a single person. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 4 April 2018

## **€2.7 Billion in H2020 Research Funding for Information and Communication Technologies**

The 2018-2020 Industrial Leadership Information and Communication Technologies (LEIT) Work Programme covers ICT technology in a comprehensive way, covering technologies for Digitising European Industry, HPC, Big Data and Cloud, 5G and Next Generation Internet. Find out more, [click here](#)

## **£21m to boost UK's world-class tech sector and spread the benefits across the country**

The UK's world-leading tech sector will go from strength-to-strength after plans unveiled today set out a £21 million investment to create a new national network of regional tech hubs in areas across the country, including Belfast, Cardiff, Edinburgh and Birmingham. Find out more, [click here](#)





## **Global HR Awards 2017**

The Global HR excellence award is scheduled on 15 February 2017 at Taj Lands End, Mumbai. The aim of the Awards is to recognize the Best of Best, organized for a professional cause. The objective at core is benchmarking talent & HR practices. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 31 December 2017

## **John Brabourne Awards Accepting Applications from Up-and-Coming Film and TV Talent**

£15,000 awards available to successful applicants to benefit from professional support and talent development from The Cinema and Television Benevolent Fund (CTBF). The CTBF Grants cover production and development finance, post production and festival distribution, living and travel expenses, childcare, tuition fees, short training programmes and secondments. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 31 January 2018

## **South West Digital Awards**

The event will take place in Plymouth, the centre of the region, in May 2018. Plymouth is the perfect location for the awards, acting as a middle ground between the bustling cities of Bristol & Exeter, the coastal towns of Bournemouth & Poole and the country's farthest hubs of Truro & Redruth. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 31 January 2017

## **Launch of 2018 Sunny Art Award for Emerging and Established Artists**

This fine art competition represents an opportunity for both emerging and established artists to showcase their work and gain recognition for their talents on a global level. Find out more, [click here](#)

**DEADLINE:** 20 June 2018



## **Plymouth University – One Stop Ideas Shop**

Tuesday 9 January 2018 | 8am to 12noon | Plymouth University

Got an idea? Want to know how to turn it into a business? The One Stop Ideas Shop provides a forum for individuals to talk through their inventions/business ideas in a confidential setting, receive face to face expert guidance to enable them to understand how to protect them and explore any potential for business opportunity.

Find out more, [click here](#)

## **South West Skills Conference 2018: Growing Industry Productivity through Skills**

Friday 19 January 2018 | 9am to 3.30pm | Bridgwater

2018 South West Skills Conference which will be held on Friday 19th January at the McMillan Theatre in Bridgwater,

Somerset.

Delegates will have the opportunity to influence the key activities to take forward across the South West in relation to employment and skills. Delegates will also be invited to pledge their support in taking learning from the day back to their business. To register, [click here](#)

## **Your Digital Toolkit for 2018**

Tuesday 23 January 2018 | 9am to 12.30pm | Plymouth

Join us at this inspiring event and benefit from a morning filled with thought-provoking ideas, digital trends and useful tips and tools!

To register, [click here](#)

## **'Beyond The Business As Usual' innovation event**

Thursday 25 January 2018 | 9.30am to 3pm | Sandy Park, Exeter

Staying ahead of the competition, you need to innovate - but knowing how to break the mould can be hard.

Register now for your chance to network and engage with senior executives from the Innovate UK family, who will demonstrate the importance of innovation, show you how to innovate and match you to the range of funding & collaborative opportunities that are right for you and your innovation.

Find out more, [click here](#)

## **The Industrial Strategy – making it work for you!**

Friday 26 January 2018 | 10am to 4pm | Plymouth

AM: Collaboration and Funding Opportunities for Researchers and Businesses

PM: Marine and Maritime Opportunities

To register, [click here](#)

## **TEDxPlymouthUniversity - The Spirit of Discovery**

Thursday 1 February 2018 | 6.30 to 10pm | Plymouth

**TEDxPlymouthUniversity** will showcase new, exciting and inspirational ideas that can be found right here in Plymouth.

To register, [click here](#)

## **Department for International Trade**

27-28 February 2018 | London

The UK's Department for International Trade presents the Civil Nuclear Showcase 2018.

To register, [click here](#)

## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

### Department for International Trade

This is the central hub for business and networking opportunities. Search for future events and missions; register online and network with fellow delegates.

Find out more, [click here](#)

## USEFUL GUIDES

### ICO: Preparing for the GDPR - 12 steps to take now

Access the ICO's 12 step plan to ensure your business is compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which, despite Brexit, is here to stay.

Find out more, [click here](#)

### Startup skills made simple

Join other entrepreneurs gaining the skills to start, grow or join a digital business

Find out more, [click here](#)

### Made Smarter Review

An industry-led review exploring how UK manufacturing can maximise benefits from increasing adoption of digital technology through a strong industry and government partnership.

Find out more, [click here](#)

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## PROPERTY



### The Business Centre: Office 15

- Rent: £279.74 pcm
- Furnished: £308.62 pcm
- Deposit: £659.47
- Size: 173.30 sq. ft.
- Broadband: £40 pcm, Telephone: £10 pcm (plus actual usage)
- Address: The Business Centre, 2 Cattedown Road, Plymouth PL4 0EG

For more details, [click here](#)

### **Cobourg House - 2nd floor suites**



- Size: From 342 sq ft (32 sq m) to 850 sq ft (79 sq m)
- Rent: From £3,500 a year excluding business rates and service charge
- Status: Available to rent

For more details, [click here](#)

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## **PROCUREMENT**

Plymouth City Council is open for business, so if you are a supplier and want to find out more about how to do business with the Council, please click [here](#).

To find out more about opportunities the Council is advertising, please register with our regional Procurement Portal at [www.supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk](http://www.supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk). The Portal is used by Plymouth and nearly 30 other Councils across the region to market opportunities in accordance with their local Policies.

If you are interested in selling to the wider Public Sector you may be interested in the following web page: <https://www.gov.uk/tendering-for-public-sector-contracts> where you can find out more information and search for other Public Sector opportunities through Contracts Finder.

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## **BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP PROGRAMME**

Whether you're just starting out, or an established business looking for practical business advice, we are offering free one hour business information, advice and guidance sessions at City Business Park every month for business owners looking to grow. To find out more and to book, please email [Sam.Snowdon@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:Sam.Snowdon@plymouth.gov.uk)

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