

Helping Essex Businesses to Start, Innovate and Grow



essex
innovation
programme

The Essex Innovation Programme (EIP) enables Essex based businesses to prosper and grow by providing a range of **fully funded** services including access to world-class business support, networking events, workshops and places to develop, commercialise and profit from new business ideas.

We run a range of free of charge specialist programmes to enable you to fully exploit your innovative business idea, help sustain your business in those difficult stages and help to leave it well placed for future growth.

Our Programmes . . .

New Ideas Programme - For those wishing to start/develop a new business that involves the commercialisation of new technology, design or scientific ideas.

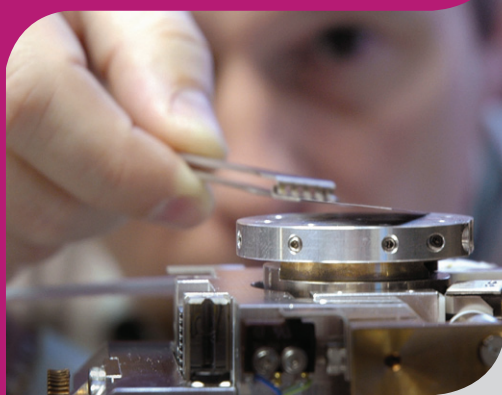
Developing Innovative Businesses Programme - For innovative businesses in their early stages of trading as well as more established businesses wanting to develop, grow and reach new markets via access to advanced professional 1:1 guidance and support.

PRISMS - World-class business support, delivered by the Institute for Manufacturing (IfM), University of Cambridge, to eligible Essex manufacturing businesses.

Accessing R&D funding - For businesses looking for financial support to share the risk in undertaking research and development in new technologies.

Business Incubation - A network of managed and supportive business incubator premises in Basildon, Clacton and Ongar.

Accessing new markets - Through working with a range of experienced partners, who have been working with Essex businesses for over 5 years, to access services that can assist them to reach new international markets.



“The mentor was brilliant, he gave us confidence and helped to point our business in the right direction.”
Alice Thorogood, Sidearm

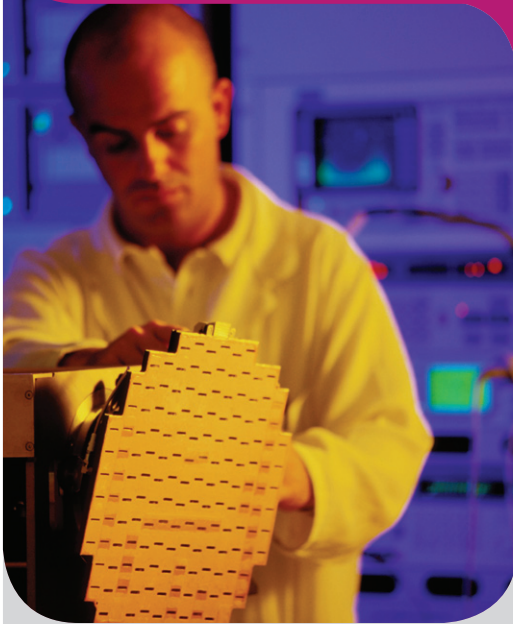
“She carried out a thorough review of the market and made a detailed analysis of the competition. It gave us an important independent perspective on the development of the product.”
Ron Owen, RWO Marine



Essex County Council

Networking Events and Workshops

We run regular events and workshops to stimulate business collaboration, support innovation, share best practice and to help Essex businesses access vital information for business development.



The Essex R&D Network engages the leaders from key research and development businesses in Essex to increase the quality and quantity of R&D activity within the county.

The Designers' Network promotes the value of design to businesses, encourages collaboration with the design sector and Essex businesses to promote the value of design in increasing business competitive advantage and stimulating innovation.

The Essex Manufacturing Excellence Clubs gather businesses together to share best practice and enable all manufacturers to identify new collaboration opportunities.

Business Clinics are delivered in partnership with the public and private sector to increase business competitiveness and strengthen the local supply chain.

“ Participating in the R&D Network has been a real benefit - it's amazing to see the capability we have across the region and be able to tap in to some of the opportunities for partnering and collaboration across such a diverse range of sectors.”

Mike Worboys, BAE Systems

Benefits to Your Business . . .

- Scheduled **face to face meetings with a professional business mentor** for first-class advice and business improvement recommendations
- Expert guidance on how to achieve **sustainable business growth**
- Identifying **routes to new markets** and winning business in niche markets
- **Increased turnover and profitability**
- Support to **secure finance** to develop your business further
- **Effective use of design** to strengthen your business's competitive advantage
- Support on **prototype development and product feasibility**

How Can I Find Out More and Apply?

Visit www.investessex.co.uk/business-development-support

or contact . . .

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