

IN THIS ISSUE: West London Skills Summit 2023 | Rory Bremner to host West London Business Awards 2023 | Better Futures+ registration re-opens | Member company news...

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WLB CEO Update

December 2022

Dear colleague,

2022 has been another year of extraordinary upheaval - from political events to the Queen passing, to the impact of Putin's war on Ukraine disrupting lives and economies worldwide.



I am proud of how our dynamic members show sustained resilience in the face of this storm and continue to innovate.

From January to November 2022, whilst 33,253 businesses ceased trading in our geography, 42,985 were established - a significant net gain (Source: Beauhurst). So it's no surprise that back in March so [many fantastic local businesses successfully applied](#) to the Ealing Pioneers & Hillingdon Enterprise funds. West London remains a hugely dynamic economy and innovative place giving plenty of evidence for hope as we look ahead to 2023!

Earlier this month we celebrated the organisations shortlisted for the West London Business Awards 2023 at our House of Commons Christmas Reception. [Book your place for awards night with Rory Bremner whether you are a shortlisted company or simply fancy a great night of networking >>](#)

Finally, a warm welcome to new members: APCOA, Endgame Estates, EnrichGeo, Fujitsu, GP Automate, Homebuilds, Libra Careers, PBVC Software and Work Work Ltd.

With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Andrew Dakers'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath.

Andrew Dakers
Chief Executive



The latest on growth & innovation from across West London



Ealing Studios is celebrating its 120th year with plans for a state of the art 14,000 square foot stage, 10,000 square foot of new workshops and 35,000 square foot of additional offices.

The plans have just received permission to proceed from Ealing Council. The new buildings will honour the distinctive Art Deco aesthetic of the original 1930's Grade II listed sound stages.

[Read more >>](#)



The 24th Heathrow Business Summit reaffirms Heathrow's commitment to working with local SMEs with the launch of Lift Off.

Following swiftly on the heels of the last Business Summit in 3 years, Heathrow Airport commits to supporting SMEs with 'Lift Off' a new concept to find innovative SMEs to support Heathrow's road to recovery.

[Read more >>](#)

Rory Bremner to host the tenth West London Business Awards



Britain's best-loved impressionist will take centre stage at Twickenham Stadium on Friday 24 February 2023 as host of the tenth West London Business Awards. Rory Bremner will be our master of ceremonies for an evening which, as usual, promises to be a spectacular celebration of business success!

SECURE YOUR TICKET FOR AWARDS NIGHT

Business support

Explore what business support is available from your West London local council

[Read more >>](#)

WLB Member Libra Careers matches the UK's most talented graduates with the UK's most innovative, fast-growth Start-ups, and provides expert training and mentorship so that they can hit the ground running on their first day.

[More >>](#)

Better Futures+, the free net zero business support programme backed by the Mayor of London's Green New Deal Fund, opens its latest cohort for registration. Eligible SMEs can register for a **free energy audit**, participate in the webinar series packed with practical advice from how to measure your carbon footprint and reduce emissions, to how to promote what you're doing to win more customers.

[Read more >>](#)

Policy Watch

West London Skills. We are asking employers in West London to contribute to ensuring a future workforce fit for purpose with two projects currently underway:

London's Local Skills Improvement Plan

Share your challenges and insights into employing staff at sector-specific online roundtables in January. Aimed at

Member focus

Ealing Trailfinders feature on WLB's Podcast.

Bill Miller, Partnerships Manager at Ealing Trailfinders, recently joined the West London Business Company Spotlight Podcast series to explore a Rugby Club with a history longer than you may expect...

[More >>](#)

GP Automate innovates Britain's Healthcare

Something good came out of the pandemic... Arun Notaney launched new WLB member GP Automate with a mission to put patients back at the heart of general practice by liberating people from mundane work

[More >>](#)

digital, hospitality, retail, transport & logistics and manufacturing businesses, these virtual events along with the West London Skills Summit on Wednesday 25 January, will directly inform how skills shortages are tackled across the area. For more information contact Charlie.Boyd@westlondon.com.

[Book onto the roundtables](#) and the [Skills Summit >>](#).

SDF Green Skills:

This programme ensures that the voice of smaller employers is heard in the development of new courses and curricula contributing to Net-Zero. Complete this short survey to register your interest to receive a **free** Training Needs Analysis for your business. We are offering a free government funded support session to help you understand your workforce, recruitment and skill needs.

For more information, contact lea.sri-pathmanathan@westlondon.com or [visit our webpage](#).

The Bank of England is taking forceful action on interest rates to bring inflation down, writes Lai Wah Co, Bank of England Deputy Agent for Greater London.

Developments in the UK are also playing a role in pushing inflation up. Companies have increased the prices of goods they sell in response to higher costs. Additionally, the labour market in the UK is extremely tight, with unemployment having fallen to 3.5% and in Greater London, it is down to 4.0%.

[Read more >>](#)

Moore Kingston Smith's Autumn Bulletin is now available. The cost-of-living crisis is still at the forefront of everyone's minds and pockets, and, together with striking workforces, it is a stressful time for households and businesses alike.

[More >>](#)

Looking ahead to MIPIM March 2023

WLB will be hosting a breakfast at [MIPIM](#) in Cannes in March 2023 to kickstart the week's activities championing inward investment into West London. If you would like to help host and/or be involved please contact amelia.grant@westlondon.com.

Update on Brent Cross Town's development

Follow the progress of Brent Cross Town's new neighbourhood being developed by Argent. The development will offer 6,700 homes, workspace for 25,000 people, a new high street with restaurants, shops and leisure as well as schools and community facilities. This 360° panoramic taken in November 2022 really shows the extent of the new station and how you exit and enter from Brent Cross Town.

[More >>](#)

BDO Manufacturing Outlook Report

BDO's Q4 2022 Manufacturing Outlook report, in partnership with

Make UK, updates on the activities of UK manufacturers over the past three months as it deals with rising inflation and energy prices, supply chain disruptions and a tight labour market.

[More >>](#)

One million Brompton bicycles

Brompton are celebrating the millionth bicycle coming off their West London production line with a world tour. [More >>](#)

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships from Brunel University

Do you have an idea for a new product or service, or a need to change the way your business works to get ahead of your competitors and grow, but don't have the expertise in-house? A Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP), offered by Brunel University, is a fantastic funding opportunity that can help you make the link to access knowledge and transfer it to your business. The partnership consists of a business, an academic partner and a graduate, known as the Associate, recruited specifically for the role. *For more information, contact amelia.grant@westlondon.com*

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