IN THIS ISSUE: Understand solutions to Electricity Capacity
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## **WLB CEO Update**

October 2022

Dear colleague,

In the market chaos of the past few week it's easy to forget that the business community does at least have some clarity with news of the <a href="Energy Bill Relief">Energy Bill Relief</a>
<a href="Scheme">Scheme</a>. If this still doesn't go far enough given the pressures on your business, consider <a href="registering for the next cohort of Better Futures+">registering for the next cohort of Better Futures+</a> which starts on Tues

18 October. This Autumn the programme will particularly focus on energy efficiency approaches to deliver financial and carbon savings.

On Fri 16 Sept we were delighted to convene the <u>WLB AGM</u> & Leaders Reception at Scale Space in the White City Innovation District. The evening was also a great opportunity for members and supporters to meet **Shanker Patel**, WLB's new Board Chair.

#### Looking forward:

- West London Business Awards 2023 entries closes in just a few days, have you got your entry
  in? More information below.
- West London's electricity capacity crunch will be the focus of the <u>West London Autumn</u>
   <u>Property Lunch</u> on Fri 21 October <u>Book today!</u>
- WLB is a partner in the **Anthropy summit** taking place 2-4 November at The Eden Project,
   Cornwall. Scroll down for more information, including how to get discounted delegates passes.

Finally I am delighted to welcome our new members: Ealing Distillery, Focal Sun, Montgomery Group, Richmond American University London, TESUP and Vokins Chartered Surveyors.

As always please get in touch with any ideas or concerns,



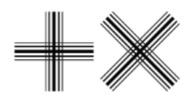
**Andrew Dakers** 

**Chief Executive** 

# The latest on growth & innovation from across West London



West London Business has joined Anthropy, a new summit bringing together the nation's leaders and influencers to help build back from the Covid-19 period, as an official partner. Anthropy will take place across three days from 2-4 November at the renowned Eden Project in Cornwall and special discounts are available on delegates passes for WLB members.



Working alongside leaders from the UK's top corporate innovators; Plus X are developing a toolkit to outline the most effective frameworks for delivering on innovation. Plus X is on track to begin designing and testing the MVP of the toolkit in October and through to the end of 2022.

Read more >>

#### Read more >>

## West London Business Awards - Entries close soon!



Time is running out to get your entry in for the West London Business Awards 2023!

Entries close on Friday 7 October and any business from any industry that trades in West

London can enter! (London Boroughs of boroughs of Barnet, Brent, Ealing, Hammersmith & Fulham, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Kensington & Chelsea, Richmond or Spelthorne).

#### FIND OUT MORE AND ENTER THE AWARDS

## **Business support**

Better Futures+, the free net zero business support programme backed by the Mayor of London's Green New Deal Fund, launches its third 2022 cohort from Tuesday 18 October. Eligible SMEs can 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 >>

Advance for Growth is an exciting new competition for businesses to win free digital poster advertising space across Hounslow borough. The competition will equip one Hounslow business with the tools and expertise to substantially scale, and build a strong, recognisable brand.

#### Read more >>

**Brunel University London** is launching the second edition of its successful Research Innovate and Emerge (RIEm), to support Small and Medium Enterprises strengthen their capacity for collaborative research and innovation (R&I), growing business and developing sustainable innovations.

More >>

# Member news

# Top 10 Microsoft Windows Accessibility Features

In the latest Windows
Update, you will find a lot
of new and incredible
useful features, making
applications more
accessible to users.

Timesless IMS takes a look at 10 new features making applications more accessible.

More >>

#### Pension Awareness Week 31 Oct - 4 Nov

Pension Awareness Week takes place from 31 Oct - 4 Nov. **The Money and Pension Service** (MaPS) have put together an action plan which should prove to be a brilliant resource for businesses, particularly SMEs.

More >>

## **Policy Watch**

Quintain raises £227 million for Wembley

The West London Business Beneficial Loans Toolkit is accessible via the West London Business website to all UK employers for free. The toolkit shares best practices, plus examples of how organisations can aid their employees financially by offering upfront loans that can then be paid for from their net salary and spread out in instalments across a given period. These loans can be used for large upfront bills such as rental tenancy deposits and train season tickets.

#### Read more >>

The Chancellor of the Exchequer's "growth plan" in the now infamous "mini-budget" contained a raft of significant tax measures, with major changes being announced for both individuals and businesses. **WLB Member Moore Kingston Smith** breaks down the announcement.

More >>

West London Business is to deliver new insights from working with a pilot group of employers to develop workforce upskilling plans for a green economy. This service is offered free of charge. Extensive research already commissioned by the West London Alliance has identified a significant skills deficit in green skills among local employers, with a lack of suitable talent being one of the key barriers to growth and development. The insights from the project will help colleges and other training providers better meet the needs of West London employers, ensuring they have a pipeline of highly skilled staff, with clear route ways for a green career for those wishing to upskill and those looking to enter the sector for the first time. If your business would like to benefit from the free support, contact

Luana.Hortenci@westlondon.com

**Knowledge Transfer Partnerships from Brunel University** 

#### build-to-rent homes

Property developer

Quintain has secured
£227 million from US
investment bank, J.P.
Morgan, to finance the
construction of two
residential buildings at
North East Lands on the
Wembley Park site.

More >>

# Heathrow invites new SMEs to join £188bn supply chain

Heathrow has invited the SME community to reconnect with its multibillion-pound supply chain through its annual Business Summit taking place on Tuesday 15 November. These SMEs can be a part of the airport's continued recovery, contributing to the local community's growth and global Britain's prosperity.

More >>

### Brentford FC launches new partnership to tackle cardiovascular disease

#### **Brentford Football Club**

has launched a new partnership, the Heart of West London, with a number of leading charities to improve heart health in the local 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 <a href="mailto:amelia.grant@westlondon.com">amelia.grant@westlondon.com</a>

community. The Heart of West London group is made up of Brentford FC, Brentford FC Community Sports Trust, Royal Brompton and Harefield Hospitals Charity, Cardiac Risk in the Young, Resuscitation Council UK, Pablo London and A-K-A Day.

More >>

# **Spark! launches Youth Employability Partnership**

Spark! are building a community of organisations to tackle youth unemployment in Brent and Ealing. With a focus on ages 14-18 who are at risk of becoming Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET), Spark! are looking to the business community in and around these boroughs to create a new programme: the Youth Employability Partnership (YEP).

Organisations interested in participating in the YEP are invited to attend the inaugural Employer Network event, on **Thursday 20 October at Brent Civic Centre**.

Read more >>

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