



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT NEWS

NEWS FOR BARKING AND DAGENHAM BUSINESSES

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## Economic Development Newsletter – August 2010

In the second edition of the new Economic Development newsletter for Barking and Dagenham we reveal the winners of the borough's latest Business Awards ceremony – a prestigious event for local businesses. And local businesses aren't the only ones picking up awards, the borough recently picked up two housing design awards while sanofi-aventis (formerly May & Baker) won a legacy award for outstanding chemical breakthroughs.

Sign up for the B&D East London Expo coming up in October and check out the other business events on offer – some of these are FREE - and find out if you can join one of our growing business forums.

If you'd like to discuss any of the topics or need business support, then please call us on 020 8227 3319.

We hope you enjoy reading economic development news, but if not, you can [unsubscribe](#) at any time.

## Business Awards



The third Barking and Dagenham Business Awards Gala Ceremony took place on 6 July 2010 at the Castle Green Conference Centre in Dagenham. This was the best-ever year for the awards with the number of entries up and the quality of the entries was higher than ever before.

The Gala awards event, was hosted by BBC sport broadcaster Garry Richardson and was attended by 250 people from local businesses. There were 10 awards and a top prize of £3,000 for the business of the year.

Paul Bishop of Barking and Dagenham Enterprise said: "We were absolutely delighted with how many businesses entered this year. It shows that there is a thriving business community in Barking & Dagenham and the awards are a great way to showcase these success stories."

Green Business Runner Up, Closed Loop London, have gone onto further success winning 'Recycled Packaging of the Year' at the National Recycling Awards 2010.

Get full details of the awards and winners at <http://www.boldanddynamic.co.uk/business/business-awards>

## Make your freight operations safer with FREE driver training

The London Borough of Barking and Dagenham is hosting a Freight Driver Training Breakfast Briefing on Wednesday 15 September from 8.30am at the Town Hall, Barking, where we will showcase some of the ongoing work we are undertaking with local businesses regarding freight issues and operations.

All companies have a legal obligation relating to the running of their transport fleet, including the provision of driver training. We have recently secured funding from Transport for London for HGV driver training which will enable us to provide your company with a number of hours of free driver training to go towards your driver's CPC hours.

At the briefing there will be a short presentation by the company providing the driver training. The Freight Operators Recognition Scheme (FORS) will also be present to explain the benefits of this scheme. FORS is a unique, industry-led membership scheme that aims to transform freight delivery.

We hope you will be able to attend our briefing and take advantage of the funding the borough has secured to support your company. This is the first time we have arranged such a briefing and feel that it is a good way to engage with local businesses. It will also provide an excellent opportunity to network with industry colleagues, as well as to enjoy a hearty free breakfast.

To confirm your place at the event, please contact Lee Thornton at [lee.thornton@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:lee.thornton@lbbd.gov.uk) or on 0208 227 3352 by **10 September 2010**. If you have any questions about the event, or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Lee.

## Business Events

Forthcoming business events:

### 2 Sept – Six steps to building a better business

A half day workshop by Tower Hamlets Business Development Unit run with Action Coach Parag Prasag.

### 19 Oct – B&D East London EXPO

The B&D East London Expo is a business to business exhibition that will provide opportunities for businesses trading in East London, attracting both buyers and suppliers of local goods and services.

Keep up-to-date with the latest event listings on our web site: [www.boldanddynamic.co.uk/newsroom/events](http://www.boldanddynamic.co.uk/newsroom/events)

## Business Forums

In addition to the events above there are a number of business forums in the borough which serve certain areas.

### Retail:

Chadwell Heath Retail and Business Partnership  
Broad Street Partnership  
The Corners Retail and Business Partnership (Andrews and Martins Corner)

### Industrial/Logistics:

Dagenham Dock Occupiers Forum  
Creekmouth Business Forum

If you a business within any of the above areas who would like to attend please visit our web site for further details. If you and other businesses in an area not covered by a forum are interested in setting one up the Council will be able to assist.

Officers are also currently in discussion with the manager of The Mall at Dagenham Heathway and the Chairs of Dagenham Village Partnership and Millard Terrace Residents Association about a retailers and residents group to discuss the ongoing improvement of the Heathway.

## East London Expo

Barking & Dagenham Chamber of Commerce, leading voice of local business, is running the first in what will be an annual business to business exhibition on Tuesday, 19 October, 2010 at sanofi-aventis, Dagenham, RM7 0QX.

B&D-East London EXPO is a great opportunity for businesses to showcase their products and services at competitive prices and aims to attract both buyers and suppliers. It encourages all businesses who want to trade in the area to attend and will provide an excellent opportunity for businesses to meet each other and showcase their goods and services. Attending is a great way to tell other businesses that you exist.

Exhibitors pay just **£99.00 + VAT** and will benefit from: showcasing opportunities; raising the profile of their products/services; business opportunities; a free pre-event seminar to help get the most from the EXPO; networking; business seminars and 'Meet the Buyer' event.

Visitors **attend free** and will benefit from: meeting suppliers of goods/services; business opportunities; networking; business seminars and 'Meet the Buyer' event.

### Book today!

Visit [www.eastlondonexpo.co.uk](http://www.eastlondonexpo.co.uk) for booking information.

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## Helping build small businesses through Investors in People

Ten businesses recently took part in a pilot project aimed at getting them Investors in People accreditation.

Read the full story on our web site: [www.boldanddynamic.co.uk/newsroom/blog/story/47](http://www.boldanddynamic.co.uk/newsroom/blog/story/47)

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## Barking and Dagenham Scoops Two Housing Design Awards

Two regeneration schemes in Barking and Dagenham picked up awards at the prestigious Housing Design Awards. Barking Central in Barking Town Centre was chosen as one of the winners in the completed designs category, adding the prize to its growing list of design awards. The other winner was Buzzard's Mouth Court, part of the Barking Riverside development, which won a project award for designs which have yet to be built.

Visit the Housing Design Awards for full information: [www.hdawards.org](http://www.hdawards.org)

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## Sanofi Aventis receives legacy award

The 2<sup>nd</sup> July saw the Sanofi-aventis Dagenham Manufacturing Plant being awarded a prestigious National Chemical Landmark award from the Royal Society of Chemistry recognising the historic legacy of the site over its 76 year history. The event also sought to look forward to the company's legacy with masterplan work on the future of the site currently underway with a view to public consultation in the Autumn prior to any planning application submissions.

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## Business Centres



The delivery of two business centres which will provide much needed high quality accommodation for businesses as part of the strategy to increase the Borough's business base has taken a big step forward. The Development Agreement for the Dagenham Business Centre, picture left, is about to be signed enabling GLE Property Developments to start on site whilst a planning application for the Barking Business Centre has been submitted which if successful would enable a start on site in January.

The Dagenham Business Centre is being part financed by the LDA's ERDF Programme 2007-13, securing £205,877 European Union funding for the environmental aspects of the scheme.

Dagenham Business Centre is being delivered in partnership by:



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## August Business of the Month



Barking and Dagenham is home to all kinds of unexpected businesses like the one that is featuring as this month's "Business of the Month".

Most people associate the word "organic" with fresh and wholesome food; at a pinch they may just about describe certain types of clothing in the same way. But our business of the month has gone one better and is producing organic beds.

Cumberland Beds is one of only two Soil Association accredited bed producers in the UK with beds made from totally chemical-free natural materials. The beds manufactured this way are completely safe, providing protection against all kinds of allergies. When asked why he had taken this route, Stephen Faint, the owner, said "I could see that with so many pollutants in the atmosphere, people want to be able to make sure that in their own homes they can be in a pure and natural atmosphere".

To help manufacture this very unusual and very comfortable bedding, Stephen last year took on four apprentices, thus contributing to the overall well being of the community in which this company operates.

Cumberland Beds produces for all types of market, from schools and hotels to the domestic market. It prides itself on being able to make beds to any specification, even triangular if asked.

Cumberland Beds can be found at 11 Heathway Industrial Park, Wantz Road, Dagenham, RM19 8PN

[www.cumberlandbeddingco.co.uk](http://www.cumberlandbeddingco.co.uk)

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## How can your business benefit financially by becoming more sustainable?

The EUREKA project is a new ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) funded initiative designed to help your business implement sustainable processes, develop innovative clean technologies and access new markets.

Visit the Eureka Project web site for more information ([www.uel.ac.uk/cite/research/eureka.htm](http://www.uel.ac.uk/cite/research/eureka.htm))

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## Business News

### UK-wide loan fund launched to support growing businesses

Businesses owned by ex-service personnel across the UK will be able to access vital finance to grow and succeed, following the launch of The Royal British

Legion's Be the Boss loan fund, part-managed by GLE one London.

#### Business Support Contacts

Business relationship managers:

[www.boldanddynamic.co.uk/business](http://www.boldanddynamic.co.uk/business)

Barking and Dagenham Small Business Centre:

[www.bdsbc.org/](http://www.bdsbc.org/)

Chamber of Commerce:

[www.bdchamber.co.uk/](http://www.bdchamber.co.uk/)

Business Link London:

[www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/home?site=181](http://www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/home?site=181)

#### ABOUT US>>

Barking and Dagenham Enterprise (BDE) is the team responsible for economic development and business support in the Borough. It delivers part of the Skills, Jobs and Enterprise Board's Single Programme. Further details of the Board and the Single Programme can be found at

[www.boldanddynamic.co.uk](http://www.boldanddynamic.co.uk).

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