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# BUSINESS NEWS



Your regular newsletter from Gosport Borough Council

December 2024



## The search is on for Gosport's best independent business

Is your business worthy of being crowned Gosport's best independent business?

A new council-run competition aims to find the best local business, as voted for by residents.

Whether you're a local coffee shop, hairdressers or market stall, all small businesses are eligible to enter.

The top prize is a business-boosting bundle, including online and social media promotional activity, and a 1-2-1 marketing support package including bespoke video content. The winner and runners-up will also be invited to a celebration event with the Mayor of Gosport at the Town Hall in January.

Find out more on the council's website, where businesses can download a poster to put up to encourage your customers to nominate you.

[Find out more](#)

## Digital marketing support now includes free website offer

Local businesses can still access free 1-2-1 support, including brand audits and bespoke team training. To find out more and to book a session with our trainer please email [annelies.james@gosport.gov.uk](mailto:annelies.james@gosport.gov.uk).

We have also launched a new website offer where Gosport businesses can have a FREE WordPress website built for them, with a whole year of hosting and maintenance for free too!

[Find out more and apply](#)



## **Free advice on skills training, funding opportunities and incentives for local employers**

Hampshire County Council and Gosport Borough Council are working in partnership to deliver Employer Information Sessions at Basepoint Gosport.

Open to employers of all sizes, you will receive specialist advice and support on national and local skills initiatives, including apprenticeships, skills bootcamps and T-Levels.

The next session is on Wednesday 11 December from 10am-12pm.

**Book your free place**

## **Supply your goods and services to south east local authorities**

The council is keen to see more local businesses registered on the South East Business Portal (SEBP), used by us and 73 other local authorities in the region to promote their contract opportunities.

By registering (free of charge) on the portal, you'll get personalised notices of new opportunities, as and when they arise, and be able to review existing local authority contracts. For Gosport this includes concession opportunities and a number of these will be published during 2025.

As part of your company profile on the portal, you can stipulate your preferred category areas and geographical locations. Your preferences will then be matched against the latest opportunities when they are published.

[Find out more](#)



## Join Gosport's business network

The next GIN (Gosport Informal Networking) event is taking place on Thursday 16 January, 10am-12pm at The Old Bake House. Come and expand your business connections in the area, find support from your peers and get free business advice. We can even help you with funding.

[Grab your free place](#)



## Free digital marketing workshops in 2025

As part of its free digital adoption support programme, the council has nine upcoming workshops and more being brought forward in the New Year. Topics include: marketing campaign planning; content and copywriting; and learning to use Canva for design.

[Book places](#)

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