

General UK and North East business news

The North East England Chamber of Commerce's latest quarterly economic survey has found a significant improvement in business performance and confidence. Regarding recruitment 56.8% attempted to recruit full time staff – an increase from 46.7% last quarter: <https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/19407346.confidence-returning-businesses-battle/>

The Federation of Small Business has called for more help, expressing concern that there will be a gap in financial support that will put more pressure on struggling businesses: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-57630349>

Research from Small Business Britain and BT Skills for Tomorrow has found a rise in small firms using digital to become more sustainable: <https://techround.co.uk/news/digital-boosts-small-business-sustainability/>

A new partnership between Chamber International and the Department for International Trade has allowed exporting businesses to apply for the Internationalisation Fund and offer match-funded grants of between £1,000 and £9,000: [New fund announced to boost SME global trading aspirations | UMi \(weareumi.co.uk\)](#)

Two North East firms, Winn Solicitors and PanoServe, are creating 200 jobs after coming together to create a new service for businesses and organisations that have been mis-sold by energy brokers: [North East firms link-up with service targeting energy mis-selling - Business Live \(business-live.co.uk\)](#)

A study by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders has called for a 'series of gigafactories' to maintain the country's car production. Plans for gigafactories in Northumberland have already been announced: [UK needs 'series of gigafactories' to maintain the country's car production - Business Live \(business-live.co.uk\)](#)

The Journal and PwC have produced the Top 200 list of the North East's largest companies: [Annual Top 200 list reveals the North East's largest companies - Business Live \(business-live.co.uk\)](#)

The North East England Chamber of Commerce is calling for the government to improve health levels in the region in a bid to help the local economy: [North East business group urges health improvements to boost economy - Business Live \(business-live.co.uk\)](#)

Sage is offering people in the North East a new sustainability and society strategy, Knocking Down Barriers, to set up their own businesses: <https://bdaily.co.uk/articles/2021/06/24/boost-for-north-east-entrepreneurs-as-sage-launches-multi-million-pound-business-support-initiative>

Invest North East England Michelle Duggan discusses why the region is becoming a UK hotspot for Health and Life Sciences including strengths in great data and analytics, clinical trials and cost competitiveness: <https://investnortheastengland.co.uk/news/health-life-sciences-north-east-england/>

The North East LEP has praised the region's health and life sciences sector for its vital work in the global effort against Covid-19: <https://www.northeastlep.co.uk/updates/north-east-health-and-life-sciences-sector-leads-the-way-in-global-covid-response/>

More businesses can now access the £4.6m investment programme. The fund is now open to SMEs in the North of Tyne area that are planning capital expenditure of at least £67,000: <https://www.northumberlandgazette.co.uk/business/more-businesses-can-benefit-from-changes-to-funding-access-3290584>

Royal Mail apprenticeships available in the North East: <https://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/news/19403500.apprenticeships-available-royal-mail-north-east/>

HMRC has produced some research on understanding the use of cash by SMEs: [Understanding the use of cash by small and mid-size businesses - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/research-data-and-analysis/understanding-the-use-of-cash-by-small-and-mid-size-businesses)

The UK Business Data Survey 2020 gathers evidence on the importance and awareness of data use for UK businesses: [UK Business Data Survey 2020 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/research-data-and-analysis/uk-business-data-survey-2020)

General North East events

Showcase North East | RTC North – 8th July.
Listen to local industry leaders and find out about current sector trends and opportunities.
[RTC North: Showcase North East](#)

Do Business Network | DBN – 20th July.
Monthly virtual networking event for DBN members.
['DO BUSINESS' VIRTUAL NETWORKING MEETING](#)

Export Academy | Department for International Trade – 24th August.
Help your business sell internationally.
[Export Academy](#)

Lunch Networking Events | Network B2B – weekly.
Find your local meeting location to network over lunch.
[Networking Lunch Meeting Tips & Events | Network B2B](#)

Northumberland

A reminder of Northumbria University offering support to SMEs based in Northumberland until June 2023: <https://bdaily.co.uk/articles/2021/06/25/smes-experience-growth-with-northumbria-university-internship-funding>

Developer Karbon Homes has secured planning permission for new £4m apartments in Northumberland for the over 55s: [£4m Northumberland residential development gets green light | Bdaily](#)

Northumberland events

West Northumberland Business Networking | Business Northumberland – 30th July.
Meet other local businesses as well as representatives from Business Northumberland and learn more about the free support available to your business.
[Online Networking: West Northumberland Business Networking](#)

North Northumberland Business Networking | Business Northumberland – 20th August.
Meet other local businesses as well as representatives from Business Northumberland and learn more about the free support available to your business.
[Online Networking: North Northumberland Business Networking](#)

Hexham Business Networking Breakfast | Network B2B – every Tuesday.
Speak to friendly professionals from all sectors and share business advice.
[Hexham Business Networking Breakfast](#)

North Tyneside

Quorum Park and North Tyneside Council have come together to host a virtual Quorum Jobs Fair on July 15th: <https://www.chroniclive.co.uk/special-features/hundreds-opportunities-up-grabs-north-20917950>

North Tyneside events

North Tyneside Business Networking Network B2B – every Thursday.
Speak to friendly professionals from all sectors and share business advice.
[North Tyneside Business Networking Event](#)

Speed Networking VWorks | Village Hotel – 29th September.
Come enjoy some Business-To-Business Speed Networking.
[Speed Networking VWorks](#)

Newcastle

Tech firm Donr has secured further investments and hit two key milestones after creating a digital fundraising app for charities: [Tech firm Donr secures investment and hits charity milestones - Business Live \(business-live.co.uk\)](#)

Newcastle-based medical tech firm Nanoverly has secured investment of £475,000, as it aims to develop better ways of diagnosing serious diseases: [Medical technology firm Nanoverly secures £475,000 investment for expansion - Business Live \(business-live.co.uk\)](#)

Digital marketing agency Evolved Search is currently recruiting for eleven roles and will have created 20 by the end of the year: <https://bdaily.co.uk/articles/2021/06/29/newcastle-digital-agency-aims-for-record-results-as-team-and-revenues-swell>

Newcastle events

Business Networking | Network B2B – every Wednesday.
Speak to friendly professionals from all sectors and share business advice.
[Jesmond Networking Group](#)

Women's Property Group Evening Meeting | Women's Property Group – every Friday.
An opportunity to dine with other women and discuss opportunities within the industry.
[Women's Property Group Last Friday of the Month Evening Meeting](#)

South Tyneside

Manufacturing firm Cell Pack Solution is expanding operations and selling 25% of its product in overseas markets: [South Tyneside manufacturer powers up for growth with export demand | Bdaily](#)

South Tyneside events

Business Networking | Network B2B – every Friday.
Speak to friendly professionals from all sectors and share business advice.
[South Shields Virtual Networking](#)

Gateshead

No news this week.

Gateshead events

ATOMICON 2021 - UKs Leading Small Business Conference | Atomic – 9th November.
Hosted at the Sage in Gateshead, a conference with an all-star line-up.
[ATOMICON 2021 - UKs Leading Small Business Conference](#)

Sunderland

Nissan is to create thousands of jobs with a “major expansion” to its Sunderland plant: [New Nissan factory set to create thousands of jobs at Sunderland site | Bdaily](#)

Sunderland fashion business What About This (WAT) has been acquired by former MD of Fenwick David Quinn for a six-figure deal: [Retail expert acquires North East fashion business in "significant" six-figure deal | Bdaily](#)

Sunderland City Council is working with Labour Xchange to launch an app to help people who are looking for flexible work to be matched with employers:
<https://www.sunderlandecho.com/business/council-back-app-for-temporary-flexible-job-adverts-ahead-of-sunderland-launch-3289322>

Sunderland events

Business Networking 1 Day Training in Sunderland | Mangates – 2nd July.
Helping you build a professional reputation through business networking.
[Business Networking 1 Day Training in Sunderland](#)

Washington Network Events | Network B2B – every Tuesday.
Speak to friendly professionals from all sectors and share business advice.
[Washington Networking Event](#)

North East Automotive Expo 2021 | North East Automotive Alliance – 30th September.
Reconnecting the region's automotive sector.
[North East Automotive Expo 2021](#)

Durham

Durham University has opened the £1.4m Orbit area in Sedgefield, which provides support to tech and science SMEs: [Durham University opens Orbit building to support technology and science firms - Business Live \(business-live.co.uk\)](#)

Business and IT consultancy Waterstons is launching a global 24/7 security operations centre providing clients in the UK and Australia with cyber security support: <https://investnortheastengland.co.uk/news/county-durham-based-waterstons-scales-up-cyber-security-services/>

The County Durham Growth Fund has awarded over £5m in grants to 21 companies across the region: <https://investnortheastengland.co.uk/news/county-durham-growth-fund-awards-5-4-million-to-local-businesses/>

Energy and property firm The Banks Group has reported a “record year” across its renewable energy business: <https://bdaily.co.uk/articles/2021/06/24/durham-energy-group-reveals-18m-increase-in-renewables-demand>

Durham events

Innovation Breakfast Brunch | Business Durham – 6th July.
Our virtual monthly Innovation breakfast brunch.
[Innovation Breakfast \(Brunch!\)](#)

Do Business Network Cuppa & Cake Meeting | DBN – 9th July.
Socialise with other DBN members with some coffee and cake.
[DBN CUPPA & CAKE MEETING](#)

Business Growth Roadmap - Engineering & Manufacturing Network | Northstar Ventures – 20th July.
Setting a clear agenda for business growth and prosperity in the region.
[Business Growth Roadmap - Engineering & Manufacturing Network](#)

Drum Business Park Group | Business Durham – 29th July.
All businesses and employees based on Drum Industrial Estate/Business Park are welcome to attend.
[Drum Business Park Group](#)