



The GBCC Black Business Collective Bulletin

Welcome to our first edition!

In this quarterly bulletin, you will find opportunities, events and content all aimed at, and curated for, the black business community.

Our partners



Your launch event invitation

Wednesday 17 July

5:30pm - 7:30pm

GBCC office, 54 Hagley Road

FREE to attend



Thank you for subscribing to the Black Business Collective!

We invite you to attend our **first quarterly networking event**.

Register your attendance today and learn more about how GBCC and the Collective can support your business.

You can also find out what's coming up for the rest of the year and help to shape the Collective's events and future activities.

[Find out more](#)

Thank you for your support

We just want to extend a huge and heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported the Black Business Collective's soft launch and commented, liked and shared our announcement on LinkedIn.

We also announced this on stage at the **Birmingham Black Business Show** and many of you visited the Chamber exhibition stand to learn more.

This has been a collective effort for many years, so we are sharing a few of the messages we have received.

Deirdre LaBassiere LL.B(Hons) FTLS · 1st 1w ...
Head of Governance & Company Secretary @ Parasol Homes | Chair ...

Incredibly proud and excited to see the launch of the Greater Birmingham Chamber of Commerce Black Business Collective. This initiative celebrates the historical ingenuity that runs through the veins of Black businesses and professionals, honouring their legacy while paving the way for future innovation and growth.
[#BlackBusiness](#) [#EconomicEmpowerment](#)

Kunle Aderemi (He/Him) · 1st 1w ...
FDI Trade & Investment Advisor Professional @ InvestAfrica Ltd

Congratulations, it has been long overdue, perhaps ten years back. We look forward to what will be achieved with the collective.

Landry Ntahe · 1st 1w ...
Founder @FindaHost

Huge congratulations on this milestone, I've heard stories about the challenges that were faced in putting this together. This is a fantastic step towards supporting and connecting Black entrepreneurs and professionals. Can't wait to see all the amazing opportunities and collaborations that come out of this. Well done to everyone involved!

Breaking barriers

Empowering black entrepreneurs for success



Discover the unique challenges black business owners face and how the Greater Birmingham Chamber of Commerce Black Business Collective (BBC) is paving the way for their success.

In this insightful article, **Karl George MBE**, president of the Black Business Collective, highlights ten critical areas where black entrepreneurs encounter significant disadvantages, from raising finance to overcoming cultural barriers.

[Read the blog](#)

Birmingham black business networks



There are some great black business networks already in existence in the region, and we acknowledge the fantastic work they are doing as trusted networks within the community.

The Collective will work closely with the various networks to ensure its members benefit from the Black Business Collective.

If you lead a network, we would love to hear from you to ensure we can include you in future communications and find out how to support your network best.

[Get in touch](#)

Free monthly grant funding newsletter **'Show Me The Money'**



If you're seeking funding, finance, or business support, subscribe to **Drew Currie's** free monthly grant funding newsletter, '**Show Me The Money**'.

Get information on grants, programmes and funding delivered to your inbox every month!

[Subscribe](#)

IINCOME Business Support for Black Business Collectives Pilot Project



The **IINCOME** (Inclusive Innovation Community and Exchange) Business Support project will be working with 20 black-owned or led businesses to help them to develop their digital, investment and ESG capacity and skills.

Use the button below to register your interest. You will receive further details with an invitation to an information and sign-up event.

[Register your interest](#)

Business Export Exchange Programme (BEEP)



The Immersive Global Export Programme for Entrepreneurs is launching in September 2024.

If you are an established business looking to develop or scale to the USA, Caribbean or Europe, then this export accelerator programme is here to help you develop and implement a successful strategy.

Use the buttons below to view the website or register your interest.

[View website](#)

[Register your interest](#)

Birmingham Black Business Conference

Saturday 19 October 2024

10:00am - 6:00pm

Legacy Centre of Excellence

FREE to attend



This event will welcome some of the country's most renowned black business leaders to offer advice, links and resources for both start-up and established companies alike. Attractions this year include:

- Stands with 100 black owned businesses
- Finance your business workshop - with introduction to lenders
- Scaling your business seminar
- How to do business in the Caribbean
- How to do business in Africa
- How to buy land in African and the Caribbean
- Legal workshop
- Intellectual property seminar
- Innovation workshop
- Networking opportunities

Parking is available on site, but please arrive early.

Bus travel - Take the 51 bus and ask for Newtown swimming baths if heading toward Walsall, or Phillips Street Park if heading towards Birmingham City Centre.

For further information on booking a stand, contact Legacy Centre of Excellence at info@legacycoe.co.uk.

[Find out more](#)

Grant programmes



West Midlands SME Grant Programme

This grant is for **start-up small to medium enterprises** (SMEs) based in Birmingham, Cannock Chase or Solihull (grants of **£1,000 to £7,500** at a 50% match-funded rate) and for **established SMEs** based in Birmingham, Cannock Chase, Solihull and Shropshire (grants of **£1,000 to £100,000** at a 50% match funded rate).

The grant can be used for activities such as: developing new market opportunities, innovation including new product development and capital investment.

[Find out more](#)

Birmingham and Solihull Export Support Programme

This grant is open to **small to medium enterprises** (SMEs) based within the Birmingham City Council and Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council local authority areas.

The grant is **100% funded** up to a value of **£6,000** and can be used by SMEs to become export ready, covering activities such as: market research, social media and search engine optimisation and taking part in tradeshows and overseas trade missions.

[Find out more](#)