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**East Midlands Growth Hub  
Building Business Resilience Programme**

**Outline Action Plan – Delivery of the Final Programme Activities**

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Developed for: Louise Higham, East Midlands Growth Hub Cluster  
Developed by: Leigh Sear and Meryl Levington, SFEDI  
Date: April 2022

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**Overview**

This action plan outlines the nature of the activity to be undertaken in the completion of the Building Business Resilience Programme between April and June 2022. In addition, the note provides an indication of dates and times for delivery of activity and comments for partners to ensure programme activity adds value to existing and planned business support programmes being provided by the three Growth Hubs.

**Information sharing session for business advisers**

To support in raising awareness of the webinars, workshops and planning and delivery of the creative and cultural cohort, and to understand how this activity can complement and add value to other business support programmes, we would like to hold an information-sharing session with the business advisers as soon as possible. We are aware that it may be easier to do this by LEP or we could offer, as we did for the CIBLS/BBL information session, two webinar slots and we can also record and circulate the session recordings for those unable to attend. We will liaise with Louise Higham to arrange appropriate dates for these information sharing sessions.

**Business resilience webinars**

The webinars will address a set of issues related to supporting business resilience (e.g. managing cash flow post-pandemic, managing supply chains, finding good staff) well as any emergent business development opportunities and needs at a local and/or regional level. We would like to engage with the teams of business advisers to support the finalisation of the themes for the webinars.

Topic		Date and Time	Comments
1	Managing cashflow – Making your money go further	28 <sup>th</sup> April 12-1PM	To be delivered with a guest speaker input (e.g. Ian Cruickshank of Catax in Nottingham, Julie Skevington of Sincero and a financial advisor from the area TBC)
2	Skills and recruitment – Opportunities and Challenges	12 <sup>th</sup> May 12-1PM	To be delivered with a guest speaker input (e.g. a local CIPD representative or HR recruitment business such as Emerald Starfish or Steven Brown)
3	Catching Customers	26 <sup>th</sup> May 12-1PM	To be delivered with input from an East Midlands Business that

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			has grown through real customer understanding
4	Managing your own business – Building personal resilience	8 <sup>th</sup> June 12-1PM	To be delivered with a guest speaker input (e.g. John Sunderland-Wright of JSAchieve)
5	EU Update – International trade and supply chains	23 <sup>rd</sup> June 12-1PM	To delivered in partnership with Andrea Collins

### Business resilience workshops

The workshops will complement the webinars by providing an opportunity to develop both learning and skills development of the owner-managers of small businesses related to supporting business resilience and bringing the future forward (e.g. embedding sustainability in business processes and practices). The workshops will be led by Leigh Sear and Meryl Levington and they involve a combination of facilitated taught input, group activities and self-reflection exercises. Where appropriate, guest speakers will be invited to provide an input on specific issues. The workshops will be held live across the region and we would like to engage with the teams of business advisers to support finalisation of the themes for the webinars.

Topic		Date and Time	Comments
1	Future proofing your business	18 <sup>th</sup> May 10AM-1PM	To explore how to strengthen business sustainability and take advantage of emerging opportunities
2	Your business and the environment – Building a sustainable business	1st <sup>th</sup> June 10AM-1PM	To be delivered with a guest speaker input (e.g. John Kent of Zeco)
3	Strategies for managing a remote and hybrid workforce	15 <sup>th</sup> June 10AM-1 PM	To be delivered with a guest speaker input (e.g. a local CIPD representative or HR recruitment business)
4	Developing operational resilience	29 <sup>th</sup> June 10AM-1 PM	This topic could be changed to reflect a local/regional issue of importance

### Building business resilience programme – Creative and cultural cohort

This will involve: re-engaging the businesses who signed up for the original cohort; following-up leads to finalise recruitment of eight businesses to the cohort; delivery of five half-day workshops and one full-day workshop focused on different aspects of business resilience (e.g. personal resilience of the owner-manager, financial and commercial resilience, operational resilience). The workshops will be led by Meryl Levington and Leigh Sear and they will be delivered online.

Topic		Date and Time	Comments
1	Introduction to the programme and Personal Resilience	Tues 10th May 10AM-1PM	To be delivered with a guest speaker input (e.g. John Sunderland-Wright of JSAchieve)

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2	Financial and commercial resilience	Tues 17th May 10AM-1PM	To be delivered by Meryl Levington and it will explore how to gain customer insights and keep on top of systems and procedures
3	Environmental resilience	Tuesday 31st May 10AM-1PM	This workshop will look at all aspects of environmental resilience including NetZero, carbon footprint tracking, supply chain audits and green travel plans
4	Operational resilience	Thursday 16th <sup>th</sup> June 10AM-1PM	This workshop will explore all aspects of operational resilience - exploring how to audit and then build upon internal systems and processes
5	Planning business resilience	Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June 10AM-1PM	This workshop will support participants to pull a resilience plan together

**Further information**

For any further information on the above programme of activities please contact Leigh Sear on 01325 468 017 or [leigh.sear@sfedi.co.uk](mailto:leigh.sear@sfedi.co.uk).

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