

4th - 8th March



10 YEARS

Local Enterprise Office Louth

# Local Enterprise Week 2024

Making it Happen



## Louth Events Guide

#LEWLouth24

Find out more  
[localenterprise.ie/louth](http://localenterprise.ie/louth)



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

In partnership with



Comhairle Contae Lú  
Louth County Council

# Local Enterprise Week 2024

4th–8th March

Local Enterprise Week is all about YOU and YOUR business. Our team at the Local Enterprise Office Louth are here, all year round, to provide mentoring, training and a huge range of supports. But Local Enterprise Week is about carving out time for your business, to stop and assess where you are, to avail of learning and networking opportunities and to access supports that will help your business to thrive.

During this dynamic week of events, we invite you to make time for your business. Be informed and inspired by our great line-up of speakers and topics. Use Local Enterprise Week to create a plan of action for the year ahead and stay ahead.

We are proud to host events with our partners in Network Louth, Drogheda and Dundalk Chambers and our colleagues in Local Enterprise Office Cavan and Local Enterprise Office Meath.

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Watch out for the 2024 Spotlight events, highlighted in this brochure. Brought to you by Local Enterprise Office Dún Laoghaire Rathdown and Local Enterprise Office Kildare, these national events are open to every business, no matter where you are based.

So now is the time to review our programme of events, identify the events for you and book your tickets [LocalEnterprise.ie/Louth](https://LocalEnterprise.ie/Louth)

We look forward to seeing you at Local Enterprise Week 2024.



## SPOTLIGHT EVENTS

Spotlight events are free of charge and are highlighted in this brochure

Front Cover (l-r):

Spoonful Botanicals - Conor & Jayne Grimes

Phytaphix - Dr. Conor Kerley

Caroline Duffy Designs - Caroline Duffy

Back Cover (clockwise from top):

Drummond House Garlic - Marita Collier

Ogam Aromatherapy - Caoimhe Carroll

Project Engineering - Colm O'Hagan

DATE	EVENT	TIME	HOSTED BY	LOCATION
Monday, 4th March	Unlocking Potential: A practical Guide to Introducing AI in Your Business	9.00am - 12.15pm	LEO Louth	The Fairways Hotel, Dundalk
	Idea Generation Workshop	6.00 - 8.15pm	LEO Louth	Ardee Business Park
Tuesday, 5th March	Greening Your Business: First Steps and Supports	9.30 - 10.30am	LEO Louth	Online
	Access to Funding	2.00 - 3.30pm	LEO Meath	Online
	Idea Generation Workshop	6.00 - 8.15pm	LEO Louth	The Mill Enterprise Hub, Drogheda
Wednesday, 6th March	SPOTLIGHT EVENT: MegaTrends and their impact on Business, hosted by Local Enterprise Office Dún Laoghaire Rathdown	TBC	LEO DLR	Online
	Idea Generation Workshop	6.00 - 8:15pm	LEO Louth	Creative Spark, Dundalk
Thursday, 7th March	Shielding Success: Navigating the Business Landscape with Comprehensive Insurance & Financial Wisdom	7.45 - 9.00am	Drogheda Chamber	Scholars Townhouse Hotel, Drogheda
	SPOTLIGHT EVENT: Climate Action & Sustainability: how we in Business can be part of the solution, hosted by Local Enterprise Office Kildare	11.30am - 2.30pm In Person	LEO Kildare	In Person & Online
	Streamlining Operations in Small Businesses: The Role of Digital Technologies	12.00 - 1.30pm		Online
	Empowering Every Step: Building Self-Confidence and Nurturing Connections' An International Women's Day	1.00 - 2.00pm	LEO Cavan	Online
		6.30 - 8.30pm	Network Louth	The Gateway Hotel, Dundalk
Friday, 8th March	Louth Enterprise Awards & Business Networking Lunch	12.00 - 3.00pm	LEO Louth	The Monasterboice Inn, Drogheda

# Unlocking Potential: A Practical Guide to Introducing AI in Your Business

The launch event for Local Enterprise Week Louth 2024, this fast-paced, dynamic seminar will demonstrate the practicality and effectiveness of AI. It will show you how micro and small businesses can introduce AI in a cost-effective, accessible way.

It will help you, as a business owner or manager, to understand the practical applications AI can have for small businesses. Through an exploration of real-world examples, you will gain actionable insights and practical ideas for how you can introduce AI into your business and use it to drive progress and growth.

In this session, Stuart will give a holistic overview of AI and then talk about tailored solutions for SMEs. He will share real world applications and case-studies to inspire you and demonstrate how it can make a difference. He will explain how to implement AI, even if you do not come from a tech background and explain the challenges and how to overcome them.

The seminar will wrap with guidance on how to develop an action plan for introducing AI into your business, so that you can start taking advantage of all that this evolving technology has to offer.



## Meet our Trainer: Stuart Nelson, Jigsaw Better Business

A seasoned professional with over 25 years of experience in management, leadership, coaching, and consultancy, currently serves as the Director of Operations & Program Development at Jigsaw Better Business. Holding the title of Master Black Belt in Lean Six Sigma, Stuart's expertise lies in driving operational excellence, fostering a Lean mindset, and empowering leaders and teams through coaching and mentoring. He is also a PhD Candidate with a focus on Operational Excellence in SMEs and has contributed significantly to the field through publications on organisational excellence in business.

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Monday, 4th March 2024</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>9.00am</b> <b>Registration and refreshments</b> <b>9.30am - 12.15pm</b> <b>Seminar starts</b>
<b>Location:</b>	<b>The Fairways Hotel,</b> <b>Dublin Road, Dundalk</b>
<b>Price:</b>	<b>Free</b>

[Click to book](#)

# Ideas Generation Workshops

Ideas are the starting point for development and innovation in your business. But it can be hard to find time to think and come up with new ideas. Join an Ideas Generation Workshop, as part of Local Enterprise Week, where Geraldine Johnston will create that time and space for you to think creatively.

Geraldine will teach you how to assess the viability of potential ideas using proven methods like brainstorming and SWOT analysis.

She will explain how to enhance your problem-solving skills, prioritise ideas, and develop actionable plans with SMART goals.

Connect with fellow business owners, exchange feedback, and boost your confidence in idea execution. This collaborative experience is designed to empower you with strategic decision-making skills for business success. Don't miss this chance to refine your ideas in a supportive and energetic environment.



## Meet our Trainer: Geraldine Johnston, Boyne Communications

With twenty five years of expertise in shaping ideas into impact, Geraldine is a strategic communications expert, business mentor, and facilitator. Her strategic acumen positions her as a valuable resource for any business with ideas or plans for growth. Join Geraldine to benefit from her extensive experience and gain insights into strategic decision-making, ultimately driving your business towards success.

**Date:** Monday, 4th March,  
Ardee Business Park,  
Ardee

Tuesday, 5th March,  
The Mill Enterprise Hub,  
Drogheda

Wednesday, 6th March,  
Creative Spark,  
Dundalk

**Time:** 6.00 - 8.30pm

**Price:** Free

[Click to book  
\(Ardee\)](#)

[Click to book  
\(Drogheda\)](#)

[Click to book  
\(Dundalk\)](#)

Find out more  
[localenterprise.ie/louth](http://localenterprise.ie/louth)

#MakingItHappen

# Greening Your Business: First Steps & Supports

As a business owner, you know the importance of sustainability, both in business and in the world around us. What you may not know is that taking steps to drive sustainability in your business can have significant benefits on everything from efficiencies to cost savings.

This Local Enterprise Office Louth online information session will highlight two major LEO supports: Green for Business and the Energy Efficiency Grant.

Discover the benefits, how to apply and ask questions in this really practical, action focused information session, hosted by Pamela Kerr of Local Enterprise Office Louth.

**Date:** Tuesday, 5th March 2024  
**Time:** 9.30 - 10.30am  
**Location:** Online  
**Price:** Free

[Click to book](#)

talk business



## Access to Funding

This online session, hosted by Bernadette Farrell of Ace Professional Business Services, will focus on the range of financial supports available to micro enterprises, the eligibility criteria and how to apply. Bernadette will explain the different types of funding available (both grant aid and bank finance) and non-traditional forms of finance, for the various stages of business development and which type is most appropriate for each stage.

**Date:** Tuesday, 5th March 2024  
**Time:** 2.30 - 3.30pm  
**Location:** Online  
**Price:** Free  
**Hosted By:** Local Enterprise Office Meath

[Click to book](#)



# Building a Sustainable All-Island Economy

Both local and global uncertainty and the continuing fallout from Brexit has created a challenging business environment. Local businesses, now more than ever, need to plan for the future and help build a sustainable, successful All-Island Economy.

The annual Cross Border Conference, hosted by Newry and Dundalk Chambers addresses themes including Skills & People, Business Supports, Sustainability, Productivity and the All-Island Economic Outlook. Key government representatives, policy officials and business advisors will set out the shape of future cross-border cooperation and their priorities for the region.

Led by journalist, Mark Simpson, the event will feature thought leaders, policy makers and business leaders, each sharing insights and wisdom on building a sustainable all-island economy.

The packed conference programme provides you and your business with a unique opportunity to hear from experts on the issues that matter and provides opportunities for enhanced collaboration with other stakeholders in the cross-border economy.

**Date:** Wednesday, 6th March  
**Time:** 8.45am - 1:15pm  
**Price:** Free  
**Location:** The Carrickdale Hotel, Ravensdale  
**Hosted By:** Newry Chamber and Dundalk Chamber



[Click to book](#)

**Local Enterprise Office**

## Save time, money and energy

It's all in a day's work with your Local Enterprise Office

We know that for small businesses, every day is a busy day with new challenges – but with the help of your Local Enterprise Office, staying competitive and becoming more productive is much easier.

We have a range of business supports to help you save time, money, and energy. Find out more at [allinadaysofwork.ie](http://allinadaysofwork.ie)



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Local Government Ireland

# Shielding Success: Navigating the Business Landscape with Comprehensive Insurance & Financial Wisdom

Strong financial planning and comprehensive insurance are two key pillars to help navigate your business through change and challenge.

Join Drogheda Chamber for a valuable business breakfast seminar where the expert team from LHK will discuss the changing landscape of business insurance, trade credit insurance, cyber security and the impact on claims of the Injuries Resolution Board. They will also share important insights into retirement planning, pension auto enrollment requirements, life cover and income protection.

Featuring expert speakers Stephen Patterson, Gerry Daly, Richard Simpson, Sinead Wolfe and Conail Flynn from the LHK team, this seminar will provide you with important and actionable information.



**Drogheda  
& District  
Chamber**

Advancing business together

**Date:** Thursday, 7th March  
**Time:** 7.45 - 9.15am  
**Location:** Scholars Townhouse Hotel,  
Drogheda

**Price:** Free  
**Hosted By:** Drogheda Chamber

[Click to book](#)



## Climate Action & Sustainability: How we in Business can be part of the solution

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges facing humanity. Climate action is how we address it and we all have a roll to play. Join acclaimed natural world broadcaster, documentary maker and climate campaigner Liz Bonnin and Ronan Murphy of Vision Green Consultancy for a fast-paced, action focussed session on the role that you and your business can play in addressing climate change.

Whether you attend in-person at the Riverbank Theatre in Naas or online, this promises to be a valuable conversation that you do not want to miss.

**Date:** Thursday, 7th March  
**Time:** This event takes place both online and in person.  
11.30am - 2.30pm In person audience  
12.00 - 1.30pm online audience

**Location:** In Person: The Riverbank Theatre, Newbridge

**Price:** In person - €15.00 inc. lunch  
Online - Free

**Hosted By:** Local Enterprise Office Kildare

 **Spotlight Event**

[Click to book](#)



# Lunch & Learn: Streamlining Operations in Small Businesses: The Role of Digital Technologies

This fast-paced Lunch & Learn session features John O'Shanahan of LeanBPI, an expert in the field of small business digitalisation. With more than 30 years business experience and five years of experience in small business Digitalisation, John brings a wealth of knowledge on how digital tools can revolutionise small business operations.

**Date:** Thursday, 7th March

**Time:** 1.00 - 2.00pm

**Location:** Online

**Price:** Free

**Hosted By:** Local Enterprise Office Cavan

[Click to book](#)



## Empowering Every Step: Building Self-Confidence and Nurturing Connections

In today's fast changing world, developing strong and impactful connections is important for fostering effective working relationships. Understanding self-confidence strategies is a key aspect for business development, advancement in working environments, and personal achievement.

This Network Louth International Women's Day event will feature guest speaker Naomh McElhatton, an award-winning entrepreneur, speaker, and mentor, renowned for her female leadership in the technology and digital education sectors.

Naomh is CEO & Co-Founder of dara & co, an eLearning platform that is uniquely dedicated to the human experience, one that facilitates personal development and the art of building healthier relationships. Naomh is also recognised for her work as a STEM Ambassador and is the Entrepreneurial Lead for Women in AI Ireland, who are passionate about AI that champions diversity and inclusion.

Naomh will address self-confidence and its impact on personal and professional life, the challenges women face in building self-confidence, including societal expectations and self-doubt. She will also look at strategies for building self-confidence, the power of connections and how to build and nurture those connections.

**Date:** Thursday, 7th March

**Time:**

**6.30pm: Registration & Refreshments**

**7pm: Seminar**

**Location:** The Gateway Hotel, Dundalk

**Price:** Free

**Hosted By:** Network Louth

[Click to book](#)



**Network  
Ireland**  
Louth

# Louth Enterprise Awards 2024 Business Networking Lunch

Hosted by: Local Enterprise Office Louth

The highlight of Local Enterprise Week is always the Local Enterprise Awards, a chance to network and celebrate the achievements of local entrepreneurs across the county.

Taking place on Friday, 8th March, the event is a dynamic and energetic networking lunch.

Hosted by broadcaster and journalist Alison Comyn, the event will feature an interview with special guest entrepreneur Edel Treanor of Mullan Lighting. From humble beginnings in Mullan, Co. Monaghan, Mullan Lighting has gone on to achieve global success, exporting over 80% of its stunning lighting products to 55 countries worldwide, the Mullan Lighting story is one of true global ambition, tenacity, innovation and drive.

## Guest Entrepreneur Edel Treanor, Mullan Lighting

A graduate of DCU Business School, and experienced Project Manager in both the charitable and public sectors, Edel Treanor returned to her native Monaghan to join family business Monaghan Electrical Wholesale Ltd. where her focus was on Marketing and International Business development. Her husband Mike had established a new enterprise, Mullan Lighting, Design and Manufacturing in 2009 and Edel quickly took the lead on growing the business and driving international expansion.

In an era of mass production and generic design, the Mullan Light in-house design and manufacturing facilities provide customers with the true creative freedom to make their interior design truly unique. From residential to high-end commercial, Mullan Lighting offers a completely bespoke lighting service.

Established in 2009, the Mullan Lighting team has always been ambitious for growth and, along the way, accessed the advice and support of their Local Enterprise Office and Enterprise Ireland. They have now expanded their product range to include Mullan Lighting, Mullan Ceramic and OAT Jewellery.

From their base in Mullan Village, outside Emyvale, Mullan Lighting now employs a team of 90+ staff and exports over 80% of its goods to 55 countries worldwide, with their largest markets in the USA, UK and France.

Discover more: [www.mullanlighting.com](http://www.mullanlighting.com)

The interview with Edel will be followed by the announcement of the 2024 Local Enterprise Award winners in four categories:

- Best Start-Up Business
- Best Established Business
- Innovation Award
- Sustainability Award

The overall winner of the Louth Enterprise Award will also be announced and will go forward to represent Louth in the National Enterprise Awards in May.



## Our MC

### Alison Comyn

#### Journalist & Broadcaster

Alison Comyn is an IFTA-winning journalist, news anchor and broadcaster, who throughout her three-decade career, has worked for BBC, Sky News, Channel 4, RTÉ and UTV Ireland, as well as being a print journalist and columnist with Mediahuis.

She is also a communications consultant with international expertise, training groups and individuals from a wide range of organisations. She is an experienced MC and moderator, and has chaired the World Employment Conference, National Recruitment Federation annual conference and Davy Stockbrokers Conference to name a few.



## Event Details

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Friday, 8th March</b>	<b>Location:</b>	<b>The Monasterboice Inn, Drogheda</b>
<b>Time:</b>	<b>12.00pm Registration &amp; Refreshments</b>	<b>Price:</b>	<b>Free</b>
	<b>12.30pm Lunch and Awards Ceremony</b>	<a href="#">Click to book</a>	



*Business Support on Your Doorstep*

Local Enterprise Office Louth are proud to host this year's Local Enterprise Awards in conjunction with the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN). The EEN helps businesses to innovate and grow on an international scale. It is the world's largest support network for small and medium-sized enterprises with international ambitions. EEN manages Europe's largest online database of business opportunities to help you find business or academic partners, to manufacture, distribute or co-develop your products, ideas or services. The EEN also has business experts with the experience and resources to help your business to internationalise. Whatever your sector, an EEN expert can advise on the market opportunities for your business to expand internationally.

Find out more  
[localenterprise.ie/louth](http://localenterprise.ie/louth)

**#MakingItHappen**

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Book now for Local Enterprise Week and discover the supports and programmes available to you in 2024.

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