

Supports for Retail Businesses in County Westmeath

Westmeath LEO can offer a range of supports to retail businesses in County Westmeath to assist business owners to develop their business to its full potential.

For those thinking of setting up a retail business, please download [Our Guide to Setting up a Retail Business in Westmeath](#). This guide may also be useful for those already in business as it contains information on employment legislation, health and safety issues and useful contact points and websites.

What can Westmeath LEO do for my retail business ?

14 things we can do for retail businesses locally

- You are welcome to come to our Business Information Centre in County Buildings, Mullingar and browse through our centre where you find Employment Legislation Guides, Marketing Supports, Learn about local Business Networks, Information on upcoming events and conduct local market research if required. Free use of broadband internet facilities.
- You can meet with a Business Advisor (free of charge) at any stage to discuss any aspect of your business in a confidential setting.
- You can avail of our mentoring service which provides specialist business advisors to work with you on a one to one basis. Mentors are available to assist you with marketing plans, financial planning, human resource management or whatever your particular need is.
- Attend one of our regular seminars on topics such as Company Law, Energy Efficiency, Social Networking, Developing an Online Shop, Handling Redundancy, NERA Inspections, Health & Safety compliance.
- Continuous training programme schedule, short professional development courses including 'Increasing Sales in a Downturn' 'Website Marketing and Optimisation' 'Getting the Most from your bank' 'Credit Control - How to get paid' 'Financial Essentials of Business' Full schedule of courses is currently available on our website.
- Safety Statement. Do you have a safety statement ? Attend one of our workshops and avail of our mentor who will visit your business and assist you with compiling your own safety statement.
- Attend our one to one Internet Clinics with our web specialist, he will objectively review your website and how it is working for you. Advice offered on optimisation, buying on line and making your website work for you.
- Website Grant. Receive 50% funding (subject to €1,000.00 limit) to develop or upgrade your website. Apply immediately.
- Exhibition Assistance. If you are attending a trade fair or lifestyle exhibition to promote your business, you can apply for 50% funding towards your costs. Criteria apply. See website for further details.
- Financial assistance towards business training in your business is available. A maximum grant of €1,000.00 per business per year is available, subject to criteria.
- If you are a woman in business, join our Women in Business Network and attend our quarterly events where you can learn more about being in business but also make new business contacts. Next event Feb. 10th 2010.
- Promote your business at our Speed Networking Events.
- Avail of the Work Placement Programme - where you provide work experience to an unemployed person for 9 months while they retain their Social Welfare payments.
- Sign up for a FREE Energy Audit with SEI. Reduce your energy costs by up to 20%.

For specific employment legislation, employers may also be interested in [Our Guide to Employment Legislation](#) available to download here. Other useful resources in relation to employment issues are :

Revenue Commissioners - Employers Helpline : 1890 254 656

National Employment Rights Association (NERA) www.employmentrights.ie Information for Employers including specific employment regulation orders and wage agreements.

For consumer issues, useful websites include :

Office of the Director of Consumer Affairs - www.odca.ie

National Consumer Association - www.nca.ie