

Northfleet Embankment

With the closure of Lafarge's Northfleet cement works and other manufacturing concerns, plans are emerging for a major mixed-use scheme along Northfleet Riverside that benefit from ease of access to Ebbsfleet Station.

Welcoming new business

With Gravesham being the within Europe's largest regeneration project, the borough makes a prime location to start or expand a business. Support is available for those looking to capitalise on Gravesham's potential through a series of organisations. The first port of call for any business looking to develop or expand is

Business Link, the national business advice service. Business Link is committed to making the UK the number one place to start and run a business. Assistance areas include networking, funding for research and development, and workforce development. For more information call 0845 600 9006 or visit www.businesslink.gov.uk

Businesses looking to move to Gravesham should contact Locate in Kent on 01732 520700 or visit www.locateinkent.com



Tel. 01474 33 72 38

www.gravesham.gov.uk

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CASE STUDY

Serene Progress

For Serena Kaur, the motivation to own her own business came while working as a bank cashier. "The job was really stressful. I wasn't happy there. The final straw came when I was held up at gunpoint. I knew for my sanity I needed to do something else."

Serena was unemployed for six months after leaving the bank. Seeing a gap in the beauty market however, she came to The Prince's Trust for support to set up a business. So-Serene Threading Bar opened in January 2009 offering a new type of hair removal and is already thriving with Gravesend shoppers.



Serena taking care of a customer

The Trust provided a loan of £2,500 and assigned a mentor and a Prince's Trust contact to help with the first three years of trading. Serena explains, "It's like having a mum and dad to your business. It's comforting and reassuring knowing they are there and that you are not alone. It wasn't just about the money for me; it was the business guidance and the mentor support."

The Prince's Trust also works with 14-30-year-olds who have struggled at school, been in care, are long-term unemployed or have been in trouble with the law. The Prince of Wales' charity has helped over 575,000 young people since its launch in 1976, providing practical and financial support and developing key workplace skills. Three in four young people The Trust helped last year moved into work, education or training.

Tel. 0800 842 842

www.princes-trust.org.uk



Prince's Trust