as an area where entrepreneurship and business innovation thrive and is home to many small and medium sized enterprises

has some of the best, unspoilt natural countryside in Britain. Increasing numbers of start-up businesses are choosing to set up in such rural locations. Alongside low costs, businesses in the Sevenoaks area benefit from almost blanket broadband coverage.

For businesses looking to locate in Sevenoaks, there is a healthy supply of modern office units with around 40 available at any one time. Industrial space is also in good supply with some 20 units available at most times during the year.

Building links

In order to encourage business, make a difference to business performance

and contribute to the local economy, Sevenoaks District Council works closely with Business Link to offer information, practical advice and support. Business Link is an impartial, publicly funded support organisation, charged with helping local businesses to develop and grow. Business Link advisers can help businesses at any stage of their development, from start-ups to more established businesses seeking help with specific issues (see Case Study).



Tel. 01732 227000 www.sevenoaks.gov.uk/business

CASE STUDY

Bright Sparks



Sevenoaks-based company Blue Spark has been developing content managed websites for the last 10 years, winning customers over with websites that are easy to use and cost effective. With a diverse customer base of local Kent companies, large multi-nationals and international customers, they believe they have benefited from the advice and knowledge that Business Link can offer.

After having attended Business Link events such as "The Complete Business Advice Day," "Growing A Creative Business" and "Maximising Your Exhibition Workshop," Blue Spark decided to take advantage of the face-to-face Business Adviser service.

Director Shona Macmillan said, "Running a business can take up all your attention and it's easy to become immersed in day to day tasks, so it's really helpful to get a knowledgeable outsider's viewpoint. We have really appreciated the frank and honest advice of our Business Link adviser, who has helped us to identify a clear vision and key priorities for our business and to focus on an action plan for implementing those."

Tel. 0845 600 9 006 www.businesslink.gov.uk/southeast