



Canterbury City Council



The city council's Local Economy Team provides information, advice and support in eight key areas:

Commercial development and inward investment - wherever possible the council supports and facilitates local business expansions and re-investments, working closely with Locate in Kent, and a free online property register of over 350 locally available commercial property and sites is available. The council owns and manages two sets of small business offices/units that provide incubator type accommodation for start-up and growing businesses. The latest facility is Lakesview Enterprise Centre, which comprises 14 office incubator units, providing modern accommodation in a fully supported business environment.

Business advice and support - The Local Economy Team directs both local businesses and potential start-up businesses to the appropriate information, business agencies or organisations offer services including training and skills development. Businesses can develop new commercial opportunities between local companies via an online business directory, and enjoy the benefits of regular business events.

Grants and access to finance - The new website portal Canterbury4Grants is a free service giving access to the latest information on business grants and finance. <http://www.open4business.info/canterbury>

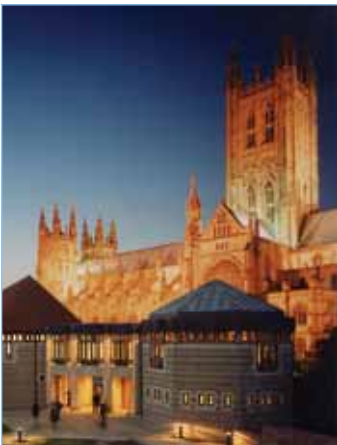
A voice and advocate for business - The Local Economy Team seeks

to ensure the current and future needs of local businesses and economy are emphasised and represented at all levels of government through the district's local economic partnership, Canterbury 4 Business (C4B). C4B has six project groups focusing on a range of themes such as lobbying for local road improvements in the strategic projects group to business mentoring in the enterprise group.

Maintaining and generating economic data - The Team retains and undertakes detailed intelligence on the economic characteristics and future economic potential of the district.

Regeneration - Three key urban regeneration projects are ongoing in the district - at Canterbury West, Wincheap and the coastal town of Herne Bay. The Team is a link between government initiatives and the wider local community - a good example of this is the East Kent Partnership where the team works with partners to assist the development of local knowledge-based industries (for example - Canterbury Business Innovation Centre and Enterprise Hub projects).

Town Centre Management - The Town Coordinators for Canterbury, Herne Bay and Whitstable are part of the Local Economy team and provide a valuable link with business in those



Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, Conference Centre



Picture courtesy of Kent Tourism Alliance