

# HIE LINKS

## OUR WEEKLY UPDATE

28 August 2023

This is your weekly round-up of news and events from HIE.

Details of upcoming HIE events can be found on the HIE website - [www.hie.co.uk/events](http://www.hie.co.uk/events)

Events organised by other organisations e.g. Scottish Enterprise, Business Gateway etc can be found on [www.findbusinesssupport.gov.scot](http://www.findbusinesssupport.gov.scot)

### IN THE NEWS

[www.hie.co.uk/latest-news](http://www.hie.co.uk/latest-news)

24 August: **Skye community enterprise secures £23,400**

A community enterprise in Skye has significantly improved the efficiency of its operations after securing up to £23,400 from HIE

25 August: **Business confidence returning but financial concerns continue - survey**

There's been further improvement in the confidence businesses in the Highlands and Islands have in Scotland's economic outlook and individual enterprises. Concerns over finances remain prominent.

25 August: **Cairngorm funicular temporarily out of service**

HIE has taken the decision to withdraw the Cairngorm funicular railway from service temporarily while a series of snagging works is carried out.

25 August: **Argyll and Bute businesses offered chance to 'Thrive and Transform'**

Entrepreneurs and business people across Argyll and Bute are being offered the chance to attend a free event designed to help them expand their business activity.

### DID YOU SEE?

- Elaine Jamieson, HIE's head of food and drink and life sciences [blogs from the biggest aquaculture technology exhibition](#) in Trondheim, Norway.

### SOCIAL MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

X Follow us

24 Aug: **Applications for this round of one-to-one support with the Food and Drink TechHUB will close on 25 August!**

LINKEDIN Connect with us

**21 Aug: Sign up for free to the next cohort of the Highlands and Islands Fuel Change Challenge 2023.**

FACEBOOK Follow us

22 Aug: **The 2023 Aqua Nor exhibition starts today in Trondheim, Norway. If you're going along, make sure to say hello to the Scottish pavilion.**

### #FRIDAYFACTS FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE

25 Aug: **We've just published the results of our latest business panel. Good to see 55% of businesses surveyed are confident in Scotland's economic outlook - this is up from 50% at the start of the year.**

### EVENTS AND WEBINARS COMING UP

<p>Wed 30 Aug: <b>Redefining Scotland's booking landscape: An introduction to Kooble</b>  The Scottish Tourism Alliance / Kooble  11am-12 noon  Online</p>	<p>Kooble, an innovative, new cooperative booking platform, co-owned by Scottish hospitality businesses, will launch this September.  This webinar will give businesses in the sector the opportunity to meet the team and find out more about Kooble, including the platform's vision, business model and membership opportunities.  <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 31 Aug: <b>Safe and improved food</b>  SRUC – Scotland's Rural College  10am-2pm  <b>In-person event</b>  SRUC Aberdeen Campus  Library, Ferguson Building  Craibstone Estate, Aberdeen AB21 9YA</p>	<p>The event will highlight emerging science at SRUC. Through round-table discussion, we will examine challenges and opportunities in the food and drink sector. The aim is to better equip the Challenge Centre to help you, and to provide you with a deeper insight to SRUC research, opening opportunities for partnership.  <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 31 Aug: <b>The organic market: opportunities in the UK and Scotland</b>  Scotland Food and Drink  10-11.30am  Online</p>	<p>Ahead of Organic September, the Knowledge Bank will share brand new data on the Scottish and UK organic food and drink retail market from Nielsen along with key takeaways from the annual report by the Soil Association. The webinar will look at ways to leverage the eco active consumer and opportunities in that sector.  <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 31 Aug: <b>HR – Recruiting, managing and retaining staff</b>  Business Gateway  1-3pm  Online</p>	<p>Explore the essentials of HR, including hiring, interviewing, payroll, pensions, contracts, and remote working.  <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Fri 1 Sept: <b>Email marketing for business</b>  DigitalBoost  9-11am  Online</p>	<p>Email marketing is one of the best ways to engage with and nurture your audience. This webinar will help anyone currently using email marketing to boost the success of their email campaigns.  <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Tues 5 Sept: <b>Online Microsoft Excel (intermediate) training for Orkney businesses</b>  Business Gateway  9.30am-12.30pm  <b>In-person event / Online</b></p>	<p>How to analyse data in spreadsheets. You will also organise table data, present data as charts, collaborate with others and work with conditional formatting.  <a href="#">Book</a>  Event full but waiting list available</p>
<p>Tues 5 Sept: <b>Scottish Government's central government energy efficiency grant workshop</b>  Zero Waste Scotland  10am-3pm  <b>In-person event</b>  Glenmoriston Townhouse Hotel,  20 Ness Bank, Inverness IV2 4SF</p>	<p>This workshop will inform applicants of available grant funding for heat decarbonisation and energy efficiency projects across the public sector.  <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Tues 5 Sept: <b>Online Microsoft Excel (advanced) training</b></p>	<p>Online Microsoft Excel (advanced) training exclusively for Orkney businesses.</p>

Business Gateway 1.30-4.30pm Online	<a href="#">Book</a>
Wed Sept 6: <b>Savings for the planet: Key insights in sustainability to future-proof your retailer relationships</b> Scotland Food and Drink 2-3pm Online	The Knowledge Bank has partnered with leading retail analysts IGD to understand the sustainability strategies of the major UK retailers – and what’s expected of suppliers.  Hear about real world examples and global best practice on cutting costs and staying on shelf, all whilst being part of the industry drive to net zero. <a href="#">Book</a>
Wed 6 Sept: <b>Improving efficiencies in manufacturing</b> Food and Drink TechHUB/SMAS 4-5pm Online	Practical advice to improve efficiencies in your food and drink manufacturing process to reduce costs and save money. <a href="#">Book</a>
Thurs 7 Sept: <b>Wealth building for communities - the role of third sector organisations and purposeful businesses</b> Productivity Club Scotland 9.30-11am Online	This session is for anyone in Scotland in the public, private and third sectors who is working on or curious to know more about Community Wealth Building. <a href="#">Book</a>
Thurs 7 Sept: <b>Just Transition – Business engagement session</b> The Scottish Government 9.30am-12.30pm Online	As part of engagement for the draft Just Transition Plans, the Scottish Government has arranged a <a href="#">series of business workshops</a> focused on the built environment and construction.  This session will be an opportunity for businesses and workers to contribute to policy development, and highlight areas the just transition plans should consider, focusing on <b>economic opportunities</b> . <a href="#">Book</a>
Thurs 7 Sept: <b>Building an international network for social enterprise expansion</b> Social Enterprise World Forum (SEWF) 12 noon-1.30pm Online	Are you thinking about expanding your social enterprise outside Scotland?  Learn how others have expanded their enterprise networks internationally and find out about the benefits of attending SEWF23. <a href="#">Book</a>
Thurs 7 Sept: <b>Just Transition – Business engagement session</b> The Scottish Government 1.30-4.30pm Online	As part of engagement for the draft Just Transition Plans, the Scottish Government has arranged a <a href="#">series of business workshops</a> focused on the built environment and construction.  This session will be an opportunity for businesses and workers to contribute to policy development, and highlight areas the just transition plans should consider, focusing on <b>jobs and skills</b> . <a href="#">Book</a>
Fri 8 Sept: <b>Just Transition – Business engagement session</b> The Scottish Government 9.30am-12.30pm <b>In-person event</b> Inverness	As part of engagement for the draft Just Transition Plans, the Scottish Government has arranged a <a href="#">series of business workshops</a> focused on the built environment and construction.  This session will be an opportunity for businesses and workers to contribute to policy development, and highlight areas the just transition plans should consider, focusing on <b>jobs and skills</b> .

<p>Sat 9 Sept: <b>Just Transition – Business engagement session</b> The Scottish Government 9.30am-12.30pm Online</p>	<p>As part of engagement for the draft Just Transition Plans, the Scottish Government has arranged a <a href="#">series of business workshops</a> focused on the built environment and construction. This session will be an opportunity for businesses and workers to contribute to policy development, and highlight areas the just transition plans should consider, focusing on <b>economic opportunities</b>. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 14 Sept: <b>Selling your business masterclass</b> Scottish Enterprise / Co-operative Development Scotland 10am-12 noon Online</p>	<p>Have you considered a succession plan for your business? Employee ownership is fast becoming a preferred exit route for owners. Hear first-hand from people who've gone through the process. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 14 Sept: <b>CMS Kernel: Mobility in the food and drink sector – Immigration issues affecting resourcing in the industry</b> 9.30-10.15am Scotland Food and Drink Online</p>	<p>Labour shortages are consistently ranked amongst the greatest challenges currently facing food and drink businesses. Join CMS Kernel for a webinar to discuss the role of immigration in this issue in the food and drink sector, and the practical solutions and options available to employers. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 14 Sept: <b>Digital connectivity across the Highlands and Islands</b> HIE / FarrPoint 11am-12 noon Online</p>	<p>Join for an update from FarrPoint and learn about the changes in connectivity like the analogue to digital switchover, the 3G switch-off, and what it means across the Highlands and Islands. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 14 Sept – Fri 15 Sept: <b>Global market insights event</b> SDI (Scottish Development International) 12 noon 14 Sept – 12 noon 15 Sept <b>In-person event</b> Scottish Enterprise, Apex House 99 Haymarket Terrace, EH12 5HD</p>	<p>Whether you are an experienced exporter or new to exporting, this is a great opportunity to meet and network with food and drink specialists from the Middle East, China, Hong Kong, and North America. You'll also meet Scotland-based trade advisors who can advise on the support available to help your company develop and grow international business opportunities. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Fri 15 Sept: <b>The UK internal market: Key issues for the food and drink sector</b> Food and Drink Federation Scotland 10-11am Online</p>	<p>Join this webinar for an in-depth look at some of the key internal market issues for the food and drink sector. The webinar will cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the fragmented regulation within the UK nations;</li> <li>• the legal ground rules; and</li> <li>• the deposit return schemes and health promotion regulations as illustrative case studies</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Tues 19 Sept: <b>Business to Healthcare - Innovative research and development opportunities within healthcare in the Highland Council area</b> HIE 2-3pm Online</p>	<p>An informative session for businesses in the healthcare sector who are looking to innovate in Highland region. Learn about the innovative R&amp;D opportunities in NHS Highland, helping small and medium sized businesses in the health and care sector. Host Adrian Smith, CEO Digital Healthsense, will be joined by the Innovation team based at Raigmore Hospital, Inverness. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 21 Sept: <b>Myth busting overseas recruitment</b></p>	<p>This webinar will provide detailed and practical advice about how to recruit overseas workers into your business, whatever its size.</p>

<p>Scotland Food and Drink 10-11am Online</p>	<p>Hear about the actions that Scotland Food and Drink are taking in this area. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Wed 27 Sept: <b>Training zone with NMIS (National Manufacturing Institute of Scotland)</b> CeeD 9am-3.00pm <b>In-person event</b> NMIS 3 Netherton Square Paisley, PA3 2EF</p>	<p>Are you an innovator, support organisation, academic, funder, expert, or established business/manufacturer? This in-person event will bring together potential collaborators around business opportunities. The theme is innovation, with a focus on current challenges around sustainability and digitalisation. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 28 Sept: <b>Find out about Digital Twins software</b> HIE 11am-3pm <b>In-person event</b> Life Sciences Innovation Centre, 20a Inverness Campus Inverness IV2 5NA</p>	<p>This event is an introduction to Digital Twins - a digitally replicating software. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 28 Sept: Networking event <b>Food and Drink TechHUB</b> 4-6pm <b>In-person event</b> Uilebheist Distillery &amp; Brewery, Ness Bank, Inverness, IV2 4SG</p>	<p>Join this two-hour networking event offering advice and guidance on overcoming ongoing challenges in the food and drink industry. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Fri 29 Sept: <b>Productivity Matters conference</b> Productivity Club Scotland 9am-3.30pm <b>In-person event</b> Advanced Research Centre (ARC), University of Glasgow, 11 Chapel Lane, G11 6EW</p>	<p>Hear from businesses, academics and other experts about how to future-proof your business to survive, flourish and succeed. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 5 Oct: <b>Competitive Advantage: stand out, increase revenue and gain a two-year edge</b> Productivity Club Scotland 1-2.30pm Online</p>	<p>Discover the top 10 myths of competitive advantage and how to overcome the barriers to success that can prevent you from standing out in your market. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Wed 21 Oct: <b>Sourcing Scotland</b> Scotland Food and Drink <b>In-person event</b> Perth Concert Hall Mill Street, Perth</p>	<p><i>Sourcing Scotland</i> is a national event to grow sales of Scottish produce by bringing together buyers and suppliers from across Scotland. If you're looking to grow your business beyond your local area, come along and meet the people who can help you on your journey.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suppliers' registration deadline 30 August.</li> <li>• Buyers' registration deadline 8 September.</li> <li>• Lunch and open marketplace registration 13 October.</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 2 Nov: <b>CENSIS Technology Summit</b></p>	<p>Join the leading event for the sensing, imaging and Internet of Things ecosystem in Scotland. It will be a day of speakers,</p>

<p>CENSIS 9am-5pm <b>In-person event</b> Royal Concert Hall, Glasgow G2 3NY</p>	<p>exhibitors, debates and networking. This is an in-person event and will not be streamed live. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 16 Nov: <b>Selling your business masterclass</b> Scottish Enterprise/Co-operative Development Scotland 10am-12 noon Online</p>	<p>Have you considered a succession plan for your business? It's never too early to think about your options. Employee ownership is fast becoming the preferred exit route for business owners. <a href="#">Book</a></p>
<p>Thurs 18 Jan 24: <b>Selling your business masterclass</b> Scottish Enterprise / Co-operative Development Scotland 10am-12 noon Online</p>	<p>Aimed at business owners considering an exit, this is an opportunity to hear IT solutions company Microtech Group and building supply merchants Caley Timber explain what they considered in choosing employee ownership and how things have worked out. <a href="#">Book</a></p>

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