Business Information

The South Gloucestershire Library Enquiry Centre offers a range of business information solutions to support intending, new and established businesses. Provided on behalf of South Gloucestershire by Somerset County Council the service provides access to business databases, industry overviews, business directories and journals. We provide a free enquiry service to all business users. You can contact the service by e-mail, phone, fax or post.
Please feel free to send enquiries as often as required.

The resources we have include:

- Online resources such as:
    - **MINT**: database of company information including company profile, directors, accounts, credit score & rating. Sample question: Can I have a list of companies in the BS32 area that employ more than 100 employees in the IT sector.
    - **Business Information Factsheets**: fact sheets on jobs and businesses. Gives an overview of required training and qualifications, customers, competitors, start up costs etc. Sample question: I want to set up and run a cattery.
    - **Business Opportunities Profiles**: Fact sheets on starting, managing and marketing a small business. Sample question: How do I conduct staff appraisals?
    - **Data Monitor**: basic Market research reports. Sample question: What is the state of the soft drink market in the UK?
    - **Infotrac Journals**: database 50 specialist and trade journals across a range of subjects. Sample question: I need to do some backgrond reading on facilities management
    - **Newsbank**: database access to the full text of a range of UK national, regional and local newspapers, going back at least five years. Sample question: I read an article in the Times last week about company contributions to occupational pensions.
    - **Grantfinder**: Database of funders for groups. Sample question: Are there any EC grants for companies to install renewable energy?
- A range of periodical titles of interest to business such as the Economist.
- Printed Directories such as:
    - **Kompass**: a key source for identifying suppliers of products and services in the UK.
- Books on all aspects of starting and running a business, most of which are available for loan

Benefits to your business

- Cost effective way of having access to current information, without having to leave your place of work
- Knowledgeable staff to guide you to the information you require
- Information in the time scales you require

Sample questions:

- Information on starting holiday company that provides tours in UK
- Looking for companies who will supply loop nylon material
- Top 100 companies in Gloucestershire that have a community fund
- Information on indemnity insurance
- Information on how to get advertising in a local cinema
- Companies in Bristol with operating revenue of £150K or less. Include contact details and contact name.

So, whether you are taking your first steps as a future entrepreneur, or already have a well-established business the Enquiry Centre will be able to help.

To contact the Enquiry Service

Email askthelibrary@southglos.gov.uk
Telephone: 01454 866900
Fax: 01823 272178
Post: The Library, Paul Street, Taunton, Somerset TA1 3XZ
Text: 07919540839