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| **Tameside Business Resilience Clinic**Tameside's Business Resilience Clinic has recruited two new champions, expanding the help and support we can offer to local businesses. The scheme introduces Tameside companies to local business leaders and experts who are giving peer to peer advice and support free of charge on a range of business topics. Local companies have so far received help with applying for loans, renegotiating finance, HR issues, social media marketing strategies and using Instagram. To find out more and to register for support [visit here](https://www.tameside.gov.uk/businessresilienceclinic). **Guiding Apprenticeship development** The National Apprenticeship Service is looking for employers to help with growing the proportion of new employees who are recruited into apprenticeships. The service is looking for businesses in the construction, health and social care and manufacturing sectors that would like to take part in sector specific round table discussions with their peers on how this may be achieved. If you are interested in taking part in the discussions please contact the employment and skills team. |

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| [The Kickstart scheme](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-can-apply-for-a-grant-through-the-kickstart-scheme%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank), which was announced as part of the Government's Plan for Jobs in response to COVID-19, is now open for applications.  Businesses can use the Kickstart Scheme to create new six-month job placements for young people aged 16-24 who are currently on Universal Credit. The job placements should support the participants to develop the experience they need to find work after completing the scheme and to gain employability skills.Funding is available for 100% of the relevant National Minimum Wage for 25 hours a week, plus associated employer National Insurance contributions and employer minimum automatic enrolment contributions.  This is reimbursed at months 2, 4 and 6 of the employment period.  There is also £1,500 per job placement available for setup costs, support and employability skills training.The roles:* must be a minimum of 25 hours per week, for 6 months.
* must be paid at least the National Minimum Wage for their age group.
* should not require people to undertake extensive training before they begin the job placement

Tameside College and The GM Growth Company will both be acting as intermediaries, and Tameside Council will be working with local employers and business support organisations to ensure that all our businesses who want to create an opportunity for a local young person will be supported to do so, and to help ensure that the young people taking part gain additional skills. If you would like to discuss this please contact us via employmentandskills@tameside.gov.uk or call 0161 342 3111  |

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| For businesses looking to create a longer term opportunity for a young person, the government and Tameside Council have funding available to support businesses with taking on an apprentice.The government have introduced grants of £1,500, £2,000 or £3,000 (dependant on the qualifying criteria) to support organisations that take on new apprentices aged 16-24 between 1 August 2020 and 31 January 2021: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/incentive-payments-for-hiring-a-new-apprentice#what-youll-get> The Tameside Youth Employment Scheme (YES) can reimburse the first 6 months’ salary (subject to terms & conditions) to businesses who create an apprenticeship within this age bracket (16-24) <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/tef/yesbusiness> Free support finding the right training provider and funding, if required, is available through GMCA funded services or you can go direct to a training provider such as Tameside College.To discuss the support available for taking on an apprentice contact the Tameside Council Employment and Skills team: [Employmentandskills@Tameside.gov.uk](http://Employmentandskills@tameside.gov.uk).   |

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| **Tameside businesses urged to support launch of NHS Test and Trace app**Tameside businesses are being urged to prepare for the new NHS COVID-19 app to assist test and tracing and help contain the virus.Businesses such as pubs, restaurants, hairdressers, cinemas and other venues - which are currently taking a register of customers’ names upon entrance – will be legally required to display NHS QR code posters from 24 September so customers who have downloaded the [new NHS COVID-19 app](https://covid19.nhs.uk/) can use their smartphones to easily check-in. The national launch of the NHS COVID-19 app across England and Wales is planned to take place on Thursday 24 September. The posters can be [downloaded via a website to be displayed in premises](https://www.gov.uk/create-coronavirus-qr-poster).Following the launch of the new COVID-19 app, customers and visitors in Tameside will be able to check-in on entry with their phone instead of filling out a check-in book or tool specific to a business. This will allow NHS Test and Trace to contact customers with public health advice should there be a COVID-19 outbreak.Using QR codes will help businesses meet the new legal requirement to record the contact details of customers, visitors and staff on their premises.  An alternative check-in method must be maintained to collect the contact details of those who don’t have the app, like a handwritten register.Businesses already using their own QR system are encouraged to switch to the NHS Test and Trace QR code, as the new system will allow for a quicker Test and Trace process. Businesses can download the QR code posters at [gov.uk/create-coronavirus-qr-poster](https://www.gov.uk/create-coronavirus-qr-poster).For more information on the NHS COVID-19 app, visit [covid19.nhs.uk](https://covid19.nhs.uk/).**Mobile testing centres in Tameside**  If you have symptoms of coronavirus – a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss of or a change in your normal sense of smell or taste - please stay at home for 10 days and only leave home to get tested.  It’s nothing to be nervous about and the friendly staff will help you through the process - it’s simple, safe, confidential and will protect everyone.  Please book a test at [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus).The mobile testing units have now been confirmed for September with extend numbers of dates and appointment times.

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| Tues 29 | Curzon Ashton | 1pm - 6pm |
| Weds 30 | Curzon Ashton | 1pm - 6pm |
| Thur 1 Oct | Curzon Ashton | 1pm - 6pm |

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| As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to disrupt the world economy, and national and local lock-downs impact on businesses and workers across the country, it is a sad fact that an increasing number of companies will be faced with a decision about making staff redundant.Whilst this decision is hopefully the last resort for employers, it is inevitable that in some cases making redundancies will be an unavoidable step. To support our local businesses and residents with this difficult process, Tameside Council have created a web page that pulls together the broad range of support offers available to help businesses and their employees before, during and after the redundancy process. Support available includes training, advice, help with job search and maintaining health and well-being.To view the support package [click here](https://www.tameside.gov.uk/redundancysupportctg)If you are a business owner or manager who is considering making redundancies, or is currently going through the process of making staff redundant, Tameside Council is offering to work with you to put together a coordinated support plan from the funded options available. To request a discussion about the support we can offer please contact Employmentandskills@tameside.gov.uk.     |

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| In September the level of government contribution to furloughed worker's pay through the [Job Retention Scheme has changed.](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme/changes-to-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme)https://mcusercontent.com/c82daebd778d6cd9667beed7e/images/cc5d3b5d-b911-4290-b922-af84082f07bf.png   |

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| The second phase of applications for the Self Employment Income Support Scheme is now open. The deadline for applications is 19 October 2020.To check eligibility and apply for the grant [click here](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-a-grant-through-the-coronavirus-covid-19-self-employment-income-support-scheme#check). |

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