



OxLEP Business  
Marketplace  
& Celebration  
Showcase **2024**

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## PROGRAMME

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**We are delighted to come together to celebrate Oxfordshire's small and medium sized (SME) businesses and entrepreneurs.**

This special event will showcase local SME businesses at our marketplace and shine a light on some of the exciting businesses in the county at our awards.

### **Awards Categories:**

- *Socially Responsible Business of the Year Award*
- *Employer of the Year Award*
- *Growth Business of the Year Award*
- *Environmentally Sustainable Business of the Year Award*
- *Innovator of the Year Award*
- *Business Leader of the Year Award*
- *Start-up of the Year Award*
- *Export Potential of the Year Award*

Thank you for joining us to celebrate Oxfordshire businesses at the OxLEP Business Marketplace and Celebration 2024.

**#OBMAC2024**





# WELCOME

From Nigel Tipple

Chief Executive, Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership

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## Welcome to the OxLEP Business Marketplace and Celebration 2024.

On behalf of the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP) I would like to welcome you all to this year's OxLEP Business Marketplace and Celebration.

Since the last time we gathered to celebrate Oxfordshire's SMEs at The Natural History Museum in June 2023, much has happened both locally and nationally, but businesses here continue to start up, to grow and to thrive.

OxLEP continues to champion and support our local business community, in particular the SME businesses which form the backbone of our economy. These organisations drive innovation, disrupt markets and generate jobs and opportunities for local people. We are proud to support these organisations and the Oxfordshire economy more widely.

This year we have introduced this fantastic celebratory event to even more local businesses and are delighted to have had such a wonderful response from our clients sponsoring the awards, supporting the event, and exhibiting in our marketplace.

We hope this event provides you with new connections, new ideas and, if you haven't exhibited or nominated your business this year, inspires you to do so next year.

# ABOUT

## the OxLEP Business Marketplace & Celebration

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The 2024 OxLEP Business Marketplace and Celebration is the first time we've brought together two events which have been run separately in the past. By bringing together our Marketplace with our Awards Celebration evening we aim to create an event with even more impact.

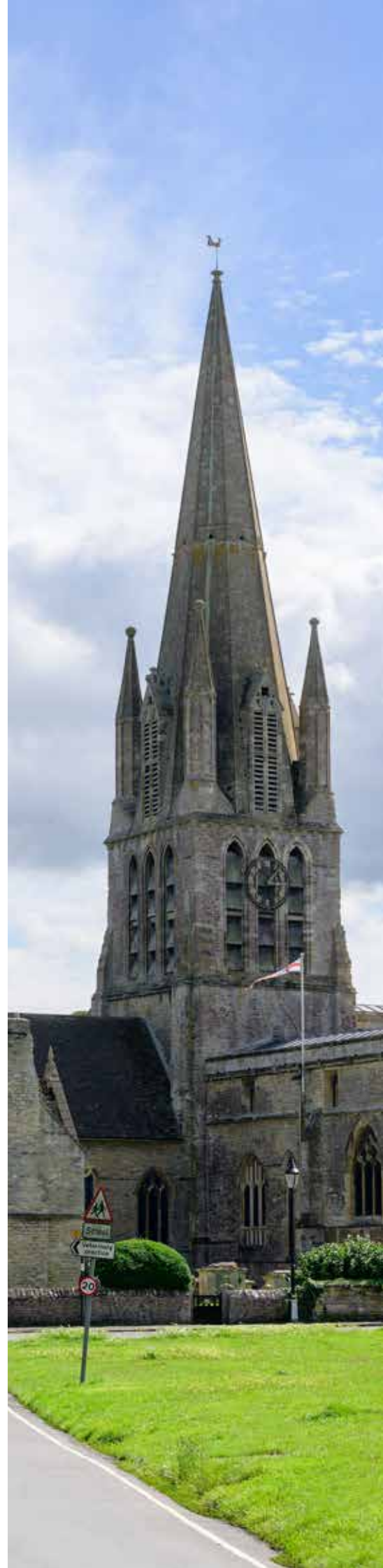
Designed to bring together and celebrate Oxfordshire's business community, this event will showcase the Oxfordshire SMEs that have been supported by OxLEP Business since April 2022 in both a Marketplace and an Awards evening.

The awards started in 2022 to celebrate the achievements of the businesses supported by the OxLEP Business European Regional Development Fund programmes. With the end of the ERDF programmes, 2024 is the first year the awards will be open to all to all businesses who have received support through OxLEP Business since April 2022.

We held our first marketplace in 2018, designed to provide an opportunity for OxLEP Business clients to exhibit their business, make connections and network. The popularity of this event was evident when we ran our first marketplace after the COVID-19 pandemic in November 2021.

This event will be the first time we have run an event supported by our clients as award sponsors, event supporters and marketplace exhibitors. Thank you to all of those who have engaged with and supported the event in this way; it wouldn't have been possible without you.

**Our intention is to make this an annual event, so if your organisation is interested in becoming a sponsor or supporter next year, please contact [business@oxfordshirelep.com](mailto:business@oxfordshirelep.com)**





## by Helen Brind

Growth Hub Manager, Oxfordshire  
Local Enterprise Partnership

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**Welcome to the 2024 OxLEP Business Marketplace and Celebration. We are delighted to be hosting this event for the first time with the support of award sponsors and event supporters. We hope that by working together we can make this an engaging and valuable event for Oxfordshire businesses**

Oxfordshire is home to some amazing small and medium sized businesses and sole traders. At OxLEP Business we are proud to be able to support so many organisations, offering fully funded business support as well as simplifying the business support landscape and helping businesses and individuals to connect more easily.

Between April 2017 and March 2023, a period of great change and uncertainty, we have worked hard to deliver over £26m worth of support to Oxfordshire businesses, including £4.8m in grant funding and nearly 18,000 of hours of advice, guidance and up-skilling.

I am incredibly proud of the support we have delivered as well as the hard work and commitment of the OxLEP Business team in supporting businesses in Oxfordshire. Supporting businesses in the county to start, innovate, grow and thrive is what motivates us, and it is wonderful to see the successes of the businesses we work with.

I look forward to celebrating with you all at this event and continuing to support many more Oxfordshire businesses in the future.

Last but not least, I want to thank our 8 award sponsors and 10 event supporters as well as the team at OxLEP Business. Without your financial commitment, time, engagement and hard work this event wouldn't have been possible.



# OUR SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

With special thanks to our award sponsors and event supporters.

A huge thank you to all the businesses who have sponsored award categories and supported this event. Your generous contributions have made this event possible, and your support is very much appreciated.

Thank you to **Squib Photography** for their generous support in filming this event and to **That Event Company** for their generosity in providing all of the lighting.

## AWARD SPONSORS:



## EVENT SUPPORTERS:



# AWARD SPONSORS

## Socially Responsible Business of the Year Award

SPONSORED BY THE SKY WAVE DISTILLING COMPANY



The Sky Wave Distilling Company creates multi-award-winning, small batch, premium spirits at its distillery in Bicester Heritage, Oxfordshire.

Crafted with passion and precision, by its Master Distiller Andrew Parsons, Sky Wave is a tribute to the creative spirit, intelligence, and innovation of its homeland. Every bottle is a journey through time and taste, inviting gin and vodka enthusiasts to savour the world's best, inspired by a bygone era of elegance and adventure. We have been honoured with 75 international awards including being named The Distillery of the Year 2024 (The Gin Guide Awards) and home to the World's Best Contemporary Gin (The World Gin Awards). Discover more at: [skywavegin.com](https://skywavegin.com)

We are supporting the Socially Responsible Business of The Year Award because we are passionate about promoting better ways of doing business. At Sky Wave we work hard to achieve one of our core values "Do the Right Thing" and we want to hear from businesses who are passionate about doing the right thing for people, the environment and the way they do business. We don't have to follow the old rules, we can create new ones which work better for our teams, our customers and our planet. We want to see the commitment and achievement of other companies striving for this too.

We would like to see passion, innovation and commitment to finding better ways to do business. We'd like to hear how new approaches have garnered better outcomes so that business is not only about making stuff and money but about making changes for good.



We'd like to see problem solving, originality, people and planet centric ideas, however large or small that make a real difference. It doesn't have to be huge or costly, rather we'd like to see a thoughtful and committed company, taking into account the impact its decisions will have on its people, customers, practices, and the way it approaches business.

The Sky Wave Distilling Company has benefited immeasurably from OxLEP's support and guidance over the past six years that we have been in business. We have enjoyed business support to help with setting up the distillery, and then again to grow the business to offer not just gin distilling, but customer experiences and retail and hospitality premises.

**“ The one-to-one business mentoring has been incredibly valuable too. We have found the constant presence of a wise, supportive and resourceful organisation like OxLEP immensely reassuring and helpful as we've grown our business. ”**

[skywavegin.com](https://skywavegin.com)

# Employer of the Year Award

SPONSORED BY THE MOTIVATION AGENCY



The Motivation Agency specialises in culture and behavioural change, employee motivation, internal communications, leadership & management development, learning, reward and recognition solutions that enhance people's performance and skills at work.

We have a strong focus on developing capability and engagement in frontline teams, as well as equipping line managers to be great people leaders. Our experts work closely with clients to design solutions that align with their brands and cultures, as well as meeting their requirements, timelines, and budgets. Services range from customised programmes and digital platforms to ready-to-go e-learning and live training.

Our work is all about helping people and businesses to succeed and we are committed to doing this through as many channels as possible. We have worked in the field of employee experience for nearly two decades and we have seen at first hand the positive impact that good employment practice has on both people and business performance. We are also very familiar with the substantial body of research data on this relationship.

We see recognition and celebration as valuable, positive and constructive ways to promote great business practice and we are very pleased to support initiatives which encourage this approach.

**“ We have previously participated in the Business Marketplace and also used some of the business support services available through OxLEP. While our work is not concentrated solely in Oxfordshire (we operate globally), we have found it valuable to connect with so many other organisations, to understand their challenges and share experiences. ”**

[themotivationagency.co.uk](http://themotivationagency.co.uk)

The Employer of the Year Award recognises businesses that demonstrate an exceptional commitment to their employees and workplace wellbeing. We are keen to see exemplary work in employee experience which:

- **Puts people first and encourages employee involvement**
- **Demonstrates long term commitment to investing in people**
- **Is soundly-based and also innovative, providing role model activity which other organisations, in Oxfordshire and beyond, can learn from.**





# Growth Business of the Year

SPONSORED BY HOWDEN



Howden is one of the largest specialist insurance distribution groups

in the UK. Our unique high street branch network continues to grow, with over 200 branches and centres, supporting clients in communities across the country. Our comprehensive portfolio encompasses personal, business, corporate, rural, private client, and niche insurance brokerage, supporting the traditional to the extraordinary. Known for exceptional customer service, Howden is rated 4.8/5 on Trustpilot. Find out more about our Oxford branch at [howdeninsurance.co.uk/oxford-commercial](https://www.howdeninsurance.co.uk/oxford-commercial).

We at Howden are proud to support OxLEP and their Business Marketplace and Celebration, through our Oxford branch on the high street. No where does this mix of business innovation, cutting edge technology and world class further education better align than in Oxford and the wider Thames Valley area, and within the Howden Oxford branch we have excellent access to insurance markets to cover the types of entrepreneurs OxLEP will be supporting.

We have chosen to sponsor the Growth Business of the Year category as for us this aligns fully with the Howden philosophy of nurturing and protecting a full range of businesses as they launch and grow.

Quite simply, we are looking for a business that has been born out of innovation, entrepreneurship and vision but one that is also able to clearly demonstrate previous growth delivery across a

range of metrics and a robust plan for future growth potential.

At Howden we're all about sustainable, profitable growth that is anchored in client-centricity, and so the winner would also need to demonstrate exceptional client/customer service and engagement as being at the heart of growth delivery.

Finally, as a people first business, we would also be looking for (depending on the size of the business and number of employees) inspirational leadership and effective management, where there are engaged and productive employees who are all bought into and contributing to the overarching growth strategy.

Within our Howden Oxford branch we've worked with OxLEP for the last year, and this has provided a platform for us to be able to engage with businesses within the start-up phase and allowed us to widen our community outreach to engage with local business.

**“ From our perspective, OxLEP provide an unparalleled resource as community hub for other business owners to meet and make connections with similar minded individuals, in a world where it can be very easy to feel isolated as a business owner. ”**



[howdeninsurance.co.uk/oxford](https://www.howdeninsurance.co.uk/oxford)

# Environmentally Sustainable Business of the Year

SPONSORED BY ALP SYNERGY



ALP Synergy Ltd

ALP Synergy is on a mission to support 10,000 small businesses to start, grow and thrive as part of a sustainable

and fair economy by 2030. ALP provide expert understanding and delivery to UK SMEs, which is both transformational and excellent value for money. We do this through supporting those with responsibility for economic development to engage and support every local type of SME. We are their easy-to-work-with and trusted partner who will deliver and/or co-create their business support programmes to SMEs, through our proven, robust processes in:

- project management
- marketing and business recruitment
- business triage
- webinars, workshops and masterclasses
- peer to peer scale-up support
- expert one to one business advice, coaching and mentoring
- managing grant schemes
- monitoring and reporting on performance and results

We have a successful track record in supporting growth hubs and councils since 2014 and have achieved outstanding and award-winning results for our clients.

ALP Synergy Ltd are THE delivery partner for transformational economic development.

We design and deliver business support programmes to SMEs through innovative business triage which leads to webinars, workshops, masterclasses, peer to peer scale-up, and expert one to one business advice, coaching and mentoring. We embed sustainability into every bit of support we deliver to businesses, and we are on our own journey towards Net Zero.

The ALP team also deliver a wide variety of water and sustainability projects, for instance, we have worked in Ethiopia looking at how Calvin Klein connect with water stewardship in their clothing manufacture, and we recently delivered the 'Local Nature Recovery Strategy' workshops in Oxfordshire. This is why we are sponsoring the 'Environmentally Sustainable Business of the Year' category.

The Environmentally Sustainable Business of the Year will be being ambitious, they will know what they are doing and why they are doing it. We are hoping to see examples of businesses that have looked hard at sustainability and have found ways to overcome any challenges to deliver benefits for both their company and their customers. The winner should be proud of their achievements and keen to inspire others to take action on environment and sustainability. Although we aren't looking to celebrate stars, we want to support endeavour!

“ ALP Synergy Ltd has been supporting OxLEP Business and Oxfordshire businesses through a range of contracts since 2019. OxLEP Business is now in our DNA! We are proud of the role we have played in helping to make OxLEP Business probably one of the best Growth Hubs in the country. ”



[alpsynergy.co.uk](http://alpsynergy.co.uk)

# Innovator of the Year

SPONSORED BY P3MO



P3MO is an enterprise SaaS technology company offering a digital transformation office platform that provides data confidence, collaboration across teams and greater project control when delivering business transformation initiatives.

Established and based in Oxford since 2019 P3MO has grown from a conceptual idea to an established organisation which is now trading across the globe supporting some of the world's most renowned companies as they look for innovative solutions to drive change and efficiency in their organisations.

P3MO continues to grow from its Oxfordshire base, expanding its customer base across multiple industry sectors, including Pharmaceutical, Manufacturing, Government and Professional Services.

P3MO values the support OxLEP provided during its period of inception and welcome the opportunity to support the great work that OxLEP provides to innovative and entrepreneurial business leaders within Oxfordshire.

As an innovative and technology focused organisation P3MO celebrates the opportunity to sponsor the 'Innovator of the Year' category, to recognize fellow creative, risk taking and innovative business leaders who strive to deliver new solutions that benefit an individual or the wider UK economy.

In the winner of this category, we are looking for:

- A creative solution
- Cost effective
- Promotes sustainability
- Solves a clear real-world problem
- Adds value to society and/or economy
- Improves the lives of individuals

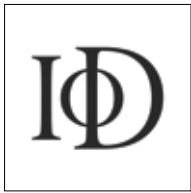
[p3mo.io](https://p3mo.io)

**“ OxLEP supported P3MO during their inception period and were able to provide guidance across all aspect of commercialising an idea through to a commercially viable product. The OxLEP team have always been helpful, knowledgeable and responsive whenever we have required their support. ”**



# Business Leader of the Year

SPONSORED BY THE INSTITUTE OF DIRECTORS



The Institute of Directors is a thriving membership community for directors in the UK and beyond, where you can connect with other leaders,

develop your skills and be heard. We currently have around 20,000 directors and leaders in our growing community. At a time when great directors have never been more important, the IoD offers professional development, valuable connections and government influence on policies that affect entrepreneurs, SMEs and aspiring directors.

As the branch Chair for Oxfordshire, I work closely with OxLEP and have done so for a number of years including my previous role as Chair of the OxLEP Business Support Sub-Group and more recently the Skills and Business Sub-Group. It is really important to me to be involved in supporting local businesses and their leaders to enable a strong local economy, so sponsoring the 'Business Leader of the Year' category feels like a good fit.

In the 'Business Leader of the Year' winner, I'm looking for an individual who can demonstrate exceptional leadership skills both within their organisation and more widely in the local business community. The individual might be working in a limited company, a social enterprise or a charity, but whatever sector or type of business they are leading, they will be able to show how through their vision and actions they have created a successful organisation with a clear path for continued achievement of the organisation's goals.

As well as leading within their own organisation, it is important to see a leader who is contributing more widely locally, whether that is through collaboration with other groups and businesses or through sharing their knowledge and experience with others, for example in local business groups.

**“ Our Oxfordshire branch works closely with OxLEP to ensure that the county continues to see strong investment and that public and private organisations are fully represented in discussions about economic growth. We were keen to run a joint Oxfordshire networking event to bring together local branch members with businesses getting support from OxLEP and this was a great opportunity to do so. ”**



[iod.com](http://iod.com)

# Start-up of the Year

SPONSORED BY CYPHER



Cypher was designed to help our clients build better businesses through financial clarity.

We're proud of the fact that at Cypher, we do things a bit differently; we call it the Cypher Code. We act as a complete outsourced finance function; we become the strategic board level partner that is as integral to a client's business as their in-house team.

Our team shares a vision for what a digital accountancy firm can and should offer to entrepreneurs and business owners whatever growth stage their business is at.

We've also created a work environment where colleagues thrive; meaning we continue to produce work we're proud of, while offering unparalleled service to our clients. We built Cypher on strong digital foundations. The awesome technology now available to us means we can streamline processes and automate the financial compliance tasks that otherwise take up time for us and our clients.

Plus, we don't do time-based billing. Instead, we create bespoke, value-based packages, where everything a client's business needs is included in a single monthly fee, including regular advisory time, so as well as ensuring they meet compliance obligations, we can also advise on the best way to grow or scale a business.

Small business is the backbone of the UK economy and we passionately believe in supporting new business owners and helping them achieve their dreams. At Cypher we love working with start-ups. We love going on a journey with our clients; from start-up, through scale-up and often to a business sale. We've helped hundreds of Oxford start-ups get going; providing the advice they need right at the beginning to ensure they are structured correctly and that their finance system is fit for purpose. A number of our best clients have also had support from OxLEP and we really value the wider network of support they offer to Oxfordshire businesses. When they asked us if we'd like to sponsor an award it was a no-brainer!



We are looking for a start-up business that has a clear strategy, an ambitious and energetic leadership team and is on-track to meet its goals. We are also keen to hear the story behind your business – is this your first foray into business ownership or are you a serial entrepreneur? Where does your brand fit within your industry and the wider-business community? How does it sit alongside your competition? Are you a modern entrant into a stale, traditional market (like us!) or are you the only entrant in a brand new industry? Whatever your story, we are looking for a start-up who's branding stands out from the crowd.

Understanding the metrics that drive growth in your business is really important. Our winner will have a handle on what those important metrics are in their business and will have a clear strategy to monitor and improve them.

Cypher started working with OxLEP during the pandemic. We were originally on a panel helping identify which Oxfordshire businesses were awarded the discretionary COVID grants to help them survive and then bounce back from the effects of lockdown.

**“ Since then we've been on OxLEP's panel of advisors supporting new businesses within the OxLEP community who have financial questions. ”**

[cypherhq.co.uk](https://cypherhq.co.uk)

# Export Potential of the Year

STEPHEN SPENCER + ASSOCIATES



SS+A put humans at the heart of customer experience design. They enable commercial success and future-proof cultural and retail landscapes by carefully designing the structure of the customer experience. As architects of Ambience, their mission is to create commercial sustainability through:

- **Guest services with joy**  
Visitor Journey + Customer Experience
- **Operations with ambience**  
Retail + Catering
- **Finance for growth**  
Budgets + Pricing

SS+A will enhance your customer experiences by empowering your organisation to be more purposeful, people-centric, and profitable.

We proudly support the OxLEP Business Marketplace and Celebration as it fosters local business growth, innovation, and community engagement. This event aligns with our values of creating joy and celebrating excellence, as well as our loyalty towards economic development and entrepreneurial achievements in Stephen's home county of Oxfordshire. Sponsoring the Export Potential of the Year Award reflects our dedication to recognising and encouraging businesses that expand their horizons globally, aiming to achieve successful commercial projects by exporting homegrown skill sets. The international market has enabled significant growth within our own business expansion and by supporting this award, we aim to highlight the importance of global trade and its positive impact on the local economy, inspiring other businesses to pursue international opportunities and contribute to Oxfordshire's vibrant business landscape.

In the winner of the Export Potential of the Year Award category, we seek businesses that have ambition to export homegrown skill sets driving innovation, excellence, and commerciality. We are looking for enterprises that not only have a vision for international success but also embody a deep passion and unwavering integrity in their operations.



These businesses should create joy and foster loyalty among their customer base, reflecting their dedication to quality and ethical practices. The ideal winner demonstrates a commitment to elevating their industry, building strong international relationships, and showcasing the best of our local talent on the world stage.

**“ We have benefited from a range of support, including being part of two peer networking cohorts, which were facilitated to encourage innovation and collaboration, as well as having access to a number of experienced expert advisors who have helped us to improve not just our service offering but also our efficiency and effectiveness as a business. ”**

[stephenspencerassociates.com](http://stephenspencerassociates.com)

# EVENT SPONSORS

## After Cloud

After Cloud Founder Director Darren Evans has spent the last 25 years working for and leading companies that provide software solutions for organisations that provide care. He managed and led the team that rolled out some of the first pan London Social Prescribing sites working with Clinical Commissioning teams, NHS digital transformation partners, GP surgeries, Third Sector providers and many other supporting organisations, aggregating data sets and sending patient activation measures to the NHS frailty index for data analysis. During this time, he saw the huge impact that could be made to people's lives by using digital technology but realised that much more could be offered on mobile platforms and following lived experience together with an identified need, resolved to develop his own apps.

As both an OxLEP Business Ambassador and a very well supported start up, I feel privileged and duty bound to support OxLEP in any way I can. This includes imparting best practice methodologies and knowledge sharing, to those founders and young entrepreneurs coming through the system.

*We were supported from the very outset, initially with a Go-Create grant to support our MVP and then subsequently with an eScalate grant to create our initial go to market product. We have also made use of webinars and one to one advice where there has been an overriding benefit. The whole ecosystem is a great place for any early stage founder to seek best advice. The business support tool online is another great way for any Oxfordshire based business to seek guidance and support.*

[aftercloud.co.uk](https://aftercloud.co.uk)



## Creation Theatre

Award-winning Creation Theatre is Oxfordshire's largest producing theatre company. Specialising in classic texts in unusual locations for over 25 years, it brings the stories we know and love to life, performing in extraordinary spaces from the MINI car plant, The Bodleian Library, Oxford's historic Covered Market to The London Library to digital theatre. Coming up this Christmas is Hansel & Grettel at The North Wall, Oxford.

At this event, Creation Theatre hopes to connect and engage with the local Oxfordshire business community. We would love to raise awareness of our shows and education department and build partnerships with local businesses.

*Creation Theatre is a charity, and we rely on ticket sales for income – through the Visitor Economy Grant, OxLEP enabled us to secure a site for our Summer Show 2023 (Much Ado About Nothing), which hugely helped. Our office staff have also attended and found useful various webinars that OxLEP runs throughout the year.*

[creationtheatre.co.uk](https://creationtheatre.co.uk)



## First for Safety

First For Safety Oxfordshire Ltd are predominantly a First Aid & Fire Safety Training company. Our 12 strong team are ALL fantastic Emergency Services Professionals (Medical & Fire Service respectfully depending on training) with years of experience. We travel to our client's location to deliver training on a date and time to best suit their operational needs. Our training is tailored, relevant, practical & above all, fun!



We also offer Fire Risk Assessment, Fire Door Surveys, Manual Handling Training & Mental Health Training. At First For Safety Oxfordshire Ltd we like to give back to our community.

*OxLEP have provided us with sooooo much support over our 12 year business growth journey and we feel it's high time we supported OxLEP for a change, now that we're in a financial position to do so, thanks to their help!*

It's hard to remember everything we've been involved with over the years and how we've been helped by OxLEP, but it includes

- Numerous networking events
- Drop in sessions & workshops
- 1:1 business advice, everything from starting up, marketing, to accounting, brand awareness, you name it, OxLEP have experts on hand
- Professional profile pictures for our team
- Help with how to maximise from LinkedIn
- Awards events & so much more

[firstforsafetyoxfordshire.co.uk](http://firstforsafetyoxfordshire.co.uk)

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## gHawk Accounting

We empower family-run business owners to take control of their business finances so they can build a Life-Centered Business that gives them more money, time, and freedom.



We do this through teaching, coaching and technology that maximises the returns for small business owners and helps them achieve both business and personal goals.

*We are proud to support OxLEP because they care as much as we do for small business owners in Oxfordshire. We have benefited from their support in the past, so it is our turn to give back and continue to build local networks.*

We benefited from OxLEP's help in 2020 during the COVID-19 lockdown. It was a very isolating time for business owners, and many businesses struggled. OXLEP set up a peer network group which helped us build a support network of other business owners who wanted to grow. We shared our ideas with one another and received constructive criticism and different perspectives on how others would approach the issues we faced. It was very helpful and I am still connected to the people I met in that group, some of whom have become colleagues.

[ghawkaccounting.co.uk](http://ghawkaccounting.co.uk)



## Lick Me I'm Delicious

At Lick Me I'm Delicious, we're all about creating unique and unforgettable food experiences. We specialise in making quirky, interactive inventions and experiences that add a touch of magic to any event. From Edible Mist Orbs to Nitro Ice Cream Parlours, Edible Balloon Factories to Chocolate Selfie Stations, we love pushing the boundaries of food innovation. Our team is passionate, creative, and always ready to dream up the next deliciously unexpected idea.



At Lick Me I'm Delicious, we're all about innovation and creativity, and this event is a great way to connect with other awesome businesses in Oxfordshire. It's a fantastic opportunity to celebrate successes, share ideas and support each other. By backing OxLEP, we're helping to keep our local business scene thriving and dynamic.

*Our experience with OxLEP Business has been fantastic! They've provided us with great support and useful resources that have really helped us grow. From networking events to helpful workshops, they've connected us with other local businesses and sparked some great collaborations.*

The OxLEP team is always friendly and ready to help, making our journey as a local business even more enjoyable. We're really grateful for their support and excited to keep working with them to strengthen our business community.

[lickmeimdelicious.com](http://lickmeimdelicious.com)

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## Oxford Fine Dining

At Oxford Fine Dining we are extremely proud of the trusted reputation we have gained over the past 17 years. We are very privileged to be given the opportunity to cater at some of Oxford's most esteemed and prestigious venues and have an extensive and impressive portfolio of weddings, corporate events, university gatherings and private dining experiences throughout Oxfordshire.



OXFORD *fine* DINING

From deliciously cultivated menus, using the finest ingredients to vast experience in bespoke event design. Oxford Fine Dining offer a truly unique catering experience, guiding you through your ideas and elevating your vision.

*Having used OxLEP's services in the past I wanted to support this event as a way of gratitude and it is a great opportunity to meet and network with other businesses.*

During COVID-19 I joined the OxLEP Peer Networks Programme and found this very beneficial for myself and for the development of the business at this difficult time. I am pleased to say the business is now thriving.

[oxfordfinedining.co.uk](http://oxfordfinedining.co.uk)

## Oxford Sigma

Oxford Sigma is an internationally recognised advanced materials fusion technology company. Formed in early 2019 to address producing sustainable advanced materials for fusion energy commercial deployment by Co-Founders Dr Thomas P. Davis and Jonathan Musgrove. We are proud of our heritage which stems from both the University of Oxford and Oxford city, where our headquarters are based. Our vision is to accelerate fusion energy to become commercial; we focus on areas that we see are enablers for this, such as leading international standardisation of fusion components, producing key advanced materials for fusion core applications, and strategy leaders in materials for fusion.



OxLEP has been fundamental in providing support for the development of key technology areas that Oxford Sigma has continued to develop for commercial gain. The development of the technologies would not have been possible without the support of OxLEP and we therefore are keen to provide back to OxLEP and the wider business community.

*OxLEP have been highly supportive of Oxford Sigma over the last couple of years, providing us with encouragement and confidence to take advantage of the opportunities available. We can't say anything negative about working with OxLEP. They have been a key enabler for Oxford Sigma, and we would like to extend our thanks to the OxLEP team for their support.*

[oxfordsigma.com](http://oxfordsigma.com)

## Peaberry & Leaf

Peaberry & Leaf supplies high quality specialty coffees and teas, catering to both home brewing enthusiasts and commercial customers. Our carefully selected range is designed to provide you with an exceptional brewing experience, whether at home, in the workplace, or for your café or restaurant.



When you choose Peaberry & Leaf, you're choosing quality, sustainability, and traceability. Our specialty coffees are sourced from trusted farms, and carefully roasted to ensure a rich and delicious flavour that can be traced back to its origins. This commitment to quality makes every sip truly special. At Peaberry & Leaf we only work with trusted suppliers who share our passion for quality and sustainability.

I am so grateful to OxLEP for all of the information and support I have received to date and will continue to benefit from, and I am keen to give something back in recognition of this and to celebrate the achievements of others like me. The Marketplace and Celebration is another great opportunity to connect with local businesses in Oxfordshire, raise the awareness of my new business and to celebrate some tremendous business achievements.

Starting a new business has been a lot of work, a steep learning curve and can be quite isolating. OxLEP has been a tremendous lifeline throughout this process. I have received valuable 1:1 coaching, had the opportunity to meet and connect with other like-minded entrepreneurs in Oxfordshire through the OxBoost and Women in Business networking events, and I continue to grow my business knowledge and skills attending valuable on-line learning sessions.

*My experience of OxLEP Business is something that I will continue to benefit from and I wouldn't be in the great position I am in today without it.*

[peaberryandleaf.co.uk](http://peaberryandleaf.co.uk)

## Squib Photography

We are a media company producing both stills and videos for a variety of clients in and around Oxfordshire and beyond.

Before COVID we were predominantly working in the wedding stills photography market but due to the restrictions imposed during that time, we needed to diversify towards commercial work which was less restricted. OxLEP helped us to transition towards a B2B market and increase our portfolio to offer photography, video and drone by both individual support/guidance sessions and by providing grant money to allow us to change and upgrade our equipment to service these sectors.



*OxLEP have been fantastic! With the challenges both during and post COVID, their support and guidance was incredibly valuable. The one-2-one sessions I found very useful to bounce ideas and set goals to work towards.*

[squibphotography.co.uk](http://squibphotography.co.uk)

## That Event Company

We are an Oxfordshire based event production company which supplies professional-grade audiovisual (AV) equipment and event production services. We specialise in sound hire, lighting hire, and AV hire for various types of events, both physical and virtual.



We have worked on many weddings, parties, conferences and even festivals! Our small full-time team will work closely with you to meet your requirements, drawing from a scalable talent pool of professional engineers, designers and technicians who will ensure that your event rests in safe and capable hands.

Our event management consultancy service offers inexperienced organisers the perfect partner, guiding you towards a successful outcome for your event. We are fully carbon neutral and only operate in a certain radius to keep environmental concerns in mind.

We are pleased to be supporting this event and OxLEP because they are a positive force for the local business community – giving support and access to tools that would not normally be available to small businesses.

*As a business, we received support from OxLEP during COVID, helping us during a very tough period for our industry. We joined the Peer Networks which enabled us to continue networking and received a grant to help our business diversify and grow.*

[that-event.com](http://that-event.com)

For more information  
on business support from  
OxLEP Business please visit:

**[oxlepbusiness.co.uk](https://oxlepbusiness.co.uk)**

or scan the QR code to complete  
our Business Support Tool

