

Small Business Charter success for University of Hull

Hull University Business School has been awarded the prestigious Small Business Charter.

The accreditation recognises the high quality of support and advice provided to SMEs across the region, and its role in the local economy.

Dr Dave Richards, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research & Enterprise at the University of Hull, said: “This Chartership is a significant vote of confidence in our Business School as being a pivotal stakeholder in the local economy, supporting SMEs and global businesses alike and providing a talent pool of future skilled employees.

Read more: [Hull tech hub team links up with Nestle to tackle logistics challenges](#)

The University was assessed for the Small Business Charter in 31 different areas, focused on three key themes – helping small businesses grow, engaging with key stakeholders and encouraging students to be entrepreneurial.

The Business School scored 24/31, double the requirement.

Crucially, it allows it to deliver the Help to Grow Programme – a 12-week intensive course which covers areas including leadership, innovation, digital adoption, employee engagement, marketing, responsible business, and financial management.

As the first provider of the programme in East Yorkshire, it provides SMEs with a unique opportunity to upskill their business and drive growth.



Dr Dave Richards, pro-vice-chancellor for research and enterprise at the University of Hull.

(Image: University of Hull)

SMEs pay £750 – the remainder of the cost is funded by the public purse, with personalised business mentoring provided.

Prof Stephen Hardy, Dean of the Faculty of Business, Law and Politics at the University of Hull, said: “We are delighted to be awarded the Small Business Charter and to be part of the government’s Help to Grow initiative.

“This will enable us to fulfil our mission to help rebuild the region and to support our local businesses to grow and prosper in 2022 and beyond.”

The university’s Small Business Clinic – piloted last year – was given as an example in the accreditation, with a series of live projects also highlighted – they include degree students working with companies including Cranswick, Atom Brewery and Enterprise Rent a Car.

Its Entrepreneurs of Residence scheme was also showcased to assessors. The

project sees SME leaders welcomed on campus to lead workshops and talks, sharing experiences and bringing together networks.

SMEs interested in Help to Grow should email fblp-business@hull.ac.uk.

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