



# Dorchester & District Chamber for Business

To promote, support and  
influence the interests of  
our members

*Together we can  
make a difference*

Affiliated with Dorset Chamber of Commerce & Industry



[www.dorchesterchamber.co.uk](http://www.dorchesterchamber.co.uk)

## VISION

To make Dorchester a hub for business

## MISSION

To promote, support and influence the interests of our members

## AIMS

- To provide businesses with the opportunity to network and encourage inter-business trading
- To promote local enterprise, innovation and growth in Dorchester
- To join the dots between local areas and be their commercial representation
- To be the voice of Dorchester businesses
- Offer business advice to members
- To work with local government and other bodies to bring about change
- To become a 'critical friend' to the local media

## PROMOTING LOCAL BUSINESS

Dorchester Chamber for Business plays an active role in the town and supporting areas, helping to promote local business and enterprise. We represent all types of business from sole traders to large corporations and our ultimate aim is to help local businesses work together to boost trade.

## HISTORY

The first Dorchester Chamber meeting took place at the Town Hall on 13th October 1916. As we celebrate 100 years of bringing local businesses together, we are also dedicated to shaping and ensuring a prosperous future for Enterprise in Dorchester. It's a legacy that all our members can feel proud of.

# RUN BY YOU – FOR YOU

The Executive Committee that runs Dorchester Chamber for Business is made up of Chamber members from local businesses, voted in at our Annual General Meeting each November open to all members. Our number one priority is to represent the majority and take actions that will benefit our members. Funded and governed only by our Members, we have evolved over the last century into a strong, active and thoroughly modern Chamber of Commerce.

## EXPECTATIONS

Members can expect the Dorchester Chamber for Business to support the business community by representing members, both at local and regional level, in discussions and negotiations with key stakeholders including the BID, Town, District and County Councils. By consulting with our members, we believe that we can form an effective group that can engage and influence policies and decisions through being a strong, responsible and independent voice of the business community.

### **Other benefits for our members include:**

- A United Voice on local issues through our links with the local authorities and local media
- Networking Opportunities through our breakfast and evening meetings
- A Listing for your Business on the Chamber's Website, which is linked to social networks including Twitter and Facebook
- Close links with the Dorchester BID, which was initiated by your Chamber
- Close links and Access to other Chambers across Dorset and the South West

## BECOME PART OF THE COMMUNITY

Membership of Dorchester & District Chamber for Business is a platform for you to become a more active, engaged and supported member of the local business community and add your voice to the issues that matter. Members also have regular opportunities to grow their network and build relationships with other influential decision makers.

## RESULTS

Dorchester Chamber for Business is not responsible for car parking charges, pot holes or street cleaning... however, these are issues we have lobbied for on behalf of our members. Current issues include Charles Street Development, Prison redevelopment, the Dorchester transport and roads infrastructure, In-town signage and Superfast broadband for business.

## GET INVOLVED

Dorchester Chamber for Business is made up of 120+ members with over 50% attendance at our monthly networking breakfast meetings and we are proud to be a growing Chamber. Through affiliation with other Dorset Chambers of Commerce, our reach exceeds 800 regional businesses and organisations. We are a modern, open and inclusive membership organisation, happy to welcome new businesses on board and the motto "Where Business Matters" indicates how we feel about supporting our business community.

## JOIN US

Complete and return the form below or visit the website to join online.

I would like to join the Dorchester & District Chamber for Business.

Contact Name:

Business Name:

Business Address:

Phone Number:

Email:

Size of Business: Small\* Large (Please indicate size of business)

**\*Small businesses are:**

- (i) Businesses with less than 30 employees within the DT post code and/or within a 20 mile radius of Dorchester; or
- (ii) Charities

Please be advised that membership is subject to a two-month probationary period.



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