

Setting up a business in Central Bedfordshire – Non Food

Depending on the nature of your business, you will need to engage with the local authority for certain aspects of your business operation.

Below is a list of departments within Central Bedfordshire Council, that a business would probably need to engage with, especially if operations are run from physical premises within our area. More information can be found on the [Business](#) pages of Central Bedfordshire Council website.

[Business Rates](#)

Required to register your business premises for business rates (also called non domestic rates)

[Planning Permission](#)

This may be required for any change of use of the property, physical changes to the property, installation of some types of signage for the property (company logo, names, etc). We recommend you consult with landlord first if premises are leased.

[Licensing](#)

Licensing is a requirement for only certain types of businesses. To check if your business activity requires any form of licensing, please check the link to our [Licensing website](#)

[Trading Standards](#)

Trading Standards support and encourage businesses by providing advice and information to help businesses comply with the law.

[Commercial Waste](#)

We have a duty to collect commercial waste, if requested. However, we advise a company requiring a waste collection service to seek quotes from the [private sector](#) as this is invariably the most cost effective solution.

[Health & Safety at Work](#)

Health & Safety Executive (HSE) and local authorities (LAs) are responsible for **enforcing health and safety legislation**. Together they ensure that dutyholders manage the health and safety of their workforce and those affected by their work.

The following departments / services may only be required when issues arise or a business requires help and support.

[Employment and Skills](#)

The Bedfordshire Employment and Skills Service (BESS) provides opportunities for adults to get involved in learning, either independently or through their employer. BESS will work closely with employers to help develop the work force and assist with recruitment drives.



[Public transport](#)

Information on bus services and operators. Introductions can be made to the team to assist with funding and changes to services to meet needs of employees and shift patterns

[Primary Authority Partnership Scheme](#)

If your business is based in Central Bedfordshire and also trades outside the county, the Primary Authority Partnership scheme could save you time, money. It allows a legally recognised partnership between your business and ourselves which can simplify your relationship with all the local authorities you deal with. It gives you a single point of contact, and lets you take advantage of our expertise and advice to deal with all regulatory issues.

[Transport Roads and Parking](#)

Report and track road or highways problems

[Broadband](#)

Learn more about superfast broadband rollout in Central Bedfordshire

[Environmental Issues](#)

Pest control, Fly tipping, street cleaning, commercial pollution, abandoned vehicles, etc

[Workplace Health Service](#)

Public Health's Workplace Health Team aim to improve the health, wellbeing and employability of the working age population across Central Bedfordshire. They work with workplaces, colleagues and partner agencies to support sustainable, healthy, supportive working environments.

This is not an exhaustive list and depending on your business, there may be other areas of council services that would be relevant.

We recommend that in all instances you talk through your business set up with one of our Business Investment Officers who can be contacted via:

e-mail: info@becentralbedfordshire.co.uk

Tel: 0300 300 8272

You may also wish to look at our specific website for businesses, [Be Central Bedfordshire](#). This website offers news and information for local businesses to help build resilience and grow the local business. The website includes links to [business support programmes](#), [business finance and grants](#), sign up to our e-newsletter, [Let's Talk Business](#) and events information including staff training programmes.