



Supporting
entrepreneurs and
innovators in the
heart of Aberdeenshire

LINNA

LIBRARIES INNOVATION NETWORK ABERDEENSHIRE



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The LINNA launch at Banff, October 2019

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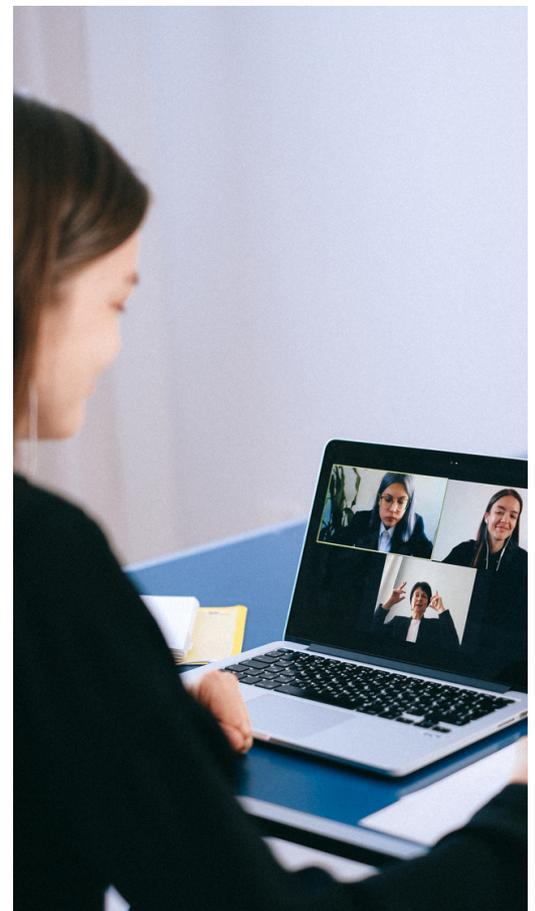
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Bonus November Workshops: Starting a Business in Aberdeenshire

With the project extension and recent surge of interest in self-employment, the team grasped the opportunity to run some additional one-day workshops over zoom. This was a fantastic opportunity to engage with new audiences.

These workshops, similar to the ones held in the libraries pre-COVID, were reconfigured to work more effectively in a virtual setting. These workshops ran weekly throughout November, attracting participants from across the region. Notably, almost all the individuals who engaged were right at the beginning of their start-up journey. All the participants brought fresh and exciting ideas to workshop, making the sessions provoking and lively.

Just like the workshops run at the start of LINNA, these sessions showed participants how to use the toolkit of canvases. They learned how to explore and analyse their business ideas to test desirability, feasibility and viability - encouraging them to see things from a different perspective. The LINNA team wishes all who took part in the November workshops the very best with their future ventures!



Reflecting on LINA

We can scarcely believe it's been 14 months since we started the LINA project, so as we approach the end of December we take a quick look back. Our team have had a truly wonderful time getting to know the communities around Banff and Buchan and have enjoyed the opportunity to meet with many different people across this beautiful and diverse region. Similarly, as the project moved to libraries around Fraserburgh, Macduff and Turriff we met more interesting and resourceful people. The advent of Lockdown meant that we were no longer able to meet but the engagement continued online and the LINA community grew and adapted.

Many of our LINA participants have told us that the programme has helped increase their confidence and understanding of business. All of us at LINA can equally say that we have been enriched by working alongside these individuals who are willing to learn, ready to try something new, and have demonstrated resilience through one of the most difficult periods of time in modern history. This inspirational bunch have lots ahead of them, and we feel privileged to have had the opportunity to support them on their entrepreneurial journey.

As we come to the end of the 2020, we would like to thank everyone including our funders, participants, local communities, Aberdeenshire Council and it's library service staff for their help and support throughout the strange year that has been 2020.

What could you do in 2021?

Could you take the first steps on your entrepreneurial journey? Get inspired by signing-up to our innovation mailing list by visiting: www.rgu.ac.uk/innovation

Check out the other support available in Aberdeenshire:

Business Economic Development , Aberdeenshire Council
www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/business/support-and-advice

Business Gateway Aberdeenshire
www.bgateway.com/local-offices/aberdeenshire

Opportunity North East
www.opportunitynortheast.com



A busy workshop at Strichen library before COVID-19 restrictions in March

Are you Brexit ready?

Already have a business? Or looking to start one next year? The UK leaves the EU on 31st of December which will mean changes for businesses.

Make sure you keep up to date with the latest business regulations and advice by visiting: www.gov.uk/transition

Keep in Touch

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