



## **NEWS RELEASE**

**Friday, March 15, 2019**

### **CHANCE TO LEARN HOW TO PROTECT YOUR BUSINESS**

**Blairgowrie-based enterprise support organisation GrowBiz is hosting two workshops in Perthshire this month to help clients protect their businesses with effective contracts and terms of trading.**

The free learning sessions, which will take place in Crieff in Strathearn and Coupar Angus in east Perthshire, will help rural businesses think about the contracts that might be relevant to them, whether they are a sole trader or employ staff.

Experienced practitioner and enterprise facilitator at GrowBiz, Alan Garratt, will lead the sessions, which will cover topics such as the areas of business where contracts apply and the impact they have on a business as well as how you might develop contracts yourself.

Alan is an honorary lecturer at Dundee University on innovation and creativity as part of their Enterprise Gym programme and managed a European Union project work package on the commercialisation of university research.

He has worked in innovation development and commercialisation since 1999 advising inventors and innovative businesses on product development and Intellectual Property protection and business strategy both in the UK and in various countries throughout the world.

Explaining the importance of contracts to protecting businesses of all sizes, he said: "This session is an opportunity to find out for yourself what contracts and protection you should have in place and why.

"We'll consider what terms and conditions you need for your website, and the contracts to consider having in place with customers and suppliers.

"And we will help signpost you to how and where you can find out more."

Operations manager for GrowBiz, Merle Palmer, is looking forward to the event.

She said: "In rural areas, enterprises are often sole traders or microbusinesses, and the legalities of running a business can often get lost amongst the many other competing roles and responsibilities an individual has.

“Contracts and terms and conditions are often the least important thing on people’s minds and yet it is important to understand the support they can provide a business, whatever stage of the enterprise journey they are at.

“The impact on retailers and manufacturers is perhaps more obvious but for service providers contracts are also important in terms of clarifying what exactly is to be delivered.

“If you get the basics right – and attending this session is a good way to get to that point if you are not already there – then it will save you time in the long-term.”

Merle added: “Our learning sessions, which are all free, provide an informal and friendly opportunity for people to further develop their skill sets and help their businesses grow, benefitting from the expertise of our team of enterprise facilitators, and this latest addition to the GrowBiz calendar is no exception.”

Protecting Yourself with Your Terms of Trading takes place in the Coupar Angus Cycling Hub premises on Monday, March 18, and in Strathearn Community Campus on Tuesday, March 26.

To attend, or for further information on GrowBiz, see the website at [www.growbiz.co.uk](http://www.growbiz.co.uk)

For media enquiries about GrowBiz, contact Clare McMicking on telephone 07514 343042 or email [clare@growbiz.co.uk](mailto:clare@growbiz.co.uk)

#### **Notes to Editors**

- GrowBiz Scotland (known as GrowBiz) is a company limited by guarantee number SC341655, and a Scottish Charity number SC043278, with registered office at [1 Perth Street, Blairgowrie PH10 6DQ](https://www.growbiz.co.uk).
- GrowBiz is funded by Perth and Kinross Council, Scottish Enterprise and The Scottish Government, and the Enterprising Rural Perthshire project is supported by the Rural Perth and Kinross LEADER Programme 2014-2020: The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe investing in rural areas. For more on LEADER go to [www.pkleader.org](http://www.pkleader.org)