

## **THAMES GATEWAY WOMEN'S NETWORK BIG SUCCESS**

The first women's network for the Thames Gateway area organised by Lloyds TSB was a huge success with over 80 attendees and plans are now in development to run the events on a regular basis.

The inaugural women's network held on 25<sup>th</sup> February at the centre for engineering & manufacturing excellence gave local businesswomen an opportunity to meet potential new customers and talk to like minded people about new business opportunities and experiences. The Rt. Hon. Margaret Hodge, MP for Barking and Minister for Children gave the keynote speech and Steve Elsom, Lloyds TSB area director for Essex and North Herts gave a presentation on the art of self potential.

The event was supported by Marks & Spencer Lakeside who provided the catering and Lush and Virgin Vie who provided complimentary goody bags.

Commenting on the event, Amanda Storey, business development manager, Lloyds TSB Thames Gateway group said: "Despite the snowy weather, the women's network was a big success and exceeded all our expectations. The feedback we've had so far from the women who attended has been hugely positive and there is a real desire for more events."

Steve Elsom, Lloyds TSB area director for Essex and North Herts said: "I was delighted to be involved at the launch of such a highly successful event. I am sure this will be the first of many, and endorses the banks commitment to working closely with the local community through its local market structure.

A spokesperson for Virgin Vie, Lakeside said, "We'd never attended a networking event before but were amazed at the response we got on the night. We've never booked so many appointments in one evening! We would definitely come along to other event in the future."

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A raffle raised £70 for the NSPCC which Steve Elsom, area director for Essex and North Herts kindly doubled to £140.

For more information on upcoming events please contact Amanda Storey on 07834 946538.

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### **For more information:**

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