

19th January 2009

Press release

North East Working Together to Provide Real Help for People and Businesses

Helping people and businesses to access the range of support that's now available to them in the region is vital at this time.

That's why One North East, Job Centre Plus, Learning and Skills Council and Business Link North East are working together to ensure that firms and individuals understand who to talk to about getting support and funding.

These key agencies have joined forces to get a clear message of support out across the region and will be giving regular updates on new products and services.

There are three key contact numbers for anyone wanting information, advice or assistance. These are:

- **For businesses** wanting advice and to understand what help and support is available including free business health checks, online business support and access to appropriate finance,

Call Business Link on 0845 600 9006 or visit
<http://www.businesslinknortheast.co.uk>

- **For people who are in work**, but may be at risk of, or worried about possible redundancy, for free confidential face to face advice on changing jobs and updating skills,

Call nextstep on 0800 027 7944 or visit
www.nextstepnortheast.org.uk

- **For those who have been made redundant or who are out of work**, for free confidential support to get back to work quickly, update skills and help with job search.

Call Jobcentre Plus on 0845 606 0234 or visit
www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk

For more information and for regular updates on behalf of the partner agencies working in the North East, please contact the One North East press office on: 0191 229 6200

