

Goodbye European Information Centre – Hello Enterprise Europe

For the past 20 years the European Information Centre (EIC) network through its wide variety of services has assisted SMEs to take advantage of the opportunities provided by the EU. Thanks to the EICs SMEs across the UK have been awarded public sector contracts, found new European trading partners and have been assisted to comply with new EU legislation. However it is all about to change, and for the good! A new network has been established by the European Commission to expand upon existing services provided by both the European Information Centre network but also the Innovation Relay Centre network and it will start on 1 January 2008.

Known as Enterprise Europe the new network will expand upon existing services in support of business and innovation to SMEs across Europe. Enterprise Europe will deliver high-quality business and innovation support services to assist SME access to information relating to the functioning and opportunities of the internal market for goods and services as well as in the trans-national transfer of innovation, knowledge and technology.

The European Information Centre based at Birmingham Chamber of Commerce will be part of the new Enterprise Europe network. For further information please call 0121 455 0268 or email c.davies@birminghamchamber.org.uk