



TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS WITH RONAN BERRY

TUESDAYS 7PM - 8PM

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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS NEWSLETTER ISSUE 11

February saw the launch of an innovative bicycle engineer traineeship by the Laois and Offaly Education and Training Board designed to upskill people into an area of massive growth potential. In tourism circles, Westmeath and Offaly are now under the 'Ireland's Hidden Heartlands' brand and, in Mullingar the Annebrook House Hotel celebrated 15 years of business. Also, a Town Centre First Plan was unveiled by the government and the likelihood of all electric vans on our roads is not too far away!!

GOOD NEWS STORY OF THE MONTH:

€180m in funding is being granted to support regional development and create hundreds of long term jobs. The nine Region Specific Enterprise plans will support the implementation of innovative projects that will sustain employment growth. The first regional enterprise plan was launched in Tipperary today.

Have a business story to share or question to be answered?

Email business@midlands103.com

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BUSINESS STORIES OF THE MONTH

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- [Offaly Residents Faithful To Irish Products](#)
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First of its kind Bicycle Engineer Traineeship by LOETB. **Padraig Boland** of Laois & Offaly ETB introduces the unique course now open for applicants.



The re-branding of Offaly and Westmeath by **Fáilte Ireland** is being hailed as a common-sense move. The counties will now be marketed as part of the 'Hidden Heartlands', having previously been split with the 'Ireland's Ancient East' brand.



Big plans for **Annebrook House Hotel** as it celebrates 15 years of business - Berty Dunne in conversation with Ronan Berry.



Peter Burke breaks down the new Town Centre First Plan and it's affects on the featured small towns of the Midlands. The Census 2016 showed that 58% of the Irish population lives in a town with a population between 1'500 and 50'000.



The lockdown for the last 20 months has been described as a "perfect storm" for domestic abuse. There has been a rise in domestic abuse reports over this period of time. Keeping in mind that 79% of people who suffer domestic abuse don't report it, these reporting numbers raise major alarms.



Can fleet buyers and business owners be encouraged to make the move to EV? **Mark Barrett** of Harris MAXUS certainly believes so!



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