

**DIGITAL AWARENESS DAY CONFERENCE
NOTTINGHAM TRENT VINEYARD - 16 MARCH 2026
AGENDA**

08:30am	Arrival, registration, teas/coffees and networking
09:30am (10mins)	Welcome to the sessions and housekeeping - Richard Blackmore, Director of Policy and Insight, East Midlands Chamber
09:40am (10mins)	Welcome Cllr Bert Bingham, Cabinet Member for Transport and the Environment, Nottinghamshire County Council
09:50am (20mins)	Nottinghamshire County Council Digital Connectivity Framework - Ian Stoddart, Digital Connectivity Manager, Nottingham County Council
10:10am (20mins)	The role of Government in supporting Digital Transformation and Cyber Security - Gwilym Williams, Regional Cyber Lead Midlands, Cyber Security and Digital Identity Directorate, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) We will hear about the work of the DSIT, who they are what they do, the support provided to business, how they are supporting and growing the UK's cybersecurity sector, detail of the TechFirst – DSIT's tech skills and careers programme and the Cyber Resilience and the Cyber Essentials Scheme
10:30am (20mins)	Harnessing AI for Growth – Phil Grantham, Local Public Services Lead at Microsoft Phil will share his viewpoint on AI through the lens of his personal career journey in technology. Why this feels different and a view of the opportunities it presents for government and business alike.
10:50am (20mins)	Demystifying the use of Artificial Intelligence and other digital tools – Professor Daniel Vera, Professor Industrial Digitalisation, Nottingham Trent University This presentation unpacks what AI is, and explores the main types of AI technologies, their capabilities and limits, and how they map to specific industrial applications. It introduces the key trends shaping AI development and provides a perspective on what organisations can possibly expect in the coming years.
11:10am (30Mins)	Break – head to workshop of choice

<p>11:40am (45mins)</p>	<p>Workshop Session #1</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Main Hall - Getting the SEO basics 'Are You Tagged Right?' An introduction to the Department of Business and Trade (DBT) and it's specialist advisory services - Mark Bates, Digital Trade Adviser, Department of Business and Trade Room G1 - Stop Doing Repetitive Tasks: AI Agents That Handle the Work You're Too Busy For - Martin Broadhurst, Director, Broadhurst Digital Limited Room G2 - How companies are using AI and Agents to accelerate business growth: A methodology to adopt Microsoft 365 Copilot – Adam Blackwell, Solutions Consultant, FluidOne Room G3 - The Human Edge: Thriving Through AI and Digital Transformation - Ravi Gidoomal, Director and Michelle Aboagye, Associate, EDGE Digital Manufacturing, plus Karen Lancaster, Research Fellow, University of Nottingham / Centre for People-Led Digitalisation
<p>12:25pm (1 hour)</p>	<p>Lunch, exhibitors and networking</p>
<p>1:25pm (45mins)</p>	<p>Workshops Session #2</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Main Hall - Getting the SEO basics 'Are You Tagged Right?' An introduction to the Department of Business and Trade (DBT) and it's specialist advisory services - Mark Bates, Digital Trade Adviser, Department of Business and Trade (Repeat of session 1) Room G1 - Stop Doing Repetitive Tasks: AI Agents That Handle the Work You're Too Busy For - Martin Broadhurst, Director, Broadhurst Digital Limited (Repeat of session 1) Room G2 - How companies are using AI and Agents to accelerate business growth: A methodology to adopt Microsoft 365 Copilot – Adam Blackwell, Solutions Consultant, FluidOne(Repeat of session 1) Room G3 - The Human Edge: Thriving Through AI and Digital Transformation - Ravi Gidoomal, Director and Michelle Aboagye, Associate, EDGE Digital Manufacturing, plus Karen Lancaster, Research Fellow, University of Nottingham / Centre for People-Led Digitalisation (Repeat of session 1)
<p>2:10pm (35mins)</p>	<p>Break and transfer to final workshop session</p>

<p>2:45pm (45mins)</p>	<p>Workshop session #3</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Main Hall - The AI-Enabled Workplace – Navigating Data, IP, Compliance and Governance - Hannah Steggles IP, IT & Data Protection Lawyer and Paula Dumbill, Partner and Commercial and Technology Specialist at Howes Percival 2. Room G1 - AI Horizon Scanning: Spot the Opportunities Before Your Competitors Do - Martin Broadhurst, Director, Broadhurst Digital Limited 3. Room G2 - The Microsoft 365 Tools You Already Pay For (But Aren't Using) - Tim Rookes, CEO of Truly SMB 4. Room G3 - AI and Accessibility in Modern Marketing - Tania Gerard, Founder, Tania Gerard Digital UK.
<p>3:15pm</p>	<p>Close</p>