

For information about all Jobcentre

Plus Services visit:

www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk

For help with skills and training contact

Careers Advice Service on

0800 100 900

or visit:

www.direct.gov.uk/learning

To find out which benefits you may be

eligible for visit:

www.direct.gov.uk/benefitsadvisor

or call the contact centre number:

0800 055 6688

First steps in job seeking and to claim
Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA) or Income Support
(IS)

Phone: **CONTACT CENTRE :**
0800 055 6688

(BT Landlines free)

You can also make a claim by completing a form
online, visit: **www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk**

You will be asked for your personal information
when making a JSA Claim for example:

National Insurance Number (NINO)

Payslips

Employers Information

And also for an Income Support claim for
example:

Partners details and NINO

Children's details

Savings information

Child Benefit Numbers

Following your initial call, giving all your
information, you will then be given an
appointment to attend your local Jobcentre
Plus office.

This will be a 1 hour appointment which will
include:

- **20 minutes** with a Financial Advisor to help you go through your claim.
- **40 minutes** with a Personal Advisor who will help you to establish a job search and to enter a Job Seekers Agreement.

JOBS: When claiming JSA, Jobcentre Plus
have a programme centre where you can
access the internet to search for jobs. They
will also provide help with updating your CV
and can give you advice on brushing up on
interview techniques.

Help with Homes and Finances

Mortgages:—the support for Mortgage
Interest Scheme and Mortgage Rescue
Scheme are designed to help people
struggling with mortgage payments.

www.direct.gov.uk/realhelp

Rent:—You may be eligible for Housing
Benefit to help pay your rent, including if
you rent from a private landlord. Contact
Bridgend council on **01656 643 643**.

Websites for information:

www.direct.gov.uk/realhelp

www.businesslink.gov.uk/realhelp

www.citizensadvice.org.uk

Help with Skills & Training

Careers Advice Service can give you
independent advice about skills, job
possibilities and training options. You may
also be able to get a grant, loan, help with
childcare costs or other financial help. Call
0800 100 900. Careers Wales can offer
written action plans to outline the next step
process for people affected by redundancy.

Visit: www.careerswales.com

Help with jobs and benefits

From April 2009, if you are still unemployed
after 6 months, Jobcentre Plus may offer you
extra support, including help to set up a
business, new training places, volunteering
options, or an employer recruitment subsidy.

ReAct— Redundancy Action Scheme

Support under this scheme is available for:

- people who have become unemployed in the last six months as a result of redundancy, and are currently unemployed.
- Those who are under notice of redundancy.

Eligible applicants can increase their skills and remove barriers to learning or returning to work. Training needs will be assessed by Careers Wales, who will advise on suitable training courses and training venues. Financial support is available, up to a maximum of £2,500. Help with the cost of special equipment, travel, overnight accommodation, materials for training and childcare costs is also available. (*subject to limits and conditions*).

Help with Business Finances

You may be able to spread tax, National Insurance, VAT, PAYE or other payments over time to help with temporary difficulties.

Call the HMRC Business Payment Support Service on 0845 302

Managing Debt

For free, confidential and independent help to deal with business debt problems call the

**Business Debtline on
0800 197 6026**

Finance from your Bank

You may be able to benefit from the Government's **Enterprise Finance Guarantee** when you apply for a loan from your Bank. It supports loans of up to £1m for firms with turnover up to £25m; you can also convert an existing overdraft into a loan to free up capital.

Equity Investment

The **Capital for Enterprise Fund** provides equity investment which you can use to pay off existing debt or invest in your business.

**Call the registration helpline on
0845 459 9780**

Visit: www.businesslink.gov.uk/realhelp

Useful Telephone Numbers

New Claims	0800 055 6688
Existing Claims	0845 608 8562
Social Fund Crisis Loan:	0800 389 0271
Community Care Grants Maternity Grants Funeral Payments:	0845 606 0208
Jobs	0845 6060 234
Disability Living Allowance & Attendance Allowance	0800 88 22 00
Tax Credits Helpline	0845 300 3900
Pension Service Enquiries	0800 99 1234 0845 606 0265
Carers Allowance	01253 856 123
National Debtline	0808 808 4000
Fuel Advice Line	0800 512 012
Business Link (Business healthcheck)	0845 600 9006
Business Debtline	0800 197 6026
HMRC Tax (VAT, NI, PAYE)	0845 302 1435

Ways to Contact Madeleine

- Write to Madeleine at 47 Nolton Street Bridgend CF31 0AA. Tel 01656 750002
- Write to Madeleine at House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. Tel 0207 219 4417
- Visit Madeleine at one of her advice surgeries. Call 01656 750002 to make an appointment
- Email Madeleine at: moonm@parliament.uk

Sources of Help & Advice for People & Business in Bridgend during the Economic Downturn

Madeleine Moon MP for Bridgend



www.madeleinemoonmp.com