

GRANTS AND LOANS FACTSHEET

Grant for Business Investment Scheme

A Government grant initiative for businesses which serve (or plan to serve) more than a local market. Minimum grant awarded is £10,000. For medium sized businesses (over 49 employees grant funding is up to 10% and up to 20% grant funding for the acquisition of key assets such as building, machinery or capital equipment in projects which will result in gains in productivity through expansion of the business, which includes job creation or safeguarding existing ones. This scheme is open to businesses that are:

- Generally manufacturing or business to business based
- Based in East or West Sussex

For more information: SEEDA, Business Grants Executive, Global Competitiveness, SEEDA, Cross Lanes, Guildford, GU1 1YA Tel: 01483 470164 www.seeda.co.uk

Capitalise Business Support

Capitalise Business Support Ltd is a not for profit organisation supporting new and existing businesses in East Sussex and West Sussex. A subsidiary of 1066 Enterprise they provide business loans in the range of £100 to £20,000 through the Community Development Finance Institution to new start-ups, existing SME's or social enterprise. In addition to the loan a business mentor is assigned to the borrower to provide support and advice.

- Applicants must live or work in East Sussex or West Sussex
- Have been refused a loan application by one financial institutions e.g. Bank
- 2% Arrangement free

For more information: Capitalise Business Support Ltd, Summerfields Business Centre, Bohemia Road, Hastings, TN34 1UT Tel: 0845 6018326 www.capitalise.org

Finance Guarantee

Offers a means of obtaining finance for small businesses that cannot otherwise do so by providing a Government guarantee against default by borrowers. The scheme enables banks and other financial institutions to lend money for projects which would otherwise present too great a financial risk. The Department of Business, Enterprise & Regulatory Reform (BERR guarantees 75% of loans up to £1,000,000 with banks covering the remaining 25%.

Eligible: UK business with a turnover of no more than £25 million seeking loans of £1,000 through to £1 million. Manufacturers, construction and most service industries but excludes agriculture & fisheries, shipbuilding and steel.

For more information: Business Link Tel: 0845 600 9006, High Street Banks or www.berr.gov.uk

The Prince's Trust -Business Programme

Provides low interest loans to young people aged 18-30 who want to start up their own business. To be eligible you must be working less than 16 hours per week & unable to get funding from financial sources. The average loan size is £2,200 and can be used for minimum essential pre-start costs. As part of the package support is also provided by a volunteer business mentor.

**For more information: Prince's Trust, Tim Jones House, Rochester Gardens, Hove, BN3 3AW
Tel: 01273 723399 www.princes-trust.org.uk**

Livewire

Livewire is a programme supported nationally by Shell UK to help young people aged between 16 and 30 years start their own business. Through a network of co-ordinators and advisers it offers help putting together a business plan, business start up awards, and start up guidance.

**For more information: Livewire, Hawthorn House, Forth Banks, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 3SG
Tel: 0845 757 3252 www.shell-livewire.org**

Royal British Legion: Small Business Advisory Service & Loan Scheme

For Service Leavers or un-employed ex-Service people eligible for Ordinary membership of The Royal British Legion requiring financial help to start their business. Loans up to £5000 and the loan term will be up to three years interest free, but there is an administrative charge and security fee.

For more information: Small Business Advisory Officer, The Cottage, Ordnance Road, Tidworth, Wiltshire, SP9 7QD Tel: 01980 847753

South East Community Loan Fund

This fund is available to registered charities, who have been unable to access funding from commercial sources such as a bank. Applicants can access between £10,000 and £100,000 for capital equipment costs, property purchases and refurbishment, working capital and bridging finance.

- Repayment period of up to 10 years, for social and community enterprises
- Repayment charge of 3-4% above the bank base rate
- An arrangement fee of 1.5%-2%
- Security will be used where available

**For more information: South East Local Investment Fund Tel: 020 76801028
information@tself.org.uk www.tself.org.uk**

Fredericks Foundation

The Fredericks Foundation is a charity providing support to disadvantaged people who are looking to start up their own business. They offer repayable loans of up to £5,000 to start-ups who have been refused a loan application by a financial institution such as a bank.

They focus support on 4 groups: Financial Hardship; Unemployed; Single parents; Ex-offenders

For more information: Fredericks Foundation, Fredericks House, 39 Guildford Road, Light Water, Surrey, GU18 5SA Tel: 01276 472722 www.fredericksfoundation.org

Enham Programme

Enham's Business Ability Division provides a free and confidential service, which helps people with disabilities throughout the South East of England, start their own businesses.

Part of this service is their Work Preparation programme which provides funding support to assist with startup costs. This also includes mentoring and help with preparing a business plan.

For more information: Tel: 01264 345851 www.enham.org.uk

Finance South East Commercialisation Fund

The Commercialisation Fund provides repayable finance to small and medium-sized enterprises for proof of concept and commercialisation activities that enable a new business idea to gain first revenue and market traction.

The Fund offers two 'phases' of investment - the first is dedicated to ventures with a proof of concept requirement and the second is dedicated to ventures seeking finance for later-stage commercialisation work leading to market entry. Each phase offers funds up to a maximum of £30,000, or up to £60,000 to cover both phases.

For more information: Tel: 01276 608510 www.financesoutheast.com

Energy Efficiency Loans

Interest free loans are available from the Carbon Trust for small or medium-sized enterprises (SME's) to replace or upgrade existing equipment with a more energy efficient version. Loans are available from £5,000 to £200,000 which are unsecured, interest free and are repayable over a period of up to four years.

Businesses will need to have been trading for at least 12 months before applying and have an acceptable credit rating. Business sectors including Agriculture, Transport, Coal and Export related activities are excluded under EU de minimis State Aid rules

For more information: Carbon Trust, 8th Floor, 3 St Clement's Inn, London, WC2A 2AZ.

Tel: 0800 085 2005 www.carbontrust.co.uk/energy/takingaction/loans.htm

Career Development Loans

Available to individuals who require financial assistance to undertake vocational training. Loans of between £300 and £8,000 are available if you are over 18 years old and not receiving a mandatory grant or full discretionary award for training or education, you live or intend to train in the UK.

The loans are available for up to 80% of course fees, plus books, materials and other course expenses, and in some cases living expenses if you are on a full-time course. The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) will pay the interest due on the loan for the duration of the course and for up to one month afterwards. It's up to borrowers to repay the loan plus any further interest in instalments. You may train full-time or part-time or use open learning.

For more information: Business Intelligence Team, Business Link, Greenacre Court, Station Road, Burgess Hill, West Sussex, RH15 9DS Tel: 0845 600 9006

Rural Development Programme for England, LEADER funding for Wealden and Rural Rother (WARR)

Over the next five years 2009 - 2013 grants of up to £50,000 are available for individual projects, for rural Parishes in Wealden and Rother Districts, plus the market towns of Hailsham and Heathfield. The funding must be used to fund activities that have a long term impact on the profitability and sustainability of land based industries, tourism enterprises, rural businesses and rural communities.

For more information: Kathy Fordham, Rural Development Programme Project Officer, Wealden District Council, 07985 871792, kathy.fordham@wealden.gov.uk or see

www.wealden.gov.uk/business/Economic_Regeneration/RDPE.aspx

WARR Partnership, 5 Red Barn Mews, High Street, Battle, East Sussex TN33 0AG, 01424 787400, www.warrpartnership.org.uk

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Grantnet www.grantnet.org.uk

Comprehensive and up-to-date database of grants, loans and other initiatives in the UK.

Grants for organisations and Groups in Wealden

For information on grants information for organisations and groups in Wealden visit www.wealden.gov.uk/Community/Grant_Funding/index.aspx or **contact Liz Padgham, Community Grants Officer (available Wednesday's and Thursday's) Tel: 01323 443520**