



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government



European Union
European Regional
Development Fund

2014 to 2020 European Regional Development Fund Programme £20 Million Support for Small and Medium Sized Business Information and Allocations

The package of funding for small and medium sized businesses is supported by the England European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) as part of the European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme 2014 to 2020.

This additional £20 million of ERDF is part of the government's drive to boost the recovery of the economy and provide small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) help to adapt their businesses following the coronavirus pandemic.

The funding has been allocated to local Growth Hubs (or associated projects) who work across the country with local and national, public and private sector partners, co-ordinating local business support and connecting businesses to the right help for their needs. They are locally driven, locally owned and at the heart of the government's plan to ensure business support is simpler, more joined up and easier to access.

The funding has been allocated to Growth Hubs in line with the current ERDF Programme LEP notional allocations for Priority Axis 3: SME Competitiveness. A minimum £250,000 has been allocated to each LEP area to ensure an effective grant programme is in place everywhere. The allocation of resources will be reviewed as the grant fund is delivered. In addition, the take up of allocations will be reviewed in three months' time to ensure it is meeting demand.

This ensures funding is available across all LEP areas. The funding can be used to support all SMEs in all sectors.

In places where ERDF does not currently fund a Growth Hub, we are working with the Growth Hub and an existing ERDF business support provider to make the funding available quickly.

Activities supported through the £20 million of funding must be to directly respond to the impact of COVID-19 and can include:

- one-to-many events providing guidance to respond to coronavirus
- small grants to:

- help businesses access specialist professional advice e.g. human resources, accountants, legal, financial, IT / digital
- purchase minor equipment to adapt or adopt new technology in order to continue to deliver business activity or diversify

The nature and value of grants awarded will be tailored to local circumstances, and will typically be up to £3,000. Under certain circumstances, and on a case-by-case basis, grants of up to £5,000 may be awarded.

The funding is being provided to address immediate needs and all grants must be awarded by 28 February 2021 and all activity fully completed by 31 March 2021.

The allocations for each LEP area are set out below.

To apply and find out more, please locate and contact your local area Growth Hub. Details of all Growth Hubs can be found [here](#).

Local Enterprise Partnership	Category Of Region	Notional Allocation
Black Country	More Developed	£425,975
Buckinghamshire Thames Valley	More Developed	£250,000
Cheshire and Warrington	More Developed	£391,240
Coast to Capital	More Developed	£250,000
Cornwall and Isles of Scilly	Less Developed	£500,000
Coventry and Warwickshire	More Developed	£337,369
Cumbria	Transition	£296,687
Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire	More Developed	£720,398
Dorset	More Developed	£250,000
Enterprise M3	More Developed	£250,000
Gloucestershire	More Developed	£250,000
Greater Birmingham and Solihull	More Developed & Transition	£731,277
Greater Cambridge and Greater Peterborough	More Developed	£250,000
Greater Lincolnshire	More Developed & Transition	£507,928
Greater Manchester	More Developed	£1,049,321
Heart of the South West	More Developed & Transition	£423,544
Hertfordshire	More Developed	£250,000
Humber	Transition	£357,993
Lancashire	Transition	£1,118,161
Leeds City Region	More Developed	£972,127
Leicester and Leicestershire	More Developed	£408,785
Liverpool City Region	More Developed & Transition	£839,517
London	More Developed	£1,201,211
New Anglia	More Developed	£327,344
North East	More Developed & Transition	£1,833,503

Oxfordshire	More Developed	£250,000
Sheffield City Region	More Developed & Transition	£845,623
Solent	More Developed	£250,000
South East	More Developed	£627,724
South East Midlands	More Developed	£496,004
Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire	Transition	£651,960
Swindon and Wiltshire	More Developed	£250,000
Tees Valley	Transition	£928,629
Thames Valley Berkshire	More Developed	£250,000
The Marches	More Developed & Transition	£451,873
West of England	More Developed	£250,000
Worcestershire	More Developed	£250,000
York and North Yorkshire	More Developed	£250,000

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