



North East England ERDF Competitiveness Programme 2007-13

Summary of Projects

November 2007 - December 2015

North Tyneside Industrial Estates

What is the project about?

It will create new business space offering a combination of SME accommodation and SME start up space, upgrading North Tyneside Council's portfolio of industrial properties.

What will the project achieve?

It will create approximately 2257m2 business space to promote business and economic development in the borough.

Who is leading the project?

North Tyneside Council

How much ERDF investment? £407.370

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,116,029

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Paul Buie, Head of Business and Economic Development at North Tyneside Council at paul.buie@northtynesidecouncil.gov.uk or 0191 643 6402.

Centre for Innovation Formulation (CIF) – Discovery Outreach Programme

What is the project about?

It is seeking to deliver improved formulated products through the provision of a unique integration of dispersion technologies and colloid science. Products will be formulated (re-formulated) to (i) improve performance, (ii) reduce component raw materials costs and (ii) facilitate substitution of current ingredients by more sustainable raw materials. It is specifically targeting local SMEs who typically have limited technological and scientific capability and would benefit from the presence of a local open access facility, providing equipment and expertise that they could not otherwise access or afford. The Centre will offer access to facilities and equipment that would not be affordable for direct purchase by a single SME business and which is likely to require specialist operators for both use and systems maintenance.

What will the project achieve?

It is designed to provide rapid support to SMEs, delivering a 375m2 new technical facilities enabling the development of new and/or improved products.

Who is leading the project?

Centre for Process Innovation Ltd (CPI)

How much ERDF investment? £1,621,789

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £3,243,580

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Dr Lois Hobson, business development manager at CPI at lois.hobson@uk-cpi.com or 01642 442 483.

InnovaTees

What is the project about?

This pilot project will provide support to regional SMEs to progress with their commercial R&D activities, enable the development of new products and technologies and drive up demand from companies for innovation and R&D. The project will help SMEs to develop a strategic approach to research and development, source partnerships where required and access finance through 3 activity strands:

- Marketing/networking events including business-led Collaborative Innovation Forum
- Specialist Technical Innovation Support help in accessing research and development funding
- Digital Manufacturing generating new business models, markets, products, services.

What will the project achieve?

It will engage with 50 SMEs through marketing and networking events as well as through an online platform, leading to seven SMEs registered as members of the Innovation Forum receiving around three days assistance to create and promote their innovation profile amongst a range of collaboration networks. A further five SMEs will receive help developing full collaborative partnerships with other SMEs, academics, professional support providers and potential funders. Up to ten days of assistance will be offered to these SMEs in developing funding proposals and EU partnerships through to full submission.

Who is leading the project?

Teesside University

How much ERDF investment? £186,910

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £373,822

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact David Pratt at Teesside University on 01642 384413 or email david.pratt@tees.ac.uk

Port of Sunderland – Business and Infrastructure Improvements

What is the project about?

This project will involve an estimated £1m investment in land remediation and strategic infrastructure works at the Port helping to create a low carbon business hub. The main purpose is to invest in required infrastructure and land remediation that will unlock the regeneration of key sites, stimulate private sector investment and make a strong contribution towards local economic growth.

What will the project achieve?

The Port is one of the major regeneration sites in the North East (comprising 97 hectares of brownfield land and 27 hectares of water) and offers the potential to create up to 2,000 direct jobs and many more through the supply chain over a 15-20 year period. The Port is located in Hendon and in close proximity to some of the most deprived wards in the city.

Who is leading the project?

Sunderland City Council

How much ERDF investment? £460,354

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £920,708

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact James Garland on 0191 561 1158 or <u>james.garland@sunderland.gov.uk</u> or Matthew Hunt on 0191 553 2131 or <u>matthew.hunt@sunderland.gov.uk</u>

North East Automotive Alliance (SME Supply Chain Development Programme)

What is the project about?

The project will build upon the establishment of the not-for-profit - North East Automotive Alliance Limited (NEAA) providing programmes to support economic sustainable growth of the sector in the North East of England and accelerate the impact this cluster will have on the sectors SME base.

What will the project achieve?

It will assist 20 SMEs, while safeguarding 15 jobs and creating 10 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

North East Automotive Alliance (NEAA) Limited

How much ERDF investment?

£141.171

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment?

£286,171

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Paul Butler, CEO North East Automotive Alliance on 0191 516 4400 or email paul.butler@nepic.co.uk

Leading Growth

What is the project about?

Leading Growth is a ten month leadership and development programme, delivered by Teesside University Business school aimed at owner-managers of micro SMEs, with a particular focus on micro-SMEs (with up to 20 employees). The leadership development of the owner-manager is proven to have a direct positive correlation with company performance and growth. The programme is being delivered in cohorts of up to 20 delegates over a 10-12 month period and is underpinned with

experiential, reflective, observational and peer-to-peer learning aimed at raising productivity, competitiveness and skills.

What will the project achieve?

It will ensure 40 existing and new regional SMEs will be assisted, five gross jobs will be created, 40 businesses will be assisted with improved performance and 40 people will experience an improvement in workforce skills.

Who is leading the project?

Teesside University

How much ERDF investment? £403.508

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £807,017

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact David Pratt at Teesside University on 01642 384413, email david.pratt@tees.ac.uk or visit www.tees.ac.uk

Gateshead Digital Quay

What is the project about?

It will fund the acquisition and refurbishment of an existing property on Baltic Business Quarter, Gateshead Quays, fitting out an existing BREEAM very good building within NewcastleGateshead's Accelerated Development Zone (ADZ). Workspace will support the creation of new digital, technology and high growth businesses providing anchor space for commercial activity, start-up and move-on accommodation, mainly for the digital, technology, animation, games sector but not exclusively. R&D facilities will also be created with a permanent further education/ higher education presence on site, driving expertise and innovation through the promotion of business creation and business support.

What will the project achieve?

The building will be ready for occupation from April 2014 and will support 20 SMEs creating 20 new jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Gateshead Council

How much ERDF investment? £1,723,711

Priority 1 – enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £3.477,422

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Andrew Tate, Economic Development manager at Gateshead Council on (0191) 433 2084, andrewtate@gateshead.gov.uk or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk

Northumbria Graduates into Business

What is the project about?

Two strands of support will encourage SMEs to improve their performance by the creation of graduate-level internships leading to long-term jobs, furthering the enterprise culture in the North East. Strand A – Internships into Businesses aims to support 65 unemployed or underemployed graduates into graduate internships with SME employers across a range of sectors. The graduate will bring new skills and approaches which will assist the SMEs in improving their business performance. Strand B – Graduate Enterprise Support will help graduate entrepreneurs in creating 30 new student/graduate start-up businesses. Pre-start and early stage trading businesses will be able to lease office accommodation at no cost and students and graduates with ideas will also be able to access a mentoring and advice service where help is provided in a range of areas including PR, finance and business planning.

What will the project achieve?

Strand A will support business capacity for growth of 55 SMEs and will support the creation of 30 sustainable employment opportunities. Strand B will create 30 new student/graduate start-up businesses with the same number of jobs across the North East.

Who is leading the project?

Northumbria University

How much ERDF investment?

£583,126

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,166,252

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Luck Winskell, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Business and Engagement) at Northumbria University on (0191) 243 7200, email lucy.winskell@northumbria.ac.uk or visit www.northumbria.ac.uk

Super Connected Newcastle Business Support

What is the project about?

The project will be delivered under the working title of Go Digital Newcastle – Business Support and will provide SMEs in Newcastle with the knowledge to make informed business decisions on how to achieve the maximum benefits for their business through access to better broadband connectivity and internet speeds. The project is made possible by the broader Newcastle City Council led Go Digital Newcastle programme and will directly engage with 260 SMEs in face to face activities and through online tools that will help them to understand the complexities of available broadband provision. Information and guidance provided will provide them with the skills and knowledge needed to make realistic, informed decisions on how access to enhanced broadband capability will enable them to grow their business and achieve efficiencies.

What will the project achieve?

It will raise the awareness of up to 700 SMEs by June 2015 of the availability of next generation broadband and its potential. The project will support 260 SMEs by enabling them to make informed decisions on broadband to unlock business efficiency and growth and also increase the performance of 240 SMEs by helping them to exploit the benefits of broadband technologies and associated ICT tools to increase sales and efficiency and reduce costs.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle City Council

How much ERDF investment? £435.162

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £870,325

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Claire Prospert, Programme Manager (European Funding) at Newcastle City Council on (0191) 211 5693 or email Claire.prospert@newcastle.gov.uk or visit www.newcastle.gov.uk

Blyth Harbour Commission – former Bates Colliery

What is the project about?

The project will ensure initial infrastructure will be carried out enabling the former Bates Colliery site to be investor / development ready. The site is located within the Blyth Estuary Renewable Energy Zone (BEREZ) and is strategically located close to the National Renewable Energy Centre (Narec).

What will the project achieve?

The project will redevelop 3 hectares of a 9.7 hectare predominantly derelict site. It is anticipated that the redevelopment work as well as the Enterprise Zone benefits will attract new businesses to locate in to the area and capitalise on investment in world-leading research and testing facilities at Narec and facilitate expansion of the cleantech cluster in Blyth.

Who is leading the project?

Blyth Harbour Commission

How much ERDF investment?

£337,166

Priority 2 – Business growth and enterprise

How much total investment? £1.123.895

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Chris Owen, port Engineer at Blyth Harbour Commission on (01670) 35731, email chris.owen@portofblyth.co.uk or visit www.portofblyth.co.uk

NHS Innovations North (2013-2015)

What is the project about?

The overall aim of the NHS Innovation North ERDF programme is to enable long-term job creation and economic growth via the exploitation of Intellectual Property (IP) originating from the healthcare sector and SMEs in the North East. In order to become more competitive, businesses and in particular SMEs need to be able to call on easy-to-access specialised assistance in areas such as access to finance and exploiting innovations. The project will provide this connectivity and offer a complete range of innovation services to SMEs, delivered by skilled professionals forming one team and linking into the wider business support framework of the North East. The specialised and focused services provided will develop new business opportunities for SMEs in healthcare markets, thus creating wealth and job opportunities and improving the healthcare provision across the North East.

What will the project achieve?

It will create 22 and safeguard 60 direct private sector jobs and will also provide intensive assistance to 16 new and 37 existing SMEs operating in the field of healthcare.

Who is leading the project?

RTC North Ltd

How much ERDF investment?

£520,670

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £1,118,909

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Sarah Hart, Business Development Manager at RTC North on (0191) 516 4400, email sarah.hart@rtcnorth.co.uk or visit www.rtcnorth.co.uk or www.nhsinnovations.org

Hartlepool Enterprise Growth Hub

What is the project about?

It will increase the number of businesses in Hartlepool by; supporting individuals considering self employment as a career option on a one-to-one basis; intervening at the point of start-up or soon after, with potential low levels of grant support for capital equipment or marketing assistance; and supporting developing businesses through a range of advice and support which will help them to improve their business operations and deliver growth projects. The project will primarily take place within Hartlepool however businesses across the wider North East will be able to benefit from certain aspects of the project, in particular group sessions. The hub will be physically based within Hartlepool Enterprise Centre, where Borough Council staff are based and will arrange the day-to-day operation and delivery of the project.

What will the project achieve?

It will support the creation of 32 business supporting up to 100 potential entrepreneurs, developing 40 existing businesses as well as creating 52 jobs and safeguarding 30.

Who is leading the project?

Hartlepool Borough Council

How much ERDF investment?

£403,165

Priority 2 – Business growth and enterprise

How much total investment? £806,330

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Mick Emerson, Principal Economic Regeneration Officer at Hartlepool Borough Council on (01642) 867 677, email mick.emerson@hartlepool.gov.uk or visit www.investinhartlepool.co.uk

Teesside Advanced Manufacturing Park

What is the project about?

A research & development facility called the Offshore Wind Validation Centre (OWVC) will be developed and will become the first development on the Enterprise Zone - Teesside Advanced Manufacturing Park in Middlesbrough. The project aims to provide delivery of research and development services, which will be of international repute, designed to support fabrication technologies within the offshore and marine engineering sectors. It will deliver support to companies within the sector to expand their capability and capacity to capitalise upon opportunities within the offshore wind market.

The facility will be developed and owned by Middlesbrough Council, who will lease the building to TWI Ltd and Teesside University. TWI Ltd will operate the OWVC and concentrate upon the fabrication of offshore wind turbine towers and foundations. Teesside University will take space within

the OWVC to deliver a Research & Development/Innovation programme for sustainable manufacturing.

The OWVC will be the first facility of its kind in the UK and complement the services of the National Renewable Energy Centre (Narec) in Blyth and help place the North East of England as a key location for the offshore wind sector.

What will the project achieve?

It will create 1,951 sq m area of research and development premises on brownfield land boasting an engineering hall, laboratory space, open plan office and meeting rooms. The project will directly assist 20 new and 35 existing businesses with innovation, creating 45 new jobs and helping 70 people in the SME workforce with skills development.

Who is leading the project?

Middlesbrough Council

How much ERDF investment? £2.385,750

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £5,177,680

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Ian Barnes, Principal Regeneration Officer at Middlesbrough Council on 01642 729214, email ian_barnes@middlesbrough.gov.uk or visit www.middlesbrough.gov.uk

Northshore Innovation Centre

What is the project about?

The project will develop high quality R&D space for digital, science and innovative firms to grow their business. Located on the Northshore Enterprise Zone, the 5.1 hectare site is specifically targeting digital companies looking to move on or expand in the area. It will form linkages with Teesside University, Durham University and DigitalCity Innovation to help create effective business and research partnerships between digitally based SMEs in Stockton. The Centre will also provide a forum for individuals to collaborate, meet new businesses and develop business opportunities which will help unlock the growth potential of innovation and technology-led sectors.

What will the project achieve?

It will develop 0.75 hectares brownfield land into 3,389m2 high quality serviced office accommodation for SMEs ranging from 20m² to 62m². The project is aiming to create 10 jobs and will act as a catalyst for stimulating business and job growth in the local economy.

Who is leading the project?

Stockton Borough Council

How much ERDF investment?

£2,872,140

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £5,744,280

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Rachel Cockerill at Stockton Borough Council on 01642 527566, email Rachel.cockerill@stockton.gov.uk or visit www.stockton.gov.uk.

Portobello Trade Park

What is the project about?

It will create highly sustainable light industrial units on a prominent gateway development site in Birtley, Gateshead. It is utilising 2.63 hectares of brownfield land to boast units that have been specifically designed to provide business start-up and move-on accommodation for the SME market with sizes ranging from 195 sq m to 2,137 sq m.

What will the project achieve?

It is addressing demand as there are currently over 70 businesses within the existing Portobello Industrial estate and no vacant buildings. When completed the scheme will create 10 jobs and provide a regenerative ripple effect across the adjacent Portobello Industrial Estate.

Who is leading the project?

Ravensworth Property Developments LLP

How much ERDF investment?

£2,756,931

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£6,067,082

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Geoff Clark, Development Manager at Ravensworth Property Developments LLP on 0191 383 7685, email geoff.clark@mglgroup.co.uk or visit www.mglgroup.co.uk

The Enterprise Place

What is the project about?

An Enterprise Place for the University of Sunderland is being created in St Peters' Gate next to the Sir Tom Cowie Campus. Boasting 24 desk spaces, it will provide hot-desking facilities for up to 50 budding entrepreneurs at any one time. Potential start-ups from the population of students and graduates at the University of Sunderland as well as graduates from the immediate catchment in Sunderland, South Tyneside and East Durham, will pitch their business idea to a panel and if

accepted will use a package of support in their first six months to fully investigate the feasibility of their idea. Further support will then be given over the next six-month period to implement their business, the next stages being trading or ready to trade.

What will the project achieve?

It will advise and support 130 potential entrepreneurs creating 56 businesses, assisting 94 businesses and creating 57 jobs by June 2015.

Who is leading the project?

University of Sunderland

How much ERDF investment? £424,253

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £848,506

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Martin Finlayson, Assistant Director of Research and External Funding Development at University of Sunderland on 0191 515 365, email martin.finlayson@sunderland.ac.uk or visit www.sunderland.ac.uk

Blyth Commissioners Quay (Blyth Workspace)

What is the project about?

It will create high quality, well designed, sustainable and contemporary multi-occupancy serviced office space to let in Blyth, Northumberland. The site is strategically located within the Blyth Estuary Renewable Energy Zone providing Enterprise Zone status for those moving in before 31 March 2015 and lies between the Port of Blyth and the National Renewable Energy Centre (Narec). It is targeting small and medium businesses in renewable energy sectors and those working in knowledge intensive and high growth sectors.

What will the project achieve?

It will reclaim c.0.6ha brownfield land creating 21,000 sq ft lettable service office space, creating 11 new jobs by December 2015 and accommodating 120 jobs by December 2017.

Who is leading the project?

Arch Commercial Enterprise Ltd

How much ERDF investment? £2,977,000

Priority 2: Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£5,954,000

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Richard Schofield, senior project officer at Arch (Commercial Enterprise) Ltd on 01670 528 485, email richard.schofield@arch-group.co.uk

LiveWorks

What is the project about?

Several historic buildings adjoining the Live Theatre on Newcastle's Quayside will be consolidated to create a business centre forming a creative hub at the heart of Newcastle's Creative Digital Industries (CDI) sector. Flexible workspace will be created catering for the needs of a range of businesses from start-ups to SMEs looking to move into larger accommodation.

What will the project achieve?

It will create 1,900 sq m floorspace for rental for SMEs and ultimately create 61 jobs, safeguarding 60 and creating 15 businesses. The project will continue regeneration of the northern bank of the Tyne through the creation of an iconic building and help meet unmet demand for specialist space in the CDI sector. It will also contribute to the existing creative hub in the area, creating and encouraging conditions for further investment, job opportunities and wealth creation.

Who is leading the project?

Live Theatre

How much ERDF investment?

£1,734,132

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£4,668,265

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Chief Executive Lie Theatre Jim Beirne on 0191 269 348, email jim@live.org.uk or visit www.live.org.uk for more information.

Darlington Business Growth Hub

What is the project about?

The project will see the creation of a 3,200 Grade A serviced office accommodation space on a key strategic site to facilitate the creation of new and support the growth of expanding businesses within Darlington and the Tees Valley. The Business Growth Hub is open to all new and existing businesses with those from the digital sector benefiting from business rate relief through the Enterprise Zone. It will offer administration support services and offers links to business support

services. High quality workspace will encourage, support and enable both business start-ups and existing businesses to grow through provision of consultancy support, information, diagnostic advice and guidance to individual businesses. This will create opportunities for growth in job numbers in the new and existing SMEs.

What will the project achieve?

The project will facilitate the creation of 25 SMEs over 15 years – the lifetime of the project – create 350 new jobs and safeguard 50 jobs over the period. It will redevelop 0.6ha of brownfield land to boost local economic activity and prospects by January 2015.

Who is leading the project?

Darlington Borough Council

How much ERDF investment? £3,299,760

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £6,599,521

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact John Simpson, Principle Programmes and Projects Officer at Darlington Borough Council on 01325 388 681, email john.simpson@darlington.gov.uk or visit www.darlington.gov.uk

MAS North East Growth Programme

What is the project about?

It aims to enhance the delivery of the Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS) in the North East and help to drive the sustainable growth of the economy through the provision of high quality and credible business support for manufacturers. It will provide: web/telephone access to basic information; diagnostic/in-depth manufacturing review; awareness raising/best practice/multi-organisational events; bespoke consultancy/specialist technical support to address specific issues identified as part of the diagnostic and manufacturing review service; and active brokerage services to other parts of the business improvement landscape. It will also offer up to £10,000 public subsidy for companies demonstrating exceptional growth potential and up to £3,000 public subsidy for companies with the potential for a 'step change' in delivery, as well as an enhanced events programme, delivered in partnership with RTC North.

What will the project achieve?

It will assist 352 SMEs, of which 202 will receive a grant, with the remaining 150 to receive manufacturing review support, alongside opportunities to attend a range of specific manufacturing events and workshops. As a result of more in depth interventions with the region's manufacturers, this will lead to an increase in jobs, sustaining existing jobs and improving GVA.

Who is leading the project?

WMMC Ltd

How much ERDF investment? £539.098

Priority 2: Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,078,196

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Gill Hamer, Partnership and Contracts Manager at MAS on 0845 658 9600, email Gill.hamer@mymas.org or visit www.mymas.org

North East ERDF GrowthAccelerator

What is the project about?

It will deepen the GrowthAccelerator service in the North East, providing additional growth coaching support for 250 SMEs over two years. The project will provide, among others: additional targeted marketing; 'growth preparedness support' to enable businesses with high growth potential but with additional barriers to enter the programme; additional business performance coaching over and above the core GrowthAccelerator offer of seven days – totalling up to 14 days coaching, directed at helping high potential businesses to address multiple growth streams, tackle additional support for innovative business practices and prepare for international trade (working with UKTI trade services); access to targeted leadership and management advice and capacity building; and a 'local sustainable growth network' – peers support designed to embed learning and a culture of sustainable growth in the North East.

What will the project achieve?

It will identify 250 potential high growth businesses, provide each with a tailored coaching project and bring them together into a local growth network, delivering £19.0 GVA, creating 400 jobs and safeguarding 600 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Winning Pitch Ltd

How much ERDF investment? £1.079.481

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £2,698,695

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Jim Keane, Director at Winning Pitch Ltd on 07738 355707, email <u>i.keane@winning-pitch.co.uk</u> or visit <u>www.winning-pitch.co.uk</u>

West Chirton North Starter Units

What is the project about?

It involves the construction of 17 quality, sustainable, high specification terraced workshop units designed for small businesses. The units will be built by May 2014 with the first tenants expected to move in by August 2014.

What will the project achieve?

Located on West Chirton North Industrial Estate, North Tyneside, the development comprises 3,174 sq m built to BREEAM very good standard and will address a lack of such facilities in the area. It is anticipated that three jobs will be created as a direct result of the project.

Who is leading the project?

Hellens Investments (Washington) LLP

How much ERDF investment?

£1,126,029

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£2,942,783

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Gavin Cordwell Smith, Managing Partner at Hellens Investments on 0191 4180020, email gavin.cordwell-smith@hellens.co.uk or website www.hellens.co.uk

The Hoults Yard Engine Rooms

What is the project about?

The project will see the conversion of two existing buildings – The Engine Rooms and 167 Walker Road, to provide over 40 high quality, BREEAM very good rated, affordable and quirky workspaces for the expanding commercial creative sector in Hoults Yard, Ouseburn. It will deliver 4,058m2 of business accommodation in a location already established as a creative cluster. Landscaping at the site will also take place and associated car parking facilitating further development.

What will the project achieve?

The project will address unmet and anticipated demand for move-on accommodation, supporting a creative business accommodation ladder in Ouseburn Valley, resulting in the creation of 10 jobs and safeguarding 15 jobs before June 2015. In the longer term, the project is expected to create or safeguard 100 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Hoults Ltd

How much ERDF investment?

£1,512,598

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £5,599,993

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Charlie Hoult, Managing Director at Hoults Ltd on 0191 265 4282, email charlie.hoult@houltsyard.co.uk or visit www.houltsyard.co.uk

PRIME North East

What is the project about?

It will cultivate and sustain enterprise across the North East by supporting the over 50s to start up businesses, including social enterprises. It will support budding entrepreneurs with pre-start-up, start-up, incubation and development advice and guidance, as well as assistance with business planning, business systems and processes. Local expertise will be harnessed to create a volunteer-led support network to help older people facing unemployment / redundancy to set up and sustain businesses and social enterprises.

What will the project achieve?

It will create 180 direct new jobs over three years and 68 indirect new jobs through the creation of 180 new businesses started by the over 50s.

Who is leading the project?

The Prince's Initiative for Mature Enterprise (PRIME)

How much ERDF investment?

£346,242

Priority 2: Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£692,484

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Georgie Nelson, Head of Fundraising and Partnerships at PRIME on 020 3137 8531, email georgie.nelson@prime.org.uk or visit www.prime.org.uk

North Bank of the Tyne Newcastle

What is the project about?

A range of infrastructure works will enable the development of key riverside sites on the North Bank of the Tyne in Newcastle. The project comprises two inter-related packages of works:

- 1. creation of a new heavy load route through improvement works on existing highways
- 2. remediation and stabilisation of a vacant plot of land to make it useable for development

What will the project achieve?

It will make the area more attractive to existing and potential investors, increasing economic activity and enabling the area to better compete for the opportunities arising from the Round 3 North Sea wind farms and the ongoing offshore oil and gas sector opportunities. It will also facilitate the expansion plans of key investors in the area and enable the local supply chain of SMEs to expand. The project will indirectly create and safeguard a large number of jobs and reclaim 0.942 hectares of brownfield land.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle City Council

How much ERDF investment? £2,479,999

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £4,960,000

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Claire Prospert, Programme Manager at Newcastle City Council on 0191 211 5693, email claire.prospert@newcastle.gov.uk or visit www.newcastle.gov.uk

BIC ICT Infrastructure and Growth Hub Project

What is the project about?

It aims to bring better IT and communications facilities to a minimum of 100 SMEs and provide coworking facilities for small and micro businesses, improving their business performance. Five distinct parts of the project are designed to bring benefits to SMEs, these are: Cloud Computing Migration; Infrastructure Expansion; Communications Upgrade; Creation of a co-working, growth hub space; and business support.

What will the project achieve?

At least 100 SMEs will gain improved IT and communications facilities to improve their business performance in terms of efficiency and productivity by end September 2014. The project aims to create a co-working hub which will help support 15 micro-businesses and improve the performance in 13.

Who is leading the project?

North East Business and Innovation Centre Ltd (NE-BIC)

How much ERDF investment? £342,469

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £684,938

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact David Oliver, Information and Contracts Manager at the NE-BIC on 0191 516 6115, email <u>david.oliver@ne-bic.co.uk</u> or visit <u>www.ne-bic.co.uk</u>.

Teal Farm Park Phase II

What is the project about?

It will see the construction of high specification terraced business units at Teal Farm Park in Washington.

What will the project achieve?

The development will comprise four sustainable, quality units ranging 4-7,000 sq ft giving a total of 1,765 sq m of space, constructed to BREEAM very good standard. The units are aimed at SMEs in the start-up or move-on stage and are suitable for manufacturing or distribution purposes. Six jobs will be created as a result of the development which will be built by March 2014 with the first tenants moving in by June 2014.

Who is leading the project?

Hellens Investments (Washington) LLP

How much ERDF investment?

£674,325

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,348,650

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Gavin Cordwell Smith, Managing Partner at Hellens Investments on 0191 418 0020, email gavin.cordwell-smith@hellens.co.uk or website www.hellens.co.uk

DigitalCity: Boho 5

What is the project about?

It is aiming to provide opportunities to accelerate the development of new and emerging businesses in the digital and creative sector by building Boho 5, business accommodation designed specifically for the digital and creative sectors. It is located on the corner of Bridge Street East and Winward Way inn Middlesbrough inn an area known as the Boho Zone – the digital and creative quarter in the heart of the town. It is also the centre of business activity for the DigitalCity initiative established in 2005 through a partnership between Teesside University and Middlesbrough Council.

What will the project achieve?

It will ensure the development of 24,293 sq ft of new business floorspace by end 2014, reclaiming 0.588 ha of brownfield land. By December 2015 the project will see the creation of 37 new jobs and 105 by end 2017.

Who is leading the project?

Middlesbrough Council

How much ERDF investment? £2.099.067

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £4,198,357

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Richard Horniman, Economic Development and Estates Manager at Middlesbrough Council on 01642 729568, email Richard.horniman@middlesbrough.gov.uk or visit www.middlesbrough.gov.uk

Supporting Business Growth and Attracting Investment to NewcastleGateshead and the North East

What is the project about?

It is aiming to contribute to the growth of the North East economy through winning increased investment, encouraging growth within the existing business base and building the amount of national and international conferences hosted by the North East. This will be carried out by two interconnecting themes of Invest and Meet. 'Invest' is attracting investment to the area, increasing the profile on a national and international level and also support businesses expanding in the region ensuring they are embedded into the area and local supply chain. 'Meet' is using a proactive approach in securing international and national conferences through NewcastleGateshead's Convention Bureau allowing the conferences to be used as a vehicle for both showcasing the North East to potential investors and as a way of generating leads for investment.

What will the project achieve?

The project is helping improve the performance of 120 SMEs, attract 20 businesses to NewcastleGateshead and the wider North East, create 60 jobs and improving the performance of the local supply chain through increased investment.

Who is leading the project?

NewcastleGateshead Initiative

How much ERDF investment? £387,610

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £775,220

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Kathie Wilcox, Head of Development at NewcastleGateshead Initiative on 0191 440 5720, email Kathie.wilcox@ngi.org.uk or visit www.newcastlegateshead.com

Renewable Energy Technology Centre Limited (RETA)

What is the project about?

The programme has been developed to collaborate with industry; encouraging and supporting companies in North East England to develop new products across the supply chain for the offshore renewable energy market. RETA is working with manufacturing and engineering companies to take forward specific technology development projects in key areas of the offshore renewables supply chain, introduce innovative products and services to market, create and safeguard jobs and accelerate research, development and demonstration projects. The programme is being supported by both investment and technology support from Narec.

What will the project achieve?

Specialist technology transfer support is being provided to enhance the capabilities of 70 SMEs in the North East by December 2015, creating 22 jobs, safeguarding 35.

Who is leading the project?

National Renewable Energy Centre (Narec)

How much ERDF investment?

£1,391,370

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £2,738,015

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact James Battensby, Business Development and Technical Bid Manager at Narec on 01670 543016, email <u>james.battensby@narec.co.uk</u> or visit <u>www.narec.co.uk</u>

Rural Growth Network Business Support Project

What is the project about?

The project is supporting economic growth and seeking the economic re-balancing of rural communities in Northumberland, Durham and Gateshead by providing support to individuals and businesses through better, localised access to business and enterprise support services. This is being achieved through the delivery of specialist rural enterprise and business support services such

as targeted workshops, light touch support and intensive one-to-one support, aimed at increasing the rate of rural start-ups and growth, including social enterprises.

What will the project achieve?

It will generate support for 132 new start-up SMEs and 234 SMEs will see an improved performance as a result of the intervention. In addition, 136 jobs will be created, 47 will be safeguarded and 260 individuals will be enterprise ready.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland County Council

How much ERDF investment? £819.625

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,639,250

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Ray Browning, North East Rural Growth Network Manager on 01670 623 952 or visit www.northumberland.gov.uk

North East Creative Industries SME Development (Continuation)

What is the project about?

The project is aiming to support, build and sustain commercially successful creative and digital businesses in the North East and help them to exploit new technology to their advantage and compete effectively in national and global markets. This project will provide a bespoke solution for the needs of the North East commercial creative industries and help rebalance the regional economy by driving growth in the sector, and also work to support and retain regional activity that provides jobs and income to the region The North East will also benefit from Northern Film & Media's ability to draw inward investment into the region through major film and television production.

What will the project achieve?

The project will contribute to the success of the North East by increasing GVA and turnover for SMEs, increase employment and enhance the skills base. It will boost the local economy through the supply chain as a result of the growth of the creative industries and increase national and international recognition for the North East as a place to work, live and visit. It will assist 70 SMEs, create 30 jobs and safeguard 70 and attract or create four new businesses.

Who is leading the project?

Northern Film and Media

How much ERDF investment? £387,600

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,190,599

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact John tulip at Northern Film and Media on 0191 440 4561, email john@northernmedia.org or visit www.northernmedia.org

iNorthumberland Digital Economy Programme

What is the project about?

The iNorthumberland Digital Economy Programme is creating access to an improved broadband network infrastructure for businesses in Northumberland, ensuring their sustainability, competitiveness and growth. A specialised and innovative online resource known as the Digital Economy Centre for Excellence will also be developed and is aiming to provide an innovative digital business support package hosting a wealth of resources which can be streamed live, interactive or downloaded on demand. This will ensure that businesses get the support they need, when they need it, reinventing the way in which business support is traditionally delivered.

The programme will be delivered by Arch, Northumberland's Development Company. ERDF investment will only be used to fund last mile connectivity; infrastructure that is 'necessary and sufficient' to connect eligible SMEs to a core Point of Presence (PoP) – which is the point at which the local network connects to the national network.

What will the project achieve?

It is anticipated that over 2,600 businesses will benefit from this connectivity. The Digital Economy Centre for Excellence is aiming to attract 2,119 active SME users by 2015. This resource will lead to 293 jobs being created, 20 safeguarded and increase the number of businesses that have a broadband connection from 79.8% to 95% by 2015.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland County Council

How much ERDF investment?

£2.745.360

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £5,490,720

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Fay Cooper, Client Services Manager, iNorthumberland Broadband Team, on 01670 623877, email fay.cooper@northumberland.gov.uk or visit www.inorthumberland.gov.uk

The Jesmond

What is the project about?

The project will see regeneration on the site of the former Jesmond Picture House creating modern, sustainable office accommodation. The four-storey new building, located directly opposite West Jesmond Metro station will comprise 3 floors of office accommodation for SMEs above a ground floor boasting two retail units, with a basement to accommodate mechanical plant, computer servers and storage.

The Jesmond will provide modern, sustainable office accommodation in a high quality designed building that will aspire to achieve a BREEAM rating of Excellent, with large floor plates to afford maximum flexibility and increased demand.

What will the project achieve?

It will provide accommodation for at least 9 separate businesses and 90 full time employees.

Who is leading the project?

MK (The Jesmond) Limited

How much ERDF investment?

£1,485,728

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£3,777,416

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Sunal Mehra, Managing Director of MK (The Jesmond) Limited on 0191 222 9800 or email sunil@mehra.com

Resource Efficiency Pathway to Sustainable Growth

What is the project about?

Teesside University's School of Science and Engineering will provide a wide range of specialist consultancy and support to regional SMEs in the areas of Environmental Improvements, Carbon Management, ICT based Management Information Systems, Innovation and Resource Efficiency and Industrial Symbiosis and Waste Management. A programme of activities will be delivered including an innovative awards scheme to encourage businesses to review their operational and environmental position and a fully serviced North East Industrial Symbiosis Network.

What will the project achieve?

As a direct result of the project 156 new and existing SMEs will receive help to improve their performance, and 24 jobs will be created and 10 safeguarded.

Who is leading the project?

Teesside University

How much ERDF investment? £1,016,665

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £2,033,331

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact David Pratt at Teesside University on 01642 384413, email david.pratt@tees.ac.uk or visit www.tees.ac.uk

North Eastern LEP Enterprise Zone: A19 Ultra Low Carbon Vehicle Corridor (Phases 1 and 2 – Masterplanning, Strategic Energy and Infrastructure Works)

What is the project about?

The North East Local Enterprise Partnership's Enterprise Zone coverage within Sunderland - known as the A19 Ultra Low Carbon Vehicles Corridor - embraces an area of 32.5 hectares, located immediately to the west of the A19 and north of the A1231. ERDF investment is accelerating the infrastructure and enabling works at the 10 hectare strategic employment site owned by Sunderland City Council which comprises the part opposite to the Nissan Factory, A19, A1231 and Leamside railway line, unlocking the Enterprise Zone site for development. 16 hectares of adjoining council land is integral to the road and energy infrastructure works, and also forms part of the project. Specifically the project is supporting: surveys – topographical, ecological, geo-technical, traffic study; masterplanning; utilities works (including removal/diversion of overhead lines); and highways infrastructure.

What will the project achieve?

When the work is complete, the site will be focusing on growing the mass production of ultra low carbon technology and advanced manufacture, supporting local environmentally-friendly energy businesses and helping Sunderland become a world leader in the emerging market for low carbon research and development. Development will lead to a serviced employment site capable of accommodating around 90,000 sq m of employment floorspace and create 204 temporary construction jobs. The project is also expected to indirectly create approximately 1,500 new jobs and encourage approximately £55m private sector investment. Work is expected to be completed by spring 2016.

Who is leading the project?

Sunderland City Council

How much ERDF investment? £5.379.841

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £10,759,682

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact <u>James.garland@sunderland.gov.uk</u> on 0191 561 1158; <u>Lynsey.barnes@sunderland.gov.uk</u> on 0191 561 1611 or Helen.campbell@sunderland.gov.uk on 0191 305 1121 or visit www.sunderland.gov.uk

Business and Intellectual Property Centre

What is the project about?

The project will deliver specialist Intellectual Property development, protection and commercialisation assistance to 145 SMEs through a partnership between the City Library (Newcastle City Council), Newcastle Science City and the University of Northumbria. ERDF investment will ensure a central gateway/hub for innovation and business development is created, enabling access to an exclusive range of business online resources and materials. The project will operate from the Newcastle City Library which is open every day of the week, and will be co-ordinated by Newcastle City Council and delivered by the staff from the City Libraries and two partners: Newcastle Science City and Northumbria University. The project also has the strategic support of the Intellectual Property Office and the British Library, providing access to world class resources and business qualified information experts which will add value and a route to a national network of information and expertise.

What will the project achieve?

The project will strengthen the innovation of local businesses by protecting newly developed products and services, will increase the performance of 132 new and existing businesses, establish a business hub for IP related business activities and improve the access to expertise across the North East through the regional library network and use of technology. In addition to this, 40 jobs will be created and 60 safeguarded.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle City Council

How much ERDF investment? £614,834

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £1,229,668

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Claire Prospert, at Newcastle City Council on 0191 211 5693, email Claire.prospert@newcastle.gov.uk or visit www.newcastle.gov.uk

Design for Growth

What is the project about?

Design for Growth will deliver a programme of interventions aimed at supporting North East SMEs to become better purchasers and regular users of design services. The project will also enable access to funds and mentors leading to investment in design related product development and ultimately a

stronger business base. Five strands of activity will be delivered which vary from investment of up to £20,000 towards the design component of their new product development to five-day support packages, specific help to those companies wishing to improve their design performance and procurement events to help generate national and international opportunities.

What will the project achieve?

ERDF investment will able RTC North to work with SMEs to help access funds and mentors leading to investment in design related product development and ultimately a stronger business base. The project will help 248 businesses improve their performance, create 90 jobs and safeguard 150.

Who is leading the project?

RTC North Ltd

How much ERDF investment? £688.612

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £1,427,053

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Sarah Hart at RTC North on 0191 516 4400, email Sarah.hart@rtcnorth.co.uk or visit www.rtcnorth.co.uk

Northumberland Business Development Support Programme 2012-2015

What is the project about?

The project is aiming to increase the number of businesses in Northumberland and provide assistance to help ensure their survival and growth. The delivery of specialist enterprise and business support and improvement services will: increase the rate of business start-up and growth in Northumberland; raise the quality of support provided to businesses and entrepreneurs; introduce innovation and competition to the market for enterprise and business support; and establish a flexible approach to meet changing circumstances, opportunities and needs over time. Key areas of support include targeted and effective enterprise support; providing access to services that support and enable the growth of businesses; and a specialised business support service to social enterprises across Northumberland.

What will the project achieve?

The project will increase the start-up and growth of Northumberland businesses by providing advice and mentoring to generate 275 new start-ups; support and advice to 380 SMEs (including social enterprises) to help them thrive and grow leading to 297 businesses assisted with improved performance, 325 new jobs created and 180 jobs safeguarded.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland County Council

How much ERDF investment? £887.947

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,775,895

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Heather Smith, Northumberland County Council on 01670 623883, email heather.smith@northumberland.gov.uk or visit www.northumberland.gov.uk

Vaux Redevelopment Phase 1 – Advance Infrastructure Works

What is the project about?

Phase 1 of the Vaux development will accelerate the unlocking of employment land at the brownfield site in Sunderland, facilitating the wider regeneration of the city centre. Infrastructure works will be carried out at one of the North East's largest brownfield sites, with scope to develop 50,000-66,000m2 of commercial floorspace, as well as riverside residential units. ERDF investment will improve vehicular and pedestrian access to the Vaux site and create a new public square, with pedestrian links integrating the site into the urban make-up of the city centre. Remodelling St Mary's Way and creating a public square will establish a new gateway, crucial to the success of the business district by improving the connection between Vaux, the city centre and the rest of Sunderland.

What will the project achieve?

As a result of the project, 8.3 ha brownfield land will be redeveloped or brought forward for development. The project is predicted to generate private sector investment of around £200million, create approximately 4,000 job opportunities, reinvigorate Sunderland city centre supporting long term economic revival.

Who is leading the project?

Sunderland City Council

How much ERDF investment?

£2,257,713

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £4,515,427

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact <u>James.garland@sunderland.gov.uk</u>, <u>Lynsey.barnes@sunderland.gov.uk</u> or Helen.campbell@sunderland.gov.uk or visit www.sunderland.gov.uk

Music Futures

What is the project about?

Generator is a leading music development agency and currently has a full remit to prepare, support and develop music enterprise and the raw talent to feed it. This project will deliver comprehensive business support provision to 200 new and existing SMEs predominantly within the music sector, however approximately 15% of available provision will be made accessible to other creative SMEs from the games, software, digital, media, film and TV sub-sectors.

The programme will cover three key areas of intervention each representing an opportunity for SMEs to change and refine their business model, create income diversification and growth. The interventions will result in improved performance in various aspects of the SMEs performance including: Improved productivity and performance; Cost efficiencies; Better margins; Improved digital marketing campaigns; Better market information and speed of response; Easier and more compelling customer experience based upon enhanced customer and client understanding; Additional revenue streams; and Improved and expanding digital distribution channels.

What will the project achieve?

Music Futures will help close the productivity gap in the North East by providing a comprehensive programme of support to SMEs in the music and creative sectors ensuring an increased take up of digital technologies, improved performance and creating employment. As a direct result of this, 200 new and existing SMEs will receive help developing workforce skills, help 40 potential entrepreneurs become enterprise-ready, create 100 jobs and safeguard 70 jobs. The project would also see create or attract 42 businesses to the North East.

Who is leading the project?

Generator North East

How much ERDF investment? £600,000

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,200,000

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Josephine Thornton, Director – Resources at Generator North East on 0191 255 4461, email: <u>jo@generator.org.uk</u> or visit <u>www.generator.org.uk</u>

Former Swan Hunter Site Low Carbon Enterprise Zone

What is the project about?

Wallsend's former shipyard site is being transformed to allow critical initial momentum to stimulate private sector investment. ERDF will ensure enabling works are carried out including: quay edge repairs and strengthening; dredging of quay edge to allow larger vessel access; improved highway infrastructure and utility provision to the site. The quay edge improvements will act as stimulation for further investment and job creation by opening up the river access for businesses. The infrastructure works will be sufficient to commit developers to the site who will benefit from being part of an Enterprise Zone.

What will the project achieve?

The transformation will change the face of the river from that associated with the traditional industries to a key location for modern, high-technology offshore and marine renewable companies. By bringing the important site back into use sustainable high value jobs will be created and safeguarded. This will have a positive impact on supply chain businesses and also enhance the area's reputation for delivering high quality manufacturing through a highly skilled workforce.

Who is leading the project?

North Tyneside Council

How much ERDF investment? £6.800.112

Priority 1 - Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £13,600,226

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Ken Wilson, Head of Generation, Development and Regulatory Services at North Tyneside Council on 0191 643 6611, email ken.wilson@northtyneside.gov.uk or visit www.northtyneside.gov.uk

Stimulating Business Growth in the North East

What is the project about?

SMEs will receive help to grow their business helping increase economic growth in the North East. Each eligible SME will receive a minimum of 12 hours business support to help identify their growth potential resulting in over 3,200 businesses being assisted with improved performance. The project will offer a subsidy up to a maximum of 40% to help the SMEs access external expertise to achieve their growth plans. The project is building on a successful project delivered by Northumberland Business Service Limited since April 2011. As a result of this work NBSL identified a huge and increasing demand for such help for businesses and developed this second project to complement and replace the first, ensuring even more SMEs will reap the rewards.

What will the project achieve?

The project will assist nearly 500 new SMEs and around 2,780 established SMEs, resulting in creating 750 jobs, playing an important role in strengthening the North East's business base contributing to the growth of the local and national economy.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland Business Service Limited (NBSL)

How much ERDF investment?

£5,994,346

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£11,988,695

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Phil Langton, Chief Executive Officer at NBSL on 01670 813322, email phil.langton@nbsl.org.uk or visit www.nbsl.org.uk

River Tyne Energy and Innovation Centre

What is the project about?

This project will refurbish buildings within the former Swan Hunters Shipyard in Wallsend. The site lies within the River Tyne North Bank Enterprise Zone and will create a new business centre providing business accommodation for SMEs and business incubation space and associated services for new SMEs totalling 1,125 lettable square meters and a specialist R&D/training facility of 375 lettable square meters. The centre will focus on the sub-sea, marine oil and gas and offshore renewable energy sectors and will link to the employers on the wider Enterprise Zone site.

A range of office and workshop space will be developed in a range of sizes, ranging from small units of 35 square metres to larger units covering 150 square metres. Incubation services will be provided to businesses located at the Centre. This will be dictated by demand from businesses, being responsive to their individual needs.

What will the project achieve?

It will develop 1,500m2 of lettable business premises, creating a business incubator as part of the regeneration of a key site in North Tyneside.

Who is leading the project?

North Tyneside Council

How much ERDF investment? £2,250,000

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £4,500,000

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Gill Alexander, Strategic Director for Children, Young People and Learning at North Tyneside Council on 0191 643 8001 or email gill.alexander@northtyneside.gov.uk

Sustainable Enterprise

What is the project about?

The project will provide free support to potential entrepreneurs and new and existing social enterprises across the North East to help them become more competitive, sustainable and to grow in size and turnover. North East Social Enterprise Partnership (NESEP) is leading the consortium project and comprises a number of third sector organisations including Sustainable Enterprise Strategies CIC, VODA, GVOC, New Leaf New Life, Locality and Community Ventures (Middlesbrough) Ltd. Beneficiaries will receive a diagnostic session to determine their needs, two to five days of support tailored to the identified needs; expert support around key issues including governance; legal structures and marketing as well as workshops on business topics approached from a social enterprise perspective and meeting identified needs from the social enterprise sector. Clients will receive a maximum of five days support and if are then considered in need of further support they will be referred as appropriate.

What will the project achieve?

The project will assist 300 social enterprise SMEs with business support aimed at helping them to become more sustainable and to grow; assist 150 social enterprise SMEs with improved business performance; safeguard 100 jobs in social enterprises; create jobs in 50 social enterprises; support the creation of 10 new social enterprise SMEs, at least eight of which will remain trading after 12 months; support 30 potential social entrepreneurs to be enterprise ready and create 49 net jobs and £1.69m net GVA in the North East.

Who is leading the project?

North East Social Enterprise Partnership (NESEP)

How much ERDF investment? £806.414

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,612,831

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Hannah Garrard, Development Manager at NESEP on 0191 427 2150, email hgarrad@nesep.co.uk or visit www.nesep.co.uk.

Northern Economic Futures

What is the project about?

The Northern Economic Futures Commission is a 10 year strategy being developed for economic growth across the North of England (i.e. the North West, Yorkshire and Humber and North East). ERDF investment will be used to broaden the scope and depth of the work programme as it relates to the North East of England. It will focus on eight areas of enquiry with strong synergies with the Europe 2020 strategy and emerging post 2013 programme priorities. This is intended to help local, sub-regional and regional players to maximise input and contributions to addressing post 2013 funding opportunities.

What will the project achieve?

ERDF investment will enable:

- additional research and analysis to be undertaken in respect of the North East of England;
- a separate report to be produced setting out the implications of the Northern Economic Futures Commission for Europe 2020, European structural funds and issues of territorial cohesion by March 2013; and
- a North East 'Regional Report' to be produced which will set out a) the specific implications of the Commission's work for the region and its constituent Local Enterprise Partnerships; b) how these implications relate to the on-going development of European programmes at the regional level by March 2013.

Who is leading the project?

Institute for Pubic Policy Research (IPPR)

How much ERDF investment? £16,705

Priority 3 – Technical Assistance

How much total investment? £33,410

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Edward Cox, Director of IPPR on 0191 233 9050, email <u>e.cox@ippr.org</u> or visit <u>www.ippr.org/north</u>

Evaluation of Publicly Funded SME Finance

What is the project about?

The project will commission work to assess the economic impact of publicly funded Venture Capital and Loan Funds and Financial Engineering Instruments which have operated in the North East. The work will:

- Identify gaps between current supply of, and demand for, SME finance;
- Evaluate how successful historical funds have been in contributing to local growth and meeting their objectives and understand the factors associated with performance;
- Consider the opportunities for leveraging all types of external finance (eg ERDF 2014-20, Bank, Pension Funds, High Net Worth Individuals, European Investment Bank, UK Govt and other relevant initiatives) to augment legacies and understand the constraints that accompany those funding streams:
- Provide an evidential base to inform the development of a future fund(s) proposal, identify best practice both in and beyond the North East and lessons learned.

What will the project achieve?

A report will be produced containing a clear set of conclusions and recommendations which will support North East Access 2 Finance in making proposals for future fund(s) and provide stakeholders, such as Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) and Capital for Enterprise Learning (CfEL), with a robust evidence base for future deliberations on access to finance provision.

Who is leading the project?

North East Access to Finance Limited (NEA2F)

How much ERDF investment? £49,999

Priority 3 – Technical Assistance

How much total investment? £100,000

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact Kay Goodinson, Legacy Programme Manager on 0191 481 3854, email kay.goodinson@nea2f.cco.uk or visit www.nea2f.cco.uuk

Growth Through International Trade

What is the project about?

The project is being delivered by Go Global Ltd, a private company set up by three partners to deliver the project; RTC North; NEPIC and North East Chamber of Commerce. The project will assist SMEs in the North East to prepare for export of their goods and services and to investigate new overseas markets in order to deliver a measurable improvement in their business performance and competitiveness through international trade.

What will the project achieve?

The competitiveness of North East businesses will be increased by improving their capacity to export and investigate potential new markets, leading to the creation of 518 net new jobs, help for 450 new SMEs and 1,200 existing SMEs and an £31m increase in GVA.

Who is leading the project?

Go Global Ltd

How much ERDF investment?

£3,266,130

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £7,412,024

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Sarah Hart, Business Development Manager at Go Global Ltd on 0191 5164400, email Sarah.hart@rtcnorth.co.uk or visit www.rtcnorth.co.uk

DigitalCity: Garages to Global

What is the project about?

It will provide intensive business support for digital technology, digital media and creative SMEs, primarily but not exclusively based in the Tees Valley area. Targeted support will be given to businesses with growth potential, providing the opportunity to go from start-up to high-growth as quickly and efficiently as possible i.e. from garages to global. Support will include - among others - intensive 10-day workshops, specialist mentoring and coaching to businesses, support for sales development and financing, support to access UK and international markets, support with access to finance and networking. Support would be provided on a subsided basis with beneficiaries contributing towards the costs of provision.

What will the project achieve?

The project is an extension of the current ERDF project Digital City Business and by the introduction of fees for services will support a move to a more commercial approach less dependent upon public sector investment. Garages to Global would deliver support to 200 SMEs and create 130 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Middlesbrough Council

How much ERDF investment?

£1,074,000

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£2,148,000

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Mark Elliott, Project Director at DigitalCity Business on 01642 248 692, email mark.elliott@dcbusiness.eu or visit www.dcbusiness.eu

Technical Assistance – North East LEP

What is the project about?

This project will create two temporary posts (1.5 FTE) to strengthen the administrative support available to the Local Management Committee (LMC) Deputy Chair and support the Northeast Local Enterprise Partnership's (NELEP) engagement with the ERDF Programme. The part time administrative post (equivalent to 50% of FTE) is dedicated to servicing the LMC Deputy Chair for approximately two years up to March 2014, coinciding with the key delivery period remaining for the implementation of the 2007-2013 Programme. This post will be employed by Northumberland County

Council and will operate from the offices of the NE ERDF Delivery Team on a co-location basis. The full time ERDF LEP Policy and Strategy Co-ordinator post will co-ordinate and develop NELEP Strategy to help projects utilise the remaining ERDF funding and any available match funding. It will co-ordinate, develop and support NELEP and local partners, input into ERDF Calls seeking to bring initiatives such as RGF and Growing Places to match with ERDF. This post will also be employed by Northumberland County Council and then seconded to and operate from the offices of the NELEP Team.

What will the project achieve?

The role of the LMC Deputy Chair will be strengthened through increased policy and strategy coordination between LEPs and the ERDF Programme and dedicated administrative support. By supporting the Deputy Chair to engage more effectively with partners at a senior level and increasing the NELEP's capacity to engage fully with the ERDF Programme and bring forward high quality investment proposals maximise partner engagement with the Programme the project is wholly consistent with the OP in respect of supporting the work of the PMC (LMC) and strengthening the governance of the ERDF Programme.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland County Council

How much ERDF investment? £72,218

Priority 3 – Technical Assistance

How much total investment? £144,436

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Iain Ogilvie at Northumberland County Council on 01670 623 878 or email iain.ogilvie@northumberland.gov.uk. Alternatively visit www.northumberland.gov.uk.

Community Enterprise Coaching for Under-represented Groups

What is the project about?

It will deliver a package of enterprise coaching activities to 658 disadvantaged individuals from under-represented targeted groups, predominantly in Sunderland but also coverage in East Durham, Newcastle West and South Tyneside. The project is aimed at individuals facing significant barriers to enterprise including lack of confidence, little or no awareness of business support services available and cultural barriers. The main beneficiaries will be women, BME (Black Minority Ethnic), tenants of Registered Social Landlords and individuals from deprived communities. Support will include activities delivered in the heart of the community such as workshops; enterprise awareness within places like community centres; working closely to develop an action plan and address issues such as confidence; support to explore appropriate business models and sign-posting some beneficiaries to mainstream business support services.

What will the project achieve?

As a direct result of the project; 329 jobs will be created, 213 businesses will be created in disadvantaged areas and 165 potential entrepreneurs will go on to access other business support services.

Who is leading the project?

Sustainable Enterprise Strategies

How much ERDF investment? £489,608

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £979,220

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Mark Saddington, Director of Sustainable Enterprise Strategies on 0191 565 0476 or email mark@ses.coop or visit www.ses.coop

The Core

What is the project about?

The flagship project will develop a seven storey "Gateway" building on the Science Central site, an integral and key part of Newcastle Science City Innovation Connector. Science Central is a 12 hectare site at the edge of Newcastle City Centre and the focus for a new urban quarter aimed at facilitating the commercialisation of research, science-led innovation and knowledge intensive employment generation and new company formation, building on the world-wide research strengths of Newcastle University. As the first building on site it will act as a catalyst for the wider development of Science Central. The project will be developed and delivered in partnership by Newcastle City Council and Newcastle University.

What will the project achieve?

The Gateway building will be a state of the art facility providing incubation and speculative office space for SMEs in the knowledge base economy, including a facility for Continuous Professional Development focussed on the development needs of knowledge based businesses. ERDF eligible floorspace will be 4,336m² of which 3,299m² will be net lettable space. The flexible design of the building will allow for a range of sizes of business units (15m² minimum), responsive to market demand from new and growing companies. The development will see the creation of 163 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle City Council

How much ERDF investment? £5,629,623

Priority 1 - Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £11,259,247

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Colin MacPherson, Director of Development on 0191 211 3016, colinmacpherson@newcastlesciencecentral.com or visit www.newcastle.gov.uk

Company Recovery Continuation

What is the project about?

ERDF will be used to extend the reach, scope and duration of pathfinder - an existing successful project. Investment will allow the project to continue to operate, helping a greater number of companies and by doing so increase the competitiveness of regional businesses in order that these businesses can grow in challenging economic conditions;

What will the project achieve?

The project has thus far created 77 jobs and safeguarded 1,581 jobs and should, during the continuation phase create a further 20 jobs and safeguard 300 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Entrust

How much ERDF investment?

£212,776

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment? £425,552

Where can I go for more information?

Call Entrust on (0191) 244 4000.

Delivering Energy Efficient Low Carbon Sustainable Industry (DEELOCSI)

What is the project about?

A range of support measures will help SMEs across the North East improve their environmental management. It is aimed at SMEs within the process industries ie manufacturing, engineering, logistics, measurement service, financial and training and will be delivered by a core team employed by the North East of England Process Industry Cluster Limited (NEPIC). The project is aimed at ensuring manufacturing organisations and supply chain companies become more proficient in managing key issues such as resources efficiency, energy efficiency and de-carbonisation in order to remain competitive in process sector markets where purchasers and raw material buyers are requesting suppliers to demonstrate that they are resource efficient, lowering their carbon footprint and green credentials.

What will the project achieve?

A series of workshops will be delivered which will result in over 100 SMEs being assisted with improved performance and/or environmental management and/or energy efficiency. As a result 25 jobs will be created and 150 safeguarded.

Who is leading the project?

The North East of England Process Industry Cluster Limited (NEPIC)

How much ERDF investment? £746,025

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,496,080

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Dr Stan Higgins, CEO NEPIC on 01642 442560, email stan.higgins@nepic.co.uk or visit www.nepic.co.uk

Tees Valley Unlimited ERDF Support 2012-2015

What is the project about?

It is continuation funding to allow Tees Valley Unlimited to continue to provide a technical assistance role throughout the Tees Valley to help deliver the current 2007-13 Programme but also to assist in the preparation and delivery of the new 2014-2020 Programme. A key focus will be the co-ordination and development of the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) Strategy to prioritise the remaining ERDF and other match funding – Regional Growth Fund (RGF) and Growing Places Fund (GPL) – within the Tees Valley area.

What will the project achieve?

This project will enable TVU to continue to support DCLG and the Tees Valley Local Authorities in contributing towards achieving the region's targets. It will support the Tees Valley LEP to maximise the synergy and coordination between ERDF, RGF, GPL etc where eligible, thus supporting efforts to ensure ERDF N+2 targets are met.

Who is leading the project?

Stockton Borough Council

How much ERDF investment? £361.371

Priority 3 – Technical Assistance

How much total investment? £722.742

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Sue Donnelly Investment Planning Manager at Tees Valley Unlimited on 01642 524422, email sue.donnelly@teesvalleyunlimited.gov.uk or visit www.teesvalleyunlimited.gov.uk

Business Generator

What is the project about?

The project involves the delivery of a programme comprising four linked activities incorporating a variety of workshops engaging with eligible businesses over a two-year period. Workshops/events include mentoring and facilitated introductions to buyers will help support North East businesses. It will deliver a regional supplier development project that will increase the capability and capacity of SMEs in the North East to identify and win publicly and privately procured business opportunities. The project will be open to companies and third sector organisations.

What will the project achieve?

It will assist 270 eligible SMEs in their ability to identify opportunities, write and win new contracts and sales orders over a 24 month period. This will in turn create 30 jobs and safeguard 87 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Business and Enterprise Commercial Ltd

How much ERDF investment? £154.134

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £308,269

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Tracey Watson at Business and Enterprise Commercial Ltd on 0191 426 6100, email Tracey.watson@business-enterprise.net or visit www.business-enterprise.net

Redcar Business Space

What is the project about?

The project is located within the town centre of Redcar, Cleveland and forms part of the Redcar Regeneration Masterplan - a 15-year framework which sets out the council's strategy for the future to create a sustainable economic future for the borough. The overall aim is to create 2,062m² of managed workspace space of which 1,649m² (80%) is for use by ERDF eligible SMEs. The facility comprises two floors within the new Civic building which is being developed as part of the wider Redcar Leisure Community Heart scheme.

What will the project achieve?

The objective is to provide a long term facility to new SMEs requiring high quality managed workspace accommodation and to help deliver transformational change and regeneration within the borough of Redcar and Cleveland. In doing so it will create 24 new jobs, develop 0.2 hectares of brownfield land, construct 2,062m² managed workspace providing office accommodation, meeting rooms and break out areas for eligible SMEs. It will also achieve a BREEAM rating of *very good*, but will strive to achieve *excellent* rating through the integration of energy efficiency systems and use of environmentally friendly materials during construction.

Who is leading the project?

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council

How much ERDF investment? £1,546,907

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £3,093,814

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Lydia Scarth at Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council on (01642) 444 359 or email Lydia.scarth@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk or visit www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Washington Business Centre

What is the project about?

It will attract, start, and grow a range of businesses in Sunderland by providing a mix of high quality flexible hybrid workspace/office space and an appropriate technical and communications infrastructure. The project will support both new start up businesses and existing businesses that are currently home-based and businesses that are looking to move to more appropriate premises. Of the total businesses supported 20 will be new, three will be existing businesses attracted to the region and 11 will be existing businesses. The businesses will include those working in the area of electric vehicles (or other low carbon enterprises) that would like to be part of a hub of low carbon businesses and those who need slightly larger or more convenient premises.

What will the project achieve?

It will create up to 5,200m² of net lettable floor space and aims to create up to 155 gross jobs, and safeguard 62 jobs. There will be 25 offices and nine workshop units developed which will support 34 businesses during the first three years of the project life.

Who is leading the project?

Sunderland City Council

How much ERDF investment? £3,340,000

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£6,680,000

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Sunderland City Council's Lynsey Barnes on 0191 561 1661 or lynsey.barnes@sunderland.gov.uk or Berni Whitaker on 0191 305 1205 or berni.whitaker@sunderland.gov.uk. Alternatively visit www.sunderland.gov.uk.

Postgraduates for Business Support

What is the project about?

Business development interventions of up to 900 hours or 24 weeks will be funded for 110 North East businesses. Support will focus on business development and research projects in the fields of energy and environment, process industries, and healthcare and life sciences, with a particular emphasis on ageing and health, stem cells and regenerative medicine and sustainability. The support will be provided by students in the later stages of Masters and Doctoral studies, supported by Academic Supervisors. The students will be employed by the SMEs for the duration of the business support project with funding from the SME, ERDF and Newcastle University.

What will the project achieve?

The primary aim is to improve the innovation capacity of North East SMEs, through exposure to new techniques and learning, resulting in the development of new products or processes, and improved business performance. The secondary aim includes building the capacity of SMEs to specify their own business support needs, raising awareness of the expertise that higher education institutes can offer, and the value of employing highly qualified employees. It will create 39 new jobs and ensure 100 businesses see an improvement in their performance and 110 businesses will engage in new collaborations with the knowledge base.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle University

How much ERDF investment? £422,396

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £844,793

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Sarah Pederson at Newcastle University on 0191 222 3411 or email sarah.pederson@ncl.ac.uk or visit www.ncl.ac.uk

Novus 2 Business Centre

What is the project about?

East Durham Business Service Limited is an enterprise agency serving the eastern area of County Durham, and are taking a 20-year lease of the ground floor at Spectrum 7, Spectrum Business Park, County Durham in order to have the premises divided up into 26 office units, a conference room and three meeting rooms among other facilities. The accommodation will be offered with flexible terms to

new and recently established businesses. Tenants will be provided with access to all facilities, broadband, telephony service and a shared receptionist. The project aims to meet unmet demand for office space in East Durham and capitalise on the success of Novus 1 in Peterlee. The project will also provide a base to deliver the business support services of EDBS to start up and young businesses in this part of East Durham and consequently improve the survival chances of these enterprises.

What will the project achieve?

The project will bring back into use one floor of a currently vacant building – some 15,508 sq ft and so create 26 business units available to local new and young businesses. It is estimated that 12 businesses will be created by the end of year two creating 30 jobs and that 120 jobs will be created over the first 10 years of operation.

Who is leading the project?

East Durham Business Service Limited

How much ERDF investment? £448.466

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £896,932

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Peter Chapman, Chief Executive at East Durham Business Service Limited on 0191 586 3366 or email peter.chapman@edbs.co.uk or visit www.edbs.co.uk

Teesside University Graduate Enterprise (TUGE)

What is the project about?

The project will encourage enterprise start-ups among graduates and deliver specialised support to entrepreneurs and new and existing businesses. Increasing business survival is the key aim which will be achieved by business support from pre-start up to post-start up mentoring, continued business development training and membership of an enterprise alumni network.

What will the project achieve?

Four key strands of activity will help ensure that 71 new start-up businesses and 18 existing businesses receive support and help to grow and consequently increase turnover, profitability, and sales levels as well as see a reduction in production costs and a new IT system. The existing businesses will also benefit from staff development opportunities. In addition to this, 133 jobs will be created and 255 people will benefit from enterprise, business and personal development opportunities.

Who is leading the project?

Teesside University

How much ERDF investment?

£635.221

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,270,445

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact David Pratt at Teesside University on (01642) 384413 or email david.pratt@tees.ac.uk or visit www.tees.ac.uk

DigitalCity Innovation and Growth

What is the project about?

The project supports the DigitalCity initiative to nurture and grow digital and creative industries and retain graduate talent to develop digital skills. The project involves five key strands of activity: Innovation Lab and Fellowships, which will award 66 fellowships to aspiring entrepreneurs; Digital Industry Placement Programme, which will provide six-month postgraduate placements within SMEs operating in the digital and creative sectors; Community Engagement to help SMEs improve their performance; Digital Industry Specialists Workshop Programme as well as Foresighting and Networking Events. The project will be delivered by a team employed by the University, specifically for the project.

What will the project achieve?

- 257 new and existing SMEs to be assisted;
- 182 SMEs assisted with improved performance;
- 162 gross new jobs created;
- 66 new Collaborations with the knowledge base;
- 207 people in the workforce of SMEs working in collaboration with Innovation Connectors and/or Centres of Excellence, or those in organisations, assisted with skills development; and
- one integrated package of activity to embed the benefits of investments in innovation in disadvantaged communities.

Who is leading the project?

Teesside University

How much ERDF investment? £1.986.410

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £3,972,822

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact David Pratt at Teesside University on (01642) 384413 or email david.pratt@tees.ac.uk or visit www.tees.ac.uk

DigitalCity Stockton

What is the project about?

A Grade II listed building will be refurbished to provide 579m² of R&D space for use by SMEs within the digital and creative sectors. It will be available for micro and small enterprises via a range of licenses including direct tenancy, fold down desks and hot desks. As part of the DigitalCity Innovation Connector, occupants will have easy and direct access to business support measures currently offered via the Connector – specifically DigitalCity Business and those delivered by Teesside University.

What will the project achieve?

There will be 33 jobs created and 15 people in SMEs will receive help with their skills development. The project will also increase Stockton's contribution to the Creative Industries, boosting links between the established sector across the Tees Valley.

Who is leading the project?

Stockton Borough Council

How much ERDF investment? £519,503

Priority 1 - Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £1,025,006

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Ashley Briggs at Stockton Borough Council on (01642) 528198, email <u>ashley.briggs@stokcton.gov.uk</u> or visit <u>www.stockton.gov.uk</u>

NSC Business to Enterprise Hub E2B

What is the project about?

The project will target potential high-growth new businesses and entrepreneurs setting up businesses aligned with Newcastle Science City's themes of ageing and health, sustainability and stem cell/regenerative medicine. Business support will be provided to help new and emerging businesses to develop and grow quickly and unlock student/graduate entrepreneurial potential. The project will provide in-depth one-to-one business support to potential high-growth businesses being created in technology-based sectors by students and graduates of Newcastle University. Specialist tools including insight development (linking unmet needs to people wishing to establish businesses) will be

used to assist with business development and growth. The service will also provide peer to peer support such as mentoring and coaching and facilitated networking to accelerate collaboration.

What will the project achieve?

As a result of the business support 55 new jobs will be created and 18 safeguarded, with 73 businesses, new and existing, to receive help with improved performance and/or environmental management and engagement in new collaborations with knowledge base.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle Science Company Limited (NSCL)

How much ERDF investment? £465,001

Priority 1 - Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £930,000

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Estelle Chatard at NSCL on (0191) 231 2200, email estelle.chatard@newcsatlesciencecity.com or visit www.newcastlesciencecity.com

Developing Creative Industries in County Durham

What is the project about?

The project will support the start up of new creative industries in County Durham by delivering a series of pre-start workshops, coaching and mentoring to help people be enterprise ready. Eight programmes over a two-and-a-half year period will be delivered with 15 creative individuals receiving help in each programme to become enterprise ready and set up new creative businesses. It is based on a successful pilot project undertaken in 2010 and will be delivered by an external delivery organisation. The project will also act as a bridge between creative industries in County Durham and other business support services available in the North East, including North East Enterprise Agencies Ltd (NEEAL), Business and Enterprise Group's Investment for Growth, Digital City, Sunderland Software City, Generator and Northern Film and Media.

What will the project achieve?

The project will help 120 potential entrepreneurs to be enterprise ready, while creating 60 jobs and the same number of businesses and also help 24 businesses improve their performance. As well as improving the number of enquiries that then go on to start their own business, the project aims to increase the overall number of creative businesses in County Durham and increase the proportion of businesses that are within the creative industries to be nearer the regional average – with County Durham at 14% and the region at 19%.

Who is leading the project?

Durham County Council

How much ERDF investment? £165.000

Priority 2 - Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £330,000

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Sarah Slaven at Durham County Council at sarah.slaven@durham.gov.uk, call 03000 261 258 or visit www.durham.gov.uk

Improving SME Performance through Graduate Apprentices

What is the project about?

Improving the performance of regional SMEs by recruiting and funding the placement of recent graduates for a minimum period of three months is the aim of the project. Graduates will be employed by SMEs to undertake specific practical business projects including: business and product development; human resources; marketing; web development; research and streamlining IT systems. SMEs will be offered a subsidy of 50% per graduate towards their salary. The project will support the SME by: offering a recruitment service where businesses have no experience of employing graduates, reducing the cost to the SME; offering ongoing support to the SME and the graduate to enhance the opportunities for business growth and sustainability; and provision of bespoke business projects to suit the individual needs of the SME.

What will the project achieve?

The graduate support will help the business to grow and develop and help SMEs who would not normally be able to afford to employ graduate level individuals to do so. The project will recruit and select 160 graduates matched with the most appropriate business between January 2012 and September 2014. It is predicted that 79 jobs will be created and 144 SMEs assisted with improved performance and access to the range of services available through association with the University.

Who is leading the project?

University of Newcastle

How much ERDF investment? £839.437

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1.762.075

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Sarah Pederson at the University of Newcastle on (0191) 222 3411, email sarah.pederson@newcastle.ac.uk or visit www.ncl.ac.uk

Berwick Workspace Incubator

What is the project about?

The aim is to help new and existing SMEs based within the Berwick incubator workspace to increase their opportunities to grow and survive through the provision of intensive business support. It builds on previous ERDF investment in the capital facilities (£840,000 from 2000-2006 Objective 2 Programme) and £134,000 of revenue ERDF investment from the current programme to support the provision of mentoring and advice service. A more intensive level of incubation service was integral to the original concept of the Berwick incubator facility and was independently evidenced through an evaluation of the service conducted in 2011. Support provided through the project will be tailored to company's specific needs covering every aspect of running a business including: specialist support for the acquisition of new business processes and technology to increase efficiency/effectiveness and facilitating tenants networking to encourage inter-trading.

What will the project achieve?

The project is a key part of Northumberland County Council's overall Regeneration Strategy, 'Berwick's Future' to tackle a number of structural weaknesses in Berwick's economy. As a flagship project it seeks to raise local enterprise aspirations by providing a focus for SMEs. It will also provide an enhanced presence for business support, thereby improving the profile of, and access to, the business support network for the business community. This latest funding will ensure the creation of 30 jobs and help 21 businesses improve their performance.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland County Council

How much ERDF investment?

£192.428

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £384,856

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Carol Johns-Mcleod at Northumberland County Council at carol.johns-mcleod@northumberland.gov.uk or visit www.northumberland.gov.uk

Environmental Management Support Initiative

What is the project about?

The Environmental Academy will provide on average 10 days worth of experienced consultancy support with particular emphasis on Environmental Management and Carbon Reduction to regional

SMEs. An assessment of the SMEs environmental performance will be carried out which will follow an established framework and result in an action plan for the business. SMEs will be provided with a 'Green Apprentice' – the needs of the SME will be matched to the skills, aspirations and on-the-job training needs of the Apprentices. The 'Green Apprentices' will be placed within the SME for a 12 month period who will be required to attend a number of workshops delivered by the Academy. With combined support from the Environmental Academy and the 'Green Apprentice' the SME will seek to establish an ISO9001 compliant environmental management system and control framework to manage and monitor their environmental performance.

What will the project achieve?

120 SMEs will benefit from help given to improve their performance and improve their environmental management. The SMEs will directly contribute to achieving the Climate Change Act 2008's objectives of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 34% by 2020 and by 80% by 2050. With ongoing support from the Environmental Academy, the 'Green Apprentice' will help the SME to implement systems and processes to measure, monitor and reduce their carbon footprint.

Who is leading the project?

The Environmental Academy

How much ERDF investment? £511,206

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,406,810

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Rita Callender at The Environmental Academy on (0191) 495 6248, email rita@environmentalacademy.co.uk or visit www.environmental-academy.com

The Innovation Pathway North East

What is the project about?

It has been developed to reflect the needs of SMEs and help identify business opportunities in the healthcare sector in response to NHS reforms. It is aiming to provide SMEs with the required support needed to engage with the NHS and associated organisations to help take ideas through the innovation process and allow SMEs to position themselves to exploit newly merging technologies and product concepts. The project will be delivered by an eight-strong team of people employed by NHS Innovations North.

What will the project achieve?

All of the activity is geared towards helping SMEs to tap into markets presented by the healthcare sector and exploit opportunities where they would not have the required resource, skills or knowledge. It is projected that 65 new and existing businesses will receive help with innovation and 25 jobs will be created as a result.

Who is leading the project?

RTC North Ltd

How much ERDF investment? £559.016

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £1,118,034

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Dr Nicola Wesley, head of NHS Innovations North on (0191) 516 4400 or email nicola.wesley@nhsinnovationsnorth.org.uk or visit www.theinnovationpathwayne.org.uk or www.trcnorth.co.uk

NeST2

What is the project about?

The project will provide move-on space for businesses currently based at NeST in Barnard Castle – a DigitalCity rural satellite which opened in August 2010 consisting of studios, hot-desking space, gallery and a café providing enterprise coaching for digital and creative business users. The NeST premises are full with a waiting list so NeST2 will help ease the problem providing studios for 11 artists which can't be accommodated at NeST. NeST2 will be located in the Witham Hall, in the centre of Barnard Castle, providing a digital hub in refurbished space including an event hall and new build workspace that will accommodate up to 170 people with digital projection, video conferencing and translation facilities for microenterprises, small businesses and social enterprises to enable businesses to compete in a global market place from their rural location.

What will the project achieve?

The project will directly create or safeguard 15 jobs based in the refurbished premises and 32 businesses will be assisted – new and existing - as well as a further two social enterprises. By providing appropriate move-on space for the beneficiaries of NeST this initiative will continue to allow businesses based in Barnard Castle to grow and flourish sustaining and enhancing the entrepreneurial culture in the local area.

Who is leading the project?

Durham County Council

How much ERDF investment? £773.879

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,547,758

Where can I go for more information?

Live Theatre – The Schoolhouse

What is the project about?

Funding will allow the redevelopment of a historic building next to Live Theatre's complex of buildings on the Newcastle Quayside. The Grade II listed Schoolhouse will provide ideal premises for small or start-up businesses seeking good quality, quirky facilities boasting essential cabling for media communications. Located in the lower Ouseburn area tenants would be at the heart of a creative hub amidst other like minded businesses.

What will the project achieve?

The Schoolhouse project will transform 367 sq metres of specialist business premises opening to tenants in October 2012, providing rental accommodation for a minimum of five SMEs, ensuring nine new or safeguarded jobs in the first two years of opening. The project will also assist Live Theatre's future sustainability through the new capital asset.

Who is leading the project?

Live Theatre

How much ERDF investment? £460,430

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £920,858

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Gillian Firth, Marketing Manager at Live Theatre on (0191) 269 3498 or email gillian@live.org.uk or visit www.live.org.uk

Newcastle Enterprise Package Phase 2

What is the project about?

The project is a continuation of successful project activity delivered through Newcastle Enterprise Package Phase 1. Phase 2 will deliver similar intensive enterprise readiness and business support to individuals and businesses through three key themes: Helping develop the business acumen and ideas of entrepreneurial young people through a small package of support led by an Enterprise in Learning Co-ordinator; Business pre start/start up support through one-to-one support to individuals and VCS; and growing businesses through local business support officers, forums, procurement workshops and one-to-one support. It will focus delivery in disadvantaged areas in Newcastle – the areas of the city lying within the 30% most deprived areas in England. The project includes outreach workers located in three key disadvantaged areas – East End, West End and North of the City.

What will the project achieve?

The project aims to raise awareness and understanding of enterprise in disadvantaged areas of Newcastle, and will as a result by December 2013:

- assist 520 potential entrepreneurs to be enterprise ready
- by raising young people's aspirations help an additional 10 potential entrepreneurs to be enterprise ready from the young people group
- create ten school businesses
- create 130 businesses by encouraging more start-ups locate in the disadvantaged areas and businesses set up in other parts of the city by individuals from the disadvantages areas
- support 140 local businesses to be more sustainable and grow, particularly within disadvantaged communities leading to 90% of them showing improved performance by June 2014.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle City Council

How much ERDF investment? £817.070

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,634,140

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Claire Prospert at Newcastle City Council at claire.prospert@newcastle.gov.uk or visit www.newcastle.gov.uk

Graduate SME Internships

What is the project about?

The project aims to improve the performance of SMEs by sourcing and part-funding the provision of a suitable graduate at a business for three to nine months to carry out a specific business related piece of work which could include: finance management; implementation of advanced IT applications; business planning; product development; human resources and marketing. The project will be delivered by a team within the University and each intervention will deliver a measurable improvement in the performance of the business with applicants being tested for ERDF and state aid eligibility.

What will the project achieve?

The project will help improve the performance of 150 SMEs in the North East between 2011 and 2014 and will support 150 graduate interns over the same time. It will also help create 112 jobs as around 75% of these internship placements will result in a newly created job as a direct outcome of the work they have undertaken during their Internship.

Who is leading the project?

Sunderland University

How much ERDF investment? £878,920

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,757,840

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Martin Finlayson at University of Sunderland at martin.finlayson@sunderland.ac.uk or call (0191) 515 3065 or visit www.sunderland.ac.uk

Investment for Growth

What is the project about?

Providing support to SMEs across the North East and ultimately creating or safeguarding around 1,500 jobs to help North East businesses grow and increase prosperity. It also aims to reduce the Gross Value Added gap between the North East and the rest of England by £23,394,144 by December 2013, increasing to £49,992,940 by December 2014. The project will provide two types of support: up to six hours of advice to all eligible SMEs – including social enterprises – to help identify opportunities for businesses to sustain performance, develop and grow and up to 40% financial contribution towards external advice or consultancy, leading to improved business performance, job creation, job safeguarding and Gross Value Added growth. Successful SMEs will be identified on the basis of a selection process balancing developmental needs, capacity for growth and ability to support investment. Supported activity, which contribute to the successful early and continued growth of businesses in the North East will include: Business and financial planning; Strategic marketing consultancy; Design consultancy; HR consultancy and Product development consultancy.

What will the project achieve?

Key aims by December 2014 include:

- Assisting 254 new small and medium enterprises, including integrated development of workforce skills where appropriate;
- Assisting 525 small and medium enterprises, including integrated development of workforce skills;
- Creating 593 jobs and safeguarding 903 jobs;
- · Assisting 720 businesses with improved performance; and
- Assisting 195 businesses with improved environmental management.

Who is leading the project?

Business and Enterprise Commercial

How much ERDF investment? £6,077,352

Priority 2 - Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £12,154,716

Where can I go for more information?

To access this service or find out more information, please call the Business & Enterprise Group on 0191 426 6408 or email enquiries@business-enterprise.net

Raising Enterprise North Tyneside Extension

What is the project about?

The project is a continuation of a previously-funded ERDF project that closed in December 2011. This extension provides a further three-year support. A package of activities will be delivered aimed at stimulating enterprise across the borough of North Tyneside, in particular the disadvantaged areas. It is aiming to help people in employment but at risk of redundancy, people who have been made redundant or are out of work, under-represented groups including women entrepreneurs and school leavers as well as people living in disadvantaged areas. A package of support will target individuals to consider self-employment as a viable option and help those at pre-start up stage to progress further along the enterprise pipeline.

What will the project achieve?

The initial project helped around 1,400 people receive enterprise support in the borough between August 2009 and March 2011. The aim is to help a further 1,400 people become enterprise ready by November 2014, half of which will come from North Tyneside's deprived wards. The project will also help create 350 new Small and Medium Enterprises of which 45 will be based in disadvantaged areas and create 350 jobs of which 60 will be from disadvantaged areas.

Who is leading the project?

North Tyneside Council

How much ERDF investment?

£898,140

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,796,280

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Sean Collier at North Tyneside Council at sean.collier@northtyneside.gov.uk or visit www.northtyneside.gov.uk or visit

North East SME Innovation Programme

What is the project about?

It focuses on helping businesses to understand and undertake the innovation process and create growth in North East's businesses. The project will deliver a programme of activity to help businesses identify and implement a 'project' designed to bring about an innovative step change resulting in an improvement in performance. It will be delivered and managed by the applicant organisation and will follow a structured format. The project will help businesses in a number of areas including: Broadening product base; Introducing new service(s); Diversification into new markets; Improving/changing operating methods; Developing new financial tools; Improving the use of technology and Increasing viability and sustainability.

What will the project achieve?

The programme will make 60 SMEs aware that innovation is something that once learned, can be undertaken at any time in the future helping to raise capacity, produce new products and processes and create new jobs. As a result of this project 60 jobs will be created and 60 safeguarded with 54 businesses receiving help to improve their performance and a further two receiving help to improve environmental management.

Who is leading the project?

North East Business and Innovation Centre Ltd.

How much ERDF investment? £724.102

Priority 1 - Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £1,448,205

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact David Oliver at the North East Business and Innovation Centre Ltd, Sunderland, at david.oliver@ne-bic.co.uk or visit www.ne-bic.co.uk

Sustainable Lifecycle Design

What is the project about?

The Sustainable Lifecycle Design project will allow businesses dealing with product development to assess their current and future product designs in terms of overall environmental impact. Experienced, qualified engineers will assess each product/product family and, with the aid of specialised software, offer an indication of the overall carbon footprint and recommendations for improvement. Potential cost savings would also be expected and other consumer benefits (e.g. greater longevity, reduced repair cost, "greener" credentials etc) to enhance the profitability of the organisation.

What will the project achieve?

As a direct result of the project, 17 jobs will be created, 17 safeguarded, 56 businesses will receive help to improve their performance and 50 businesses will receive help to ensure improved environmental management.

Who is leading the project?

University of Newcastle

How much ERDF investment?

£61,312

Priority 1 - Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £122,624

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Lorna McQueen at University of Newcastle at <u>Lorna.mcqueen@ncl.ac.uk</u>, telephone 0191 222 5452 or visit www.ncl.ac.uk

Business Support in the North East

What is the project about?

North East Enterprise Agencies (NEEAL) was established in 2007 as a consortium comprising the Enterprise and Development Agencies of the North East, all of whom are non-profit organisations providing enterprise support throughout the region. Based at over 20 different locations in the North East, NEEAL will work to deliver various offers of help including Enterprise Coaching, Starting a High Growth Business and Understanding Finance for Business, together ensuring businesses are fully equipped for success. Support through Enterprise Coaching will focus on intensive awareness raising activities followed by intensive hands on support from an experienced and qualified Enterprise Coach, targeting people in employment who possess the skills and resources to start a business and/or those who may be at threat of redundancy, as well as underrepresented groups and disadvantaged areas. Starting a High Growth Business package of support will provide an intensive two day 'Boot Camp' comprising workshops and one-to-one mentoring to develop the business plan and idea. Understanding Finance for Business incorporates support from pre-start stage through to full business establishment ensuring businesses are equipped with knowledge regarding accessing loan funds and when to engage with others for financial help.

What will the project achieve?

It will help over 1,700 people gain vital business skills and create 431 new businesses. Support will also be given to 164 existing Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) over the next two years.

Who is leading the project?

North East Enterprise Agencies Ltd (NEEAL)

How much ERDF investment?

£1,478,446

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £2,956,892

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact will.nash@neeal.co.uk or sue.parkinson@neeal.co.uk

Increasing Private Sector Growth

What is the project about?

Northumberland Business Service Ltd (NBSL), based in Wansbeck Business Centre, is managing the project which is offering targeted coaching and mentoring support to senior executives in any private sector business with no more than 249 employees.

Impartial Specialist Business Advisers will work to help small businesses realise the benefits of the support available and enable them to access it in order to achieve maximum results. NBSL will provide:

- an assessment of the business development needs of key senior executives (which will enable them to effect the growth of their business);
- help to produce an action plan;
- funding towards the costs of implementing the action plan; and
- subsequent post development review.

A review mechanism will monitor and report whether the identified business needs and development requirements have delivered the projected business improvement results as a direct outcome of the intervention. Businesses will be selected onto the programme through NBSL's eligibility process following promotion of the programme across the whole of the North East.

What will the project achieve?

The aim is to increase the North East's competitiveness and productivity by helping small businesses that would not normally seek support, but would benefit from it. Private sector businesses will benefit from the project that aims to improve the performance of over 2,300 businesses, creating over 1,100 jobs. The project will allow NBSL to offer a holistic programme designed to deliver additional business support activity helping nearly 1,900 SMEs see an improved performance in their business, increasing the economic prosperity of the programme area.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland Business Service Ltd (NBSL)

How much ERDF investment? £1,636,862

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £3,273,724

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Phil Langton, Chief Executive at Northumberland Business Service Ltd (NBSL) on (01670) 813 322 or email: phil.langton@nbsl.org.uk or visit www.nbsl.org.uk

Consett Business Park

What is the project about?

Durham County Council has secured a brownfield site (1.0148ha) to create high specification managed workspace and provide a long term facility to new and existing SMEs requiring a supportive and high quality business accommodation environment. A two-storey 1,860m 2 SME building will provide office accommodation ranging from 16 – 33 m 2 for over 35 SMEs, meeting rooms and shared services for the SMEs.

What will the project achieve?

The project will see the creation of over 80 jobs, provide accommodation for over 35 SMEs therefore increasing small business survival rates through the provision of a supportive managed workspace environment, supporting their continued growth and development, through an on-site experienced and dedicated managed workspace team and access to local / regional business support mechanisms. It will also support under-represented SME groups including female entrepreneurs with active networking with groups including Women Into the Network (WIN) in promoting the facilities to be developed as an excellent and suitable location for business. It will support the overall regeneration of the Consett and North Durham area and achieve a BREEAM Excellent rating through the incorporation of energy saving features during construction against the minimum requirement for ERDF of Very Good.

Who is leading the project?

Durham County Council

How much ERDF investment? £1,134,492

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £2,933,276

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Jerome Mertz – Senior Development Officer 01207 218 241 <u>jerome.mertz@durham.gov.uk</u> or visit <u>www.durham.gov.uk</u>.

Sunderland Software City Phase 2

What is the project about?

This second phase of SSC Innovation Connector activity will be managed by Sunderland City Council and North East Business and Innovation Centre (NEBIC) to ensure effective service continuity and utilise well-developed and evaluated delivery models. The second phase of funding will support key aspects of the SSC Investment Plan, including enterprise development activity (including a range of

events and community engagement activity); an enhanced and extended business support offer for Sunderland Software Centre as well as new activity that will broaden the service offer and generate increased GVA; e-business grants (building on a successful model developed by Sunderland City Council); and access to new technology in a range of publicly-managed business premises for software and software-using companies. The project comprises five workpackages: Enterprise and Community Engagement; Revenue Funding; e-business grants; technology expansion and project management.

What will the project achieve?

By March 2014 the project will support and improve 340 new and existing businesses in the North East and help create 366 jobs. It will see a net increase in GVA of £16,334,618.

Who is leading the project?

Sunderland City Council

How much ERDF investment?

£1,862,503

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £3,725,010

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact James Garland on 0191 561 1158 or Alexandra Fall on 0191 561 2481 or email james.garland@sunderland.gov.uk, alexandra.fall@sunderland.gov.uk or visit www.sunderland.gov.uk.

Graduate Recruitment and Placements

What is the project about?

The project is run by Teesside University and is open to SMEs in the North East and to graduates finding it difficult to take the first step on their preferred career ladder. There are three strands to the project, the first being the 'Graduates for Business' initiative, which will see 375 graduates taking up salaried internships with SMEs throughout the region over the next three years – 125 per year. The second is the Knowledge Exchange Internships (KEIs) programme, which puts graduates into SMEs for six to 12 months to tackle specific business change projects. Thirdly the project will provide information, advice and guidance to help graduates find routes into work or help in setting up their own businesses in the region.

What will the project achieve?

Over 420 graduate jobs will be created over the next three years by Teesside University. The grant is for a scheme matching graduate skills to business needs, which will also support 465 small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs) in the North East.

Who is leading the project?

Teesside University

How much ERDF investment?

£2,499,794

Priority 2- Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£4,999,591

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Dave Pratt, Head of Regional Office on (01642) 384413 or email david.pratt@tees.ac.uk or visit www.tees.ac.uk

Northumberland SRP Capacity 2009-15

What is the project about?

This investment will enable Northumberland County Council to provide a technical assistance role throughout the sub region of Northumberland to help deliver the 2007–13 ERDF Programme. This project will help to facilitate effective implementation and management of the ERDF 2007-13 programme by supporting the work of the European Secretariat and the regional partnership in publicising, implementing, monitoring and evaluating the programme.

What will the project achieve?

This project will support Northumberland County Council and partners to maximise the synergy and coordination between ERDF and other funding sources such as RGF thus supporting efforts to ensure expenditure targets are met.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland County Council

How much ERDF investment? £313,032 Priority 3 – Technical Assistance

How much total investment? £634,496

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Heather Smith from Northumberland County Council on 01670 533948, email Heather.Smith@northumberland.gov.uk or visit www.northumberland.gov.uk

Low Carbon Energy Demo Sunderland Social Housing

What is the project about?

The project will deliver a low-carbon social housing exemplar in Sunderland, by focusing on the trialling and deployment of a range of energy saving and low carbon technologies in hard to treat social housing. It will also develop the capacity and expertise of SMEs in the renewable energy and technology sector, and its supply-chain, to enable businesses to respond to the increased demand in the application of innovative domestic energy measures. The technologies will be tested and deployed in approximately 100 social houses in deprived areas of Sunderland.

What will the project achieve?

As well as the benefits to residents, 10 new SMEs of spin-out businesses will be assisted as well as 35 existing SMEs and 80 people in the SME workforce will be helped with skills development. In addition, 45 jobs will be created or safeguarded and 45 new or existing businesses will be assisted with improved environmental management, relating to improved energy efficiency.

Who is leading the project?

Sunderland City Council

How much ERDF investment?

£1,131,116

Priority 1 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £2,262,232

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact James Garland at Sunderland City Council on 0191 5611158 or email james.garland@sunderland.gov.uk or visit www.sunderland.gov.uk

Narec Social Housing Energy Management

What is the project about?

Narec, South Tyneside Homes, Gateshead Council and Homes for Northumberland have formed a project consortium as three Social Landlords to undertake housing energy improvement schemes on properties within their portfolio known as 'hard to treat'. This is defined as being off-gas or of non-traditional construction and makes them 'hard to treat' in terms of remediating residential fuel poverty and improving the property's thermal efficiency. Low carbon, renewable and innovative products will be installed in the selected properties and the impacts of the interventions monitored and analysed, covering technological impacts and social impacts. Two outcomes from the project will be that utilisation of the technologies enables improvements in the technologies (the product itself and the process of installation) and an improvement in the quality of life for the residents.

What will the project achieve?

As a result of the project 30 jobs will be created and 100 safeguarded. In addition 30 new SMEs and 70 existing SMEs will be assisted with innovation, 50 businesses helped to improve performance and 160 people working in SMEs working in collaboration with innovation connectors and / or Centres of Excellence assisted with skills development.

Who is leading the project?

The National Renewable Energy Centre

How much ERDF investment?

£1,918,563

Priority 1 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£3,837,129

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Allen Jones at Narec on 01670 357337, <u>allen.jones@narec.co.uk</u> or visit www.narec.co.uk

R&D Globalisation

What is the project about?

Businesses in the North East will receive help to exploit their innovation and new technologies and internationalise their businesses through European investment.

Companies assisted will be able to gain profit from new trade and from worldwide markets that will be brought back for reinvestment into their businesses and ultimately the North East economy. The aim is to encourage small and medium enterprises (SMEs) to invest in their Research and Development (R&D) activities within the region and help create skilled R&D based jobs to support the expansion.

What will the project achieve?

ERDF funding will support five members of staff at RTC North who will work with successful projects to comprise sound planning and expert implementation. The project process involves working with 30 R&D based businesses each year, providing assistance and reviewing their potential and capacity to implement an international commercial strategy. Each of the companies will undergo a two-day assessment with 20 selected companies going forward to have their plans developed.

Who is leading the project?

RTC North

How much ERDF investment? £377.803

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £755,606

Where can I go for more information?

Ray Jones, Head of Business Consulting at RTC North on (0191) 516 4400 or email ray.jones@rtcnorth.co.uk

National Blade Test Facility 2

What is the project about?

European investment of £2.5m will enable a major testing hub for large wind turbine developers to be used by up to 80 regional businesses. Narec's new independent facility will test turbine blades up to 100m long and will be used by blade developers to test and prove designs and components onshore, improving their efficiency and reliability, before committing to costly and high risk testing and demonstration offshore. The project is viewed as a key component of the offshore and innovation connector and is recognised as important for developing expertise in order for the UK to become a market leader. As well as the £2.5m investment from ERDF, further funding for the new 100m blade test facility includes £2m provided through One North East's Single Programme and £11.5m through the Strategic Investment Fund.

What will the project achieve?

ERDF funding will help North East small and medium enterprises (SME's) to diversify into operations and maintenance activities in the growing offshore wind sector. A new facility capable of testing blades up to 100m long is currently under construction in Blyth and companies will work with Narec to learn from the blade testing capabilities and expertise being developed in the region. Up to 80 regional businesses could benefit from the knowledge transfer and training opportunities enabled by Non Destructive Testing (NDT) at the facility.

Who is leading the project?

National Renewable Energy Centre (Narec)

How much ERDF investment? £4,686,130

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £9,687,029

Where can I go for more information?

Trevor Hardcastle, Lead Programme Manager at Narec on (01670) 359 555, email trevor.hardcastle@narec.co.uk or visit www.narec.co.uk

Enterprise Coaching - The Princes' Trust

What is the project about?

The project aims to create an entrepreneurial culture among disadvantaged groups in the North East, particularly those in deprived communities who would otherwise not engage with established forms of enterprise support. It is structured to develop entrepreneurial talents and ideas in an informal atmosphere at accessible locations acting as a platform for further mainstream enterprise support. It will comprise a four-stage enterprise coaching journey: Engagement; Explore Enterprise Experience; One-to-One Sessions and finally Progression and Referral.

What will the project achieve?

By 2013 The Princes' Trust aims to help 855 potential entrepreneurs to be enterprise ready – comprising 555 men and 300 women, of which 599 are from disadvantaged areas.

Who is leading the project?

The Prince's Trust

How much ERDF investment? £932,599

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

What is the total investment? £1,865,198

Where can I go for more information?

Contact David Laverick at The Prince's Trust on 07808 283 417, email david.laverick@princes-trust.org.uk or visit www.princes-trust.org.uk

Enterprise Coaching for People with a Disability

What is the project about?

The project will deliver pro-active as well as reactive enterprise coaching to stimulate awareness and interest in enterprise, specifically aimed at those who have a physical, mental, sensory, learning or hidden disability or who are members of specific communities where individuals are disadvantaged. Coaching will help lead participants closer or into engagement with mainstream business support and is aimed at those who are considering establishing a business within the North East.

What will the project achieve?

The funding will support a number of enterprise coaching activities for 1,333 beneficiaries. A mixture of around 15 full time and part time coaches will be employed through the project providing Enterprise Coaching. The project aims to reach 1,000 potential entrepreneurs who will be assisted to be enterprise ready with 200 potential entrepreneurs going on to access Business Link services.

Who is leading the project?

Northern Pinetree Trust

How much ERDF investment? £765.025

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

What is the total investment? £1,530,050

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Michael Leithrow, Chief Executive of Northern Pinetree Trust on (0191) 492 8219, email manager@pinetree-centre.co.uk or visit www.northernpinetree.co.uk

Brighton Road Studios

What is the project about?

Mushroom Works (CIC) has secured the ERDF investment to convert a grade 2 listed church in Bensham, Gateshead, into affordable workspace for arts-based creative practitioners who are at start-up or second stage development. Brighton Road Studios will create a valuable link to the creative cluster development with Northern Design Centre at Gateshead's Baltic Business Centre and Toffee Factory in Newcastle, offering continued support for the North East's flourishing creative economy.

What will the project achieve?

A £0.45m package of support will establish 12 affordable workspaces, creating 18 jobs by 2015 and addressing the demand for such space.

Who is leading the project?

Mushroom Works Community Interest Company (CIC)

How much ERDF investment? £300,000

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £600.000

Where can I go for more information?

Nick James, Director, Mushroom Works CIC at nick@mushroomworks.com or visit www.brightonroadstudios.com

DigitalCity 2010-12 Revenue

What is the project about?

DigitalCity Business forms part of DigitalCity, concentrating on taking digital businesses and developing them as quickly and as effectively as possible, benefiting SMEs in the digital media, digital technology and creative sectors in the Tees Valley and the North East. The project is aiming to develop the business cluster to include new businesses in the digital media, digital technology and creative sectors, together contributing to DigitalCity Business becoming a self-sustaining, successful digital cluster.

What will the project achieve?

By March 2012 it aims to create 20 businesses, developing 20 into high growth potential businesses and developing a further two into businesses achieving high growth. By 2015, the aim is to increase the turnover of DigitalCity Business by 20% and increase the international trade by 75%, together creating 160 jobs. DigitalCity Business also aims to attract six new businesses to the region, support 424 businesses and help 80 people further their skills development.

Who is leading the project?

Middlesbrough Council

How much ERDF investment? £816,280

Priority 1: Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

What is the total investment? £1,666,280

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Mark Elliott, Director DigitalCity on (01642) 248692 or email mark.elliott@dcbusiness.eu or visit www.dcbusiness.eu

One Trinity Green

What is the project about?

Part of a brownfield site at Eldon Street in South Shields will be transformed into a state-of-the-art incubator providing managed workspace and business support for new and growing attracting start-up businesses. It is aimed at those within the low carbon and environmental industries sectors as well as other SMEs in strategic knowledge economy sectors such as Science and Technology, Automotive, E-business, Product Design and Marine Engineering linked to low carbon applications. The former Circatex site will boast a building which will be low carbon in construction and operation, targeting a BREEAM Excellent rating. The Green Incubator will have strong working links to the region's universities and NaREC to provide the best possible assistance to the service users providing high quality premises on a flexible easy-in easy-out basis.

What will the project achieve?

The Green Incubator is due to open in June 2012 with 95 construction jobs expected to be created to develop the 0.4ha site which will create 30,000sq ft of business premises. By making the space available, 44 jobs are to be safeguarded and a further 44 created while 35 SMEs will be assisted and have their performance improved. All of the outputs are aimed at those who are disadvantaged.

Who is leading the project?

South Tyneside Council

How much ERDF investment? £2,467,024

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

What is the total investment? £5.333.000

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Claire Cardinal, Economic Regeneration Project Manager at South Tyneside Council on (0191) 424 7679, email claire.cardinal@southtyneside.gov.uk or visit www.southtyneside.info

Tees Valley Investment Fund

What is the project about?

This project was designed to support new and existing enterprises within the Tees Valley following the mothballing of Corus steelworks and the consequent economic shock in the area. ERDF funding provided support to existing and start-up businesses, enabling them to access new markets, develop new products and access finance and public investment to develop their businesses. It targeted those in the Tees Valley many of whom in disadvantaged and deprived areas. Key objectives were to stimulate the Tees Valley, remove or reduce specific and localised barriers to business start up and help Tees Valley companies to diversify into new markets.

What will the project achieve?

The Tees Valley Investment Fund will provide access to funding to help 33 people set up business within the Tees Valley by 2012, support 150 existing Tees Valley businesses through the fall out of the closure by 2012, safeguard 200 jobs within Tees Valley businesses by 2013 and create 100 jobs within the Tees Valley by 2013.

Who is leading the project?

Business & Enterprise North East and support is accessed through the Business Link service.

How much ERDF investment?

£896,130

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,792,260

Where can I go for more information?

Please note that support is no longer available. For further information contact Business Link on 0845 600 9 006.

Toffee Factory Refurbishment

What is the project about?

The project comprises the refurbishment of the former Maynard's Toffee Factory and delivery of associated infrastructure works to provide semi-managed move on accommodation for SME's, targeting the creative industries sector within the Lower Ouseburn Valley of Newcastle upon Tyne.

The refurbishment of the historic building will be supported through the procurement of an operator that will encourage links with existing educational and business facilities in NewcastleGateshead and promote the project at a regional, national and international level. The regeneration of the area will represent the next stage of place-making activity along Newcastle's Quayside providing the local and regional community with an area to live, work and visit. The project will provide an office product which is currently in demand given the lack of available capacity within the Quayside Business Development Centre. It will also complement larger accommodation being provided, in the previously supported Hoults Yard and the Priority Sites scheme, known as the Media Exchange.

What will the project achieve?

The project has the potential to create 12 new businesses and 47 new jobs, as well as safeguarding 111 jobs. It will also ensure the remediation of a major brownfield site in a key strategic location. Wider objectives include supporting the sustainability and growth of existing local businesses by providing semi-managed move on accommodation, attracting new businesses to the region through the provision of a well-connected, high profile facility and strengthen the offer of NewcastleGateshead in the Creative Industries sector to become a nationally recognised cluster.

Who is leading the project?

The project will be delivered by 1NG on behalf of Newcastle City Council.

How much ERDF investment? £3,000,000

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £6,000,000

Where can I go for more information?

Peter McIntyre, Director of Planning and Programme Management at 1NG on (0191) 243 5805, email petermcintyre@1ng.org.uk or visit www.1ng.org.uk

Redcar and Cleveland Creative Industries

What is the project about?

An innovative business centre - The Hub – will provide an exciting new base for up-and-coming firms to flourish on the site of the former Palace Theatre, providing businesses with an array of support and opportunities to thrive in the 21st century. The project was developed in the wake of extensive consultation with the business community and Redcar residents. The area's existing creative industries sector currently boasts around 300 companies, generating a combined turnover of £31m, which is expected to be significantly boosted by having a flagship focal point. The creative and digital industries identified for this building are among the sectors that regional partners have identified as having a major part to play in the future of the Tees Valley economy.

What will the project achieve?

The Hub will provide 35,712 sq ft of business space, including 32 managed space, along with workshops, studios and communal spaces, sparking the creation of 150 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council

How much ERDF investment?

£4,188,343

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £8,420,281

Where can I go for more information?

Adrian Watson, Regeneration Manager at Redcar and Cleveland Council on (01642) 444203 or adrian-watson@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk or visit www.redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Redcar & Darlington Enterprise Coaching

What is the project about?

Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council has secured the ERDF investment to extend enterprise coaching services across 32 deprived wards, 22 in Redcar & Cleveland and 10 in Darlington, until 2013. The initiative aims to help increase numbers of new start up businesses in local areas by 300 per annum and ensure that more than 80% of these new start up businesses survive more than 12 months. It will target people who would not normally consider self employment as a career option and those who need intensive support to fulfil their aims of starting their own business. These include people made redundant, long term unemployed, young mothers and those on incapacity benefit, many of whom have health issues.

What will the project achieve?

A £1.5m package of enterprise coaching services for budding entrepreneurs and business start ups in the Tees Valley, to assist 1,800 more people with start up ideas and generate hundreds of new business referrals to the Business Link service in the two boroughs over the next three years.

Who is leading the project?

Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council

How much ERDF investment?

£1,729,882

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment? £3,459,763

Where can I go for more information?

Corinne Templeman, Enterprise Team at Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council on 01642 495741, email Corinne_templeman@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk

Putting Enterprise Into Place (Northumberland)

What is the project about?

Putting Enterprise Into Place will contribute to creating an 'enterprise surge' in the North East by encouraging more people to develop enterprising skills and attitudes, particularly those in disadvantaged areas. This will be achieved through a holistic enterprise coaching service, providing additional enterprise coaches to cover the whole of Northumberland.

What will the project achieve?

Increase number of residents in Northumberland wishing to explore 'enterprise potential', be enterprise ready and become self employed or start own business as well as assist SMEs by increasing numbers of local businesses winning contracts through public procurement.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland County Council

How much ERDF investment?

£1,988,210

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £3,978,007

Where can I go for more information?

Steve Revell at Northumberland County Council on (01670) 534756 or visit www.northumberland.gov.uk

Newcastle City Council – Technical Assistance

What is the project about?

The project will facilitate the effective implementation and management of the ERDF Programme within Newcastle, providing dedicated resource to support the take up, delivery, management and monitoring of ERDF funding. Specific responsibilities would be technical support at project selection, development, delivery, monitoring and audit stage as well as general communications and the dissemination of programme information.

What will the project achieve?

Effective partnership will ensure the best possible outcome for Newcastle as well as ensuring the ERDF programme is delivered effectively and achieves all expenditure targets.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle City Council

How much ERDF investment? £277,982

Priority 3 – Technical Assistance

What is the total investment?

£555,965

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Jacqui Kell at Newcastle City Council on 0191 2115662 or email <u>Jacqui.kell@newcastle.gov.uk</u>

The Beacon

What is the project about?

To build an Enterprise Hub for offering new business start up space in the West End of Newcastle by 2011 that currently doesn't exist to address the social and economic needs of the area. To provide a range of SME accommodation totalling 862 m2 eligible office/workshop space on easy-in and easy-out terms to business start-ups with back-office support in order to minimise business risks. A range of support facilities – such as training, education and meeting rooms and hot-desk facilities and support agencies will also be on hand. The aim is to support people on a journey of their choice from social groups and activities through education, training and enterprise development by acting as the facility and facilitator to enable all of their needs to be 'met under one roof'.

What will the project achieve?

The former fire station site will be transformed into 12 artisan units, an enterprise centre, enterprise SME space and 18 office rooms all creating a flagship eco-friendly low carbon facility in a recognised area of significant deprivation which will be a sustainable centre by 2014.

Who is leading the project?

Centre West Partnership

How much ERDF investment? £2,410,504

Priority 2 - Business Growth and Enterprise

What is the total investment? £4,996,090

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Sandra English, Project Manager at Centre West at sandra.english@centre-west.com or visit: www.centre-west.com or

Sunderland Software Centre

What is the project about?

The aim of Sunderland Software City (SSC) Innovation Connector is to increase the number of software companies in North East England. It has two primary objectives: to provide a location for regional software companies to grow, innovate and collaborate and also provide a focal point for community engagement, specifically to increase the pool of software sector workers in the region. A key part of this project is a collaborative environment in order to meet the demand of software companies who wish to undertake joint innovation.

What will the project achieve?

The objectives will be achieved through the development of a 53,000 sq ft facility in Tavistock Place, Sunderland, which is owned and managed by Sunderland City Council boasting lettable space for up to 63 businesses. The lettable space will be used by a mix of existing and new companies. As a result of the project 140 jobs will be created.

Who is leading the project?

Sunderland City Council

How much ERDF investment?

£4,478,127

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £8,966,268

Where can I go for more information?

James Garland or Alexandra Fall at Sunderland City Council on (0191) 5612481 or visit www.sunderland.gov.uk

Health Sciences Complex

What is the project about?

The project will see the refurbishment of the University of Sunderland's Applied Sciences facility to create a world class environment to support regional businesses and overcome a critical barrier to growth for pharmaceutical and health care businesses. The new facility will allow the Business Development Team to develop a new 'programme' offer to SMEs in the pharmaceutical and health care sectors and effectively target those businesses to benefit from the outcomes of ERDF investment.

What will the project achieve?

The project will significantly strengthen the regional science base in unique areas of pharmaceuticals and biomedical sciences aligned to drug discovery and therapies. Nearly 3,700m2 purpose built space will be created which will include a Continual Professional Development (CPD) suite and laboratories, housing specialist pharmaceutical and proteomic analytical equipment

Who is leading the project?

University of Sunderland

How much ERDF investment? £977,094

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £1,954,189

Where can I go for more information?

Martin Finlayson, Assistant Director at SRBP at University of Sunderland on (0191) 515 3065 or email martin.finlayson@sunderland.ac.uk

Enterprise Coaching in Sunderland

What is the project about?

Sunderland City Council's package of enterprise support aims to ensure that 200 potential entrepreneurs establish themselves by progressing into mainstream services such as Business Link. £890,000 ERDF is being match funded from the council from the Working Neighbourhoods Fund, which is branded locally as 'Just the Job'. Led by the North East Business & Innovation Centre, a team of neighbourhood based enterprise coaches and talent scouts will identify individuals in deprived communities with the potential and ambition to start up their own business. They will offer an intensive, seamless pre-mainstream support service to convert interest in enterprise into tangible business propositions.

What will the project achieve?

It will give a £1.78m package of pre start up support to develop enterprise, engaging with 800 clients and helping at least 300 people with business ideas.

Who is leading the project?

Sunderland City Council,

How much ERDF investment? £889,750

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment? £1,779,500

Where can I go for more information?

James Garland, senior programmes and projects officer at Sunderland City Council on 0191 561 1112 or visit www.justthejob.org

Building the Business of Music

What is the project about?

Leading UK music development agency Generator, has launched the 'Building the Business of Music' programme to bring more focused and specialised business support and development to the sector. It will work with emerging talent and provide a range of development opportunities for new SMEs and existing companies. This will include special clinics to provide support and advice to groups of music industry SMEs and bespoke business to business mentoring and networking. The project is being part financed by ERDF investment matched by a range of funders including Arts Council England, Big Lottery, the Working Neighbourhood Fund, the Northern Rock Foundation and Generation 2012. Generator will work with SMEs which have the greatest potential for change, growth and expansion,

and collaboration, improving their knowledge of the wider music industry, changing trends, the market place and the supply chain. With the addition of ERDF funding, it can offer businesses the opportunity to engage with the UK's leading specialists in digital strategy, music marketing and legal expertise. Access to wider music industry experts and specialists can strengthen commercial output and increase productivity.

What will the project achieve?

A £1.64m business support initiative for the music industry to help 240 small and medium sized enterprises and create up to 100 new jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Generator

How much ERDF investment?

£679,941

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,359,882

Where can I go for more information?

Jim Mawdsley, Chief executive of Generator on 0191 231 4016 or email <u>jim@generator.org.uk</u> or visit <u>www.generator.org.uk</u>

Jeremie Product Fund Management

What is the project about?

This project relates to the contracts for fund managers to deliver the Jeremie fund.

What will the project achieve?

It will lead to the successful delivery of the Jeremie fund for the benefit of the North East.

Who is leading the project?

North East Finance (Holdco)

How much ERDF investment?

£11,000,000

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £22,000,000

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact North East Finance on 0191 211 2300 or visit www.northeastfinance.org

ERDF IDB 2010-2012

What is the project about?

This project represents an enhancement of Business Link's core business support offer across the North East for the financial years 2010/11 and 2011/12. The project is aiming to deliver tailored support to existing businesses to ensure their continued growth and survival by accessing the Information, Diagnostic and Brokerage (IDB) model. The global aim of the project is to encourage and create an even more prosperous place to live, work, set up and succeed in business which is being achieved by: increasing the prosperity and reducing the GVA gap between the North East and the rest of England; increased business formation; promoting business growth and success as well as e-business.

What will the project achieve?

It is aiming to support 1,175 existing businesses and 1,049 new businesses to set up in business by March 2012 and provide a programme of workshops which support new and existing business in the region to improve their start-up, survival and growth.

Who is leading the project?

Business and Enterprise North East

How much ERDF investment? £11,500,979

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £23,055,851

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Robert Cornall at BENE at robert.cornall@be-ne.co.uk or visit www.businesslink.gov.uk/northeast

Translational Research Building

What is the project about?

Newcastle University is investing £13m in its evolving Campus for Ageing and Vitality to co-locate clinicians, academics and commercial companies jointly engaged in clinical research, healthcare delivery and basic biomedical research. The Translational Research Building (TRB) will be situated at the northern end of the Newcastle General Hospital site, linking the Henry Wellcome

Biogerontology Building and the Clinical Ageing Research Unit, and will provide much needed space to bring together industry projects and academic research.

What will the project achieve?

Construction of a four storey building to transform nearly 1,000m2 of land.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle University

How much ERDF investment? £1,869,056

Priority 1 – Enhancing & exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £3,738,112

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Suzanne Robson at s.m.robson@ncl.ac.uk or call 0191 222 3537.

Finance for Business - North East Creative Content Fund

What is the project about?

It is a two-year transitional project starting in January 2010 which intends to address a gap in the market place by providing targeted investment finance into the commercial creative sector. It will then test and evaluate approaches to investment. The aim is to use ERDF to lever private sector investment to support, build and sustain economically successful creative and digital media businesses and the commercial creative sector in the North East.

What will the project achieve?

Fund Manager Northstar Ventures aims to invest £4.8m in a minimum of 18 projects across TV, film, digital media and music, working closely with Fund Holder Northern Film & Media. It will also help ensure creative SMEs including sole traders are: more commercially focussed and successfully converting business opportunities; accessing new markets and associated networks; developing their own exploitable intellectual property and carrying out the testing and evaluation of regional co-investment finance and delivered into a growth/priority sector.

Who is leading the project?

Northern Film & Media (HoldCo) Limited (Fund Holder) and Northstar Ventures (Fund Manager).

How much ERDF investment? £2,400,000

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £4,800,000

Where can I go for more information?

John Tulip, Director of Finance and Administration at Northern Film & Media (HoldCo) Limited on (0191) 275 5954, email john@northernmedia.org or visit www.northernmedia.org

Business Support in Micro-renewables

What is the project about?

Micro-renewable technologies generate energy at a small scale, such as electricity capacity of up to 50kW or heat capacity up to 45kW. The project will cover a wide range of micro-generation such as solar thermal, photovoltaic, heat pumps, combined heat and power systems, wind turbines and biomass. SME support will focus on Innovation Advice and Guidance to develop new and emerging micro-renewable technologies as well as providing support to encourage micro-renewable uptake.

What will the project achieve?

Help 100 SMEs exploit micro-renewable technologies and opportunities to improve environmental performance.

Who is leading the project?

New and Renewable Energy Centre

How much ERDF investment? £456,323

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment? £912.647

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Narec on 01670 359 555 or visit www.Narec.co.uk

Northern Film & Media Continuation

What is the project about?

Northern Film & Media (NFM) has secured this investment as part of an overall £3m initiative currently focusing on five core sector themes: sector capacity building, innovation and business growth, social media, market development and NFM's North East Production Service. Using a mixture of funding streams, Northern Film & Media will take a lead role in the building of successful commercial creative industries in the North East, investing in talent, in people and in their ideas. The project will offer support for SMEs to engage in new markets by opening up more digital distribution across the web, mobile, games and interactive media industries. It will also enable them to take advantage of associated national funding streams such as Channel 4's 4IP fund.

What will the project achieve?

It will boost a three year project to create over 200 jobs and 18 new businesses in the creative media sector.

Who is leading the project?

Northern Film & Media Ltd.

How much ERDF investment?

£904.481

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment?

£2,296,848

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Northern Film and Media on 0191 275 5940 or visit www.northernmedia.org

JEREMIE - Holding Fund

What is the project about?

This project leads to the operational costs for the holding fund management company to manage the project.

What will the project achieve?

It will lead to the successful delivery of the Jeremie fund for the benefit of the North East.

Who is leading the project?

North East Finance (Holdco)

How much ERDF investment?

£3,786,315

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment?

£7,572,633

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact North East Finance on 0191 211 2300 or visit www.northeastfinance.org

Enhancing International Trade

What is the project about?

It will radically improve the prospects for hundreds of North East businesses to compete successfully in overseas markets and achieve rapid export growth. The funding is being used for the provision of

direct international trade services to businesses to address current market failures and grant support for eligible activity under four main initiatives. Each business engaged with the project is assigned a dedicated international trade advisor to help them develop and implement a strategy to internationalise their commercial activities.

What will the project achieve?

Match export potential of 450 businesses with relevant distribution networks in target markets. Support an additional 810 SMEs new to exporting with an 'Investment Service' to provide flexible financial assistance and an agreed export action plan. 60 more SMEs benefit from a 'Virtual Export Manager' initiative placing export professionals into businesses to provide 'hands-on' support to develop international trading.

Who is leading the project?

NE Regional International Trade Office

How much ERDF investment? £4,303,860

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £9.233.180

Where can I go for more information?

Call the NE Regional International Trade Office on 0845 05 05 054, email enquiries@ukti.rito.co.uk or visit www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk/ukti/north_east

Agile Software Innovation Programme

What is the project about?

A new cost-effective service to open up commercial opportunities and product development in digital innovation, increase economic growth and create new businesses and jobs. The initiative focuses on technical analysis and development requirements for software enterprises. It aims to lower a significant barrier to innovation by adding a low risk, tangible demonstration facility for initial ideas, essential in attracting and securing finance for software product development.

What will the project achieve?

It will develop 20 software prototypes worth around £30,000 each

Who is leading the project?

Codeworks

How much ERDF investment? £648,062

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment? £1,479,489

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Codeworks on 0191 556 1122 or email DEVenquiries@Codeworks.net

Northern Design Centre and Gateshead Creative Business Centre (NDC)

What is the project about?

NDC will provide a flagship design and networking facility aimed at increasing the tendency of local businesses to incorporate design into their daily activities, as well as providing move-on office accommodation and starter units. NDC is being developed for Gateshead Council by Terrace Hill on Baltic Business Quarter in Gateshead. Funding is being provided to help develop a striking office building comprising two wings with a central atrium.

What will the project achieve?

The east wing of the building will provide a much needed range of high quality office suites for existing businesses that are looking to expand or have outgrown their current accommodation, with a focus where possible on attracting companies working in the creative industries. It will create around 24 office units of between 40 and 110 sq m. One key objective is to provide suitable long-term accommodation for businesses currently based at the International Business Centre which are outgrowing their accommodation, securing their future in Gateshead and the North East. The west wing will provide a mix of starter units for design-based businesses and accommodation for the design networking facility comprising showcasing and collaborative working areas, a conference facility and a range of creativity spaces.

Who is leading the project?

Gateshead Council

How much ERDF investment?

£4,502,997

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £9,005,994

Where can I go for more information?

Andrew Tate, Economic Development Manager at Gateshead Council, on (0191) 433 3000, email andrewtate@gateshead.gov.uk or visit www.gateshead.gov.uk

PETEC Displays and Photonics Technology Centre

What is the project about?

The Printable Electronics Technology Centre (PETEC) at NETPark in Sedgefield is the UK's leading development and prototyping facility in plastic/printable electronics. This investment for its expansion is significantly extending the scope and scale of PETEC's operation, with highly-specialised facilities and equipment tailored to the development and pre-production of wide area printable electronics for displays, photovoltaics and low-energy lighting.

What will the project achieve?

Create 26 new jobs at PETEC, stimulate 250 jobs regionally and 1,500 jobs nationally to 2013.

Who is leading the project?

Centre for Process Innovation (CPI)

How much ERDF investment? £8,498,845

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £17,310,130

Where can I go for more information?

Call the CPI on (01642) 455 340 or visit www.uk-cpi.com

Incubation & Inward Investment

What is the project about?

To provide support leading to the generation of new energy and technology based businesses and their products. With specialist energy technology business support provided through an incubator unit and associated professional and technical services, the project also supports business networking and inward investment.

What will the project achieve?

Provide 150m2 of R&D premises and incubation space for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to test ideas and accelerate product development, create 40 jobs and assist over 100 companies with innovation.

Who is leading the project?

New & Renewable Energy Centre

How much ERDF investment? £500,876

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment? £1,001,752

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Alan Walker at Narec on 01670 357 626 or email alan.walker@narec.co.uk

NAREC Marine Testing Facility

What is the project about?

A Narec Marine Testing Facility will be developed to build on and utilise existing infrastructure at the centre. The Facility will allow marine energy developers to test and prove designs and components onshore, improving their efficiency and reliability, before committing to costly and high risk testing and demonstration at sea. When built it will be the most advanced of its kind in the world and will enhance the existing offering at Narec, as well as placing the North East at the centre of the marine energy device development industry.

What will the project achieve?

By September 2011 a test stand for the testing of marine renewable energy device components will be completed as will a building to house the test stand which will allow testing of marine devices in Dock 3. A marine environment measurement system to allow industry designers to understand the resource characteristics and the environment is also being installed, as well as a marine environment modelling system which will assist in the R&D phase of marine renewable energy device components by industry designers. The facility will support SME growth in the marine renewables sector.

Who is leading the project?

National Renewable Energy Centre

How much ERDF investment? £6,335,317

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £12,670,634

Where can I go for more information?

Tony Quinn, Director of Major Assets and Projects at Narec on (01670) 357323, email tony.quinn@narec.co.uk or visit www.narec.co.uk

REMTEC Continuation

What is the project about?

A large open access innovation and technical support facility for the low carbon energy manufacturing sector. The project is improving the technical capabilities and business competitiveness of North East engineering and manufacturing companies. The focus is on using innovative materials and joining technologies for the production of new products and processes. It will improve manufacturing competitiveness and the ability to successfully engage in regional, national and international supply chains.

What will the project achieve?

Create 90 new jobs and safeguard 246, also generating £6.24m in new turnover and protecting existing sector turnover up to £16.4m.

Who is leading the project?

TWI Technology Centre

How much ERDF investment? £648.058

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £1,296,116

Where can I go for more information?

Contact the TWI Technology Centre on 01642 216 320.

Social & Traditional Enterprise

What is the project about?

SES (Sustainable Enterprise Strategies) is creating two business support hubs in Sunderland and North Shields. With over 800m² of incubator and managed workspace facilities, the hubs will provide accommodation and start up support for small and medium sized enterprises across Tyne and Wear. The project is also the launchpad for the delivery of enterprise coaching for individuals and groups in deprived communities. Support will be targeted at those wishing to establish social and traditional enterprises and shared facilities will enable them to develop, collaborate and grow in a supported environment. Located on brownfield land in Hendon, the Sunderland hub will be a purpose-built development of 660m² providing an environmentally sustainable and versatile facility constructed of reconditioned shipping containers. The North Shields hub will be housed in the former Town Mission building, with 190m² of space providing accommodation of varying sizes to suit different social and community start ups with shared meeting rooms, conference facilities, office equipment and amenities.

What will the project achieve?

It will develop 192 social and traditional enterprises and create over 200 jobs in disadvantaged areas.

Who is leading the project?

Sustainable Enterprise Strategies

How much ERDF investment? £871,535

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment? £1,809,156

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Sustainable Enterprise Strategies on 0191 565 0476 or visit www.ses.coop/

MAS NE Resource Efficiency

What is the project about?

Boosting environmental focus and helping companies save money by cutting down on waste and increasing renewable energy generation. The new service is focusing on resource efficiency, waste water and green energy, helping regional manufacturers make considerable savings by becoming more environmentally aware. MAS NE specialists enter a company and help the firm identify efficiency savings. The focus primarily falls on water and waste management and reduction techniques, awareness of environmental legislation that impacts on businesses and the long-term possibilities of green power and heat.

What will the project achieve?

Assist over 200 businesses with improved environmental management, energy efficiency, and workforce skills.

Who is leading the project?

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

How much ERDF investment? £298,624

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £597,249

Where can I go for more information?

Contact MAS North East on 0191 501 8609, email enquiries@mas-northeast.co.uk or visit http://www.mas.bis.gov.uk/north-east

CHP Trigeneration & Energy storage

What is the project about?

These three main areas of technology have the potential to improve energy systems efficiency and performance, utilise alternative fuel supplies, and reduce CO_2 and other emissions in electrical power generation and in heating and cooling. A range of new equipment will be installed at the SWAN Thermal Energy Laboratory in the University's Stephenson Building and the SWAN Trigeneration Facility at NaREC, Blyth. The facilities will be used to demonstrate to regional SMEs a range of different energy technologies, both individually and also integrated with each other. There will also be scope for testing systems, components and fuel types at different scales and under a variety of conditions.

What will the project achieve?

A dedicated, state of the art facility integrating a range of technologies in Combined Heat and Power (CHP), Trigeneration (CHP plus refrigeration/cooling) and Energy Storage to support innovation and business development.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle University

How much ERDF investment? £800,281

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £1,600,563

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Newcastle University's Sir Joseph Swan Energy Institute on 0191 246 4867.

Growth Project Logistics 2

What is the project about?

A package of support to over 250 mainly small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) across the region. It will improve business operations, such as the acquisition, storage, transportation and delivery of goods, and bring cost savings in excess of £10m. Local consultants NAC, based in Sunderland, have been appointed to deliver the project and will be holding awareness raising events to take the scheme forward.

What will the project achieve?

Business support for 250 SMEs.

Who is leading the project?

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

How much ERDF investment? £475.875

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £951,749

Where can I go for more information?

Mass Participation Project

What is the project about?

It is developing a virtual online 3D environment which will host a virtual Northern Design Centre Innovation Connector business space and support associated design and innovation activities. The project will support North East SMEs, on both supply and demand side to become pioneers and users of a 'live' virtual-3D online environment.

What will the project achieve?

It will help drive business growth and productivity creating a virtual environment boasting a new channel of communication that enables SMEs to drive new networking and knowledge transfer opportunities, to develop connections with new markets and subsequently acquire market insight that contributes to product and service innovation.

Who is leading the project?

Teesside University

How much ERDF investment?

£514.981

Priority 1 – enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment?

£1,080,249

Where can I go for further information?

Please contact David Pratt at Teesside University via david.pratt@tees.ac.uk or visit www.tees.ac.uk

NETPark Net

What is the project about?

County Durham Development Company (CDDC) has secured additional funding from the European Union, One North East, Durham County Council and the private sector to develop 'NETPark Net', a total business support environment providing physical and on-line services. NETPark Net will enable companies to access the benefits of NETPark, particularly those in the field of science, electronics and engineering. Building on the 'Virtual NETPark' pilot project run by CDDC over the past two years, the primary beneficiaries will be both existing and new SMEs based in the region.

What will the project achieve?

It will bring new investment to help accelerate the growth of over 70 companies through online services.

Who is leading the project?

County Durham Development Company

How much ERDF investment?

£214.959

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment? £429,919

Where can I go for more information?

Visit www.uknetpark.net

Enterprise Coaching in South Tyneside

What is the project about?

The 'Enterprise Coaching' initiative delivers dedicated enterprise activity to disadvantaged communities in South Tyneside. It will support the development of an entrepreneurial culture with enterprise as an alternative career path, with training and mentoring provision and opportunities to research and test out ideas. Delivered by the Tyneside Economic Development Company Ltd (TEDCO), the project will provide community based enterprise coaches throughout the borough to promote self-employment, social enterprise and increase business creation and survival.

What will the project achieve?

Intensive one-to-one pre business start up enterprise coaching activity to assist 1,500 people with commercial ideas and ensure that at least 560 of these progress to mainstream North East Business Link support services.

Who is leading the project?

South Tyneside Metropolitan Borough Council (0845 460 3333)

How much ERDF investment?

£742,750

Priority 2 – business growth & enterprise

How much total investment? £1,485,500

Where can I go for more information?

John Scott of Business Matters at South Tyneside Council on 0191 424 6250 or email john.scott@southtyneside.gov.uk

Digital Factory

What is the project about?

This is an extension of the Digital Factory project, the training and technology transfer project delivered by the Institute for Automotive and Manufacturing Advanced Practice (AMAP). The project is assisting a range of design, engineering and manufacturing firms with innovative processes and state-of-the-art facilities and equipment to increase productivity and win new business. It brings to the table technologies that would otherwise be out of the reach of SMEs, including 3D scanning, rapid prototyping, specialist CNC machining and access to software technologies used in concept product design through to factory simulation, indeed the whole product lifecycle. This access to expensive software technologies used by larger firms is needed by SMEs to break into new markets, gain customers and move up into more lucrative areas of the supply chain.

What will the project achieve?

Help 65 design and manufacturing firms to generate new business through innovative digital engineering technologies. Create and safeguard 20 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

University of Sunderland/AMAP

How much ERDF investment?

£375,528

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £805,400

Where can I go for more information?

Contact AMAP on 0191 515 3888.

Berwick Incubator Development - Revenue

What is the project about?

A business start up initiative to bring new jobs and commercial opportunities to Berwick. A key aim of this phase of the project is to stimulate the growth of knowledge-based businesses. The additional funding will also help with the marketing of the centre, encourage inter-trading and mutual support between SMEs, and increase participation in services and training programmes. The incubator project is developing effective links to external business services in the public and private sector for tenant businesses that have the ability and ambition to grow. TEDCO will also deliver specialist support for the acquisition of new business processes and technologies to increase productivity and encourage efficient use of energy and low carbon solutions.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 37 small businesses and create 35 new jobs from incubator units.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland County Council/TEDCO

How much ERDF investment?

£145,236

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£295,182

Where can I go for more information?

For further information please call 0845 602 2466, email berwick@tedco.org or visit www.berwickworkspace.co.uk

Wilton Connector - Process Business Incubator

What is the project about?

With 1,000 m² of modular units, office space and laboratory areas equipped with leading edge testing facilities, the hub will enable SMEs to nurture embryonic commercial ideas. It will also provide process industry market sector experts to assist local businesses with market analysis,

entrepreneurial skills and access to finance. This state-of-the-art facility will bring a fully equipped physical environment in which to nurture new businesses. The hub will draw from a variety of sources for new business opportunities, including existing regional companies, North East universites and the CPI's Advanced Processing, Low Carbon Energy and Functional Materials platforms.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 150 small companies with growth plans, attract 50 new businesses to the region, create 90 new jobs and safeguard 75 others.

Who is leading the project?

Centre for Process Innovation

How much ERDF investment?

£1,311,815

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£3,518,180

Where can I go for more information?

Contact the CPI on 01642 455 340 or visit www.uk-cpi.com

Project Verification Service

What is the project about?

The purpose of the project is to deliver a monitoring and verification service for the Managing Authority, via an outsourced contract, for projects funded from the ERDF 2007-13 Programme.

What will the project achieve?

The project will help ensure that the programme is delivered compliantly and in accordance with the requirements of Article 13.

Who is leading the project?

Department for Communities and Local Government

How much ERDF investment?

£172,315

Priority 3 – Technical Assistance

How much total investment?

£355,438

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Raffaella Ebani at the Department for Communities and Local Government on 0303 444 6446 or email Raffaella.ebani@communities.gsi.gov.uk

NETPark Grow on Space

What is the project about?

The new buildings will provide outstanding facilities for companies that have outgrown their premises in NETPark's incubator, as well as for more established companies looking to re-locate to NETPark. The funding will develop facilities capable of housing global headquarters, cementing NETPark's reputation as an international hub. It will result in the creation of a broad range of indirect jobs ranging from construction to administrative staff to lab technicians and other skilled or semi-skilled roles.

What will the project achieve?

The construction of three new facilities with a total floor space of up to 5,000 square metres, housing up to 600 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Durham County Council

How much ERDF investment? £4,363,545

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £9,191,700

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.northeasttechnologypark.com or call 01740 625 180.

NETPark Servicing of Additional Land

What is the project about?

The Northward expansion of NETPark's facilities aims to generate more employment for disadvantaged people in neighbouring communities and create additional opportunities for local businesses to provide services to companies on the site. The latest investment has been an essential and integral element of the redevelopment of the park, with the construction of road and drainage works, together with landscaping and provision for the extension of public utility services into the site. In line with the NETPark master plan, approximately 120 metres of access road leads from the existing roundabout junction near the entrance to the park to the far boundary of the site of the former hospital buildings. The road provides an access to serve the redevelopment of this site and also to open up the adjacent land for future development.

What will the project achieve?

Servicing and preparation of 2.75 hectares of land for the development of up to 6,000 square metres of buildings suitable for high technology companies.

Who is leading the project?

Durham County Council

How much ERDF investment? £175,838

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £354,559

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.northeasttechnologypark.com or call 01740 625 180.

North East Industrial Symbiosis Network

What is the project about?

A two year sustainability initiative to deliver eco-innovative solutions and best practice to small and medium sized businesses (SMEs) and provide practical solutions to difficult waste problems. The network will help businesses make environmental savings as well as improving business profitability. It will assist 40 businesses each year, with direct research & development support and consultancy generating additional sales and cost savings of over £300,000. There will also be a 10,000 tonne reduction in the use of treated water. The North East Industrial Symbiosis Network project will be delivered across the region from its base, the Clean Environment Management Centre (CLEMANCE) at Teesside University.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 40 businesses each year. Reduce CO₂ by over 250,000 tonnes and prevent 250,000 tonnes of waste going to landfill.

Who is leading the project?

University of Teesside

How much ERDF investment? £606,302

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,212,604

Where can I go for more information?

David Pratt at University of Teesside on 01642 384413, email david.pratt@tees.ac.uk or visit www.tees.ac.uk

Be Enterprising

What is the project about?

An enterprise initiative to revitalise business and employment prospects in deprived former coalfield and rural communities of County Durham. The target population numbers some 263,000 people of working age whose needs are currently not as well met by mainstream service provision. Young people and other priority groups will be offered more one-to-one, client centred support and more information on what's available so that they become enterprise ready before they are referred to

Business Link. The two year project will target prospective entrepreneurs, new and existing SMEs and those seeking to locate in County Durham's target areas. It will also offer more focused franchising support and more intensive and specialised business mentoring for potential high growth start ups and new businesses.

What will the project achieve?

To create 370 jobs, safeguard 190 and assist the creation of over 500 small local businesses

Who is leading the project?

County Durham LEGI

How much ERDF investment?

£3,803,754

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£7,771,328

Where can I go for more information?

For further details please call 0800 030 4134 or visit www.be-enterprising.biz

Newcastle Science City Community Engagement

What is the project about?

This three year programme will give both adults and youngsters opportunities to be involved in science activities and turn their ideas into projects that can improve their neighbourhoods and encourage them to study science, train in scientific skills and find jobs. As part of the project there will be an information bank so that Newcastle Science City's team can get an accurate, current picture of the status of science within the local community. The data will enable them to see what barriers there are to people deciding to study, train or work in a scientific field and what can be done to improve any perception problems. Engagement with the third sector and outreach work will be delivered by Newcastle City Council for Voluntary service and Newcastle New Deal for Communities. This will lead to the launch of a £530,000 grant scheme in 2010 which will be open to community groups and will aim to support community ideas and projects using science to address local issues such as health, ageing, the environment and energy efficiency.

What will the project achieve?

Help over a 1,000 local people from all age groups, abilities and ethnic backgrounds, those recently out of work and particularly young people who are not in education, employment or training.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle City Council

How much ERDF investment? £774.481

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £1,642,795

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.newcastlesciencecity.com or contact 0191 231 2200.

NETPark Embedding Benefits/Community Engagement

What is the project about?

The community engagement drive by the NETPark innovation connector will engage disadvantaged local communities and schools in science and innovation activities, entrepreneurship, raising aspirations, providing career pathways and interacting with over 1,000 people up to 2011. A feature of the programme will be a dedicated community exhibition and meeting space within the NETPark Incubator building which will link science, enterprise, and sustainability and allow the local community on site for visits. Using NETPark as a hub, the initiative will provide community science activities, facilitate links between schools and science based businesses, and provide support for careers advisors to highlight the range of local opportunities in Science, Engineering and Technology (SET)..

What will the project achieve?

A community engagement drive to interact with over 1,000 people over two years.

Who is leading the project?

Durham University

How much ERDF investment?

£456,032

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £912,065

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.northeasttechnologypark.com or call 01740 625 180.

The Newcastle Innovation Machine

What is the project about?

It will create new science businesses by identifying solutions to everyday problems. The funding will be awarded on a phased basis, depending on job and business creation results spinning out of the 'machine'. The innovation machine's database of 'unmet needs' covers a huge array of opportunities from products and services to help nurses and GPs to new specialist areas for training companies. These potential business ideas are carefully assessed to identify products and services that will address these needs, and financial viability, with the best solutions becoming new businesses to create jobs.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 250 businesses, create 27 science industry start-up companies and bring a range of new specialised jobs to the region.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle Science City

How much ERDF investment?

£2,287,075

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£4,648,602

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.newcastlesciencecity.com or contact 0191 231 2200

Sunderland Software City – Education & Innovation

What is the project about?

The University of Sunderland has secured this funding to finance its contribution to the Sunderland Software City (SSC) initiative, which is developing the region's knowledge assets and infrastructure to create and grow software enterprises and attract inward investment. The project focuses on stimulating graduate enterprise, knowledge transfer, product development and innovation R&D. It is to stimulate graduate enterprise by creating a 'Software Hatchery' to provide a dedicated support environment for small businesses to develop ideas. The hatchery will be fully equipped to support fledgling software businesses with access to a broad range of software platforms.

What will the project achieve?

Create 40 new businesses, 47 new jobs and assist 120 businesses in all.

Who is leading the project?

University of Sunderland

How much ERDF investment? £628.250

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £2,246,041

Where can I go for more information?

Contact the University of Sunderland on 0191 515 3555 or email Mark.donnelly@sunderland.ac.uk

Tees Valley Integrated Business Support Activity

What is the project about?

The investment package is for a series of localised projects encompassing disadvantaged areas across Stockton, Hartlepool and Middlesbrough. The cornerstone of the programme is 7 'Neighbourhood Enterprise Gateways' in Middlesbrough and Stockton, offering an intensive start up advice and support service from local, accessible hubs. The aim is to directly engage with people to raise awareness of enterprise and self-employment and help them set up in business. In addition, Stockton 'Routes into Enterprise' works with young people to increase involvement in enterprise and business creation, focusing on the 16-19 age group and those not in education, employment or training (NEETs). It enables them to practically learn more about setting up a business and also includes stronger engagement with schools, colleges and youth programmes to motivate more youngsters to consider self-employment.

What will the project achieve?

Specialist business start up support activity to create over 500 new businesses and 600 new jobs in the Tees Valley.

Who is leading the project?

Tees Valley Unlimited

How much ERDF investment?

£3,271,974

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £6,948,925

Where can I go for more information?

Sue Donnelly, Project co-ordinator at Stockton Borough Council on 01642 264 851 or email sue.donnelly@teesvalley-jsu.gov.uk

Graduates for Business

What is the project about?

Managed by Entrust and delivered in partnership with the University of Teesside, the project helps diagnose the needs of individual businesses and offers a solution by sourcing the right graduate with appropriate professional capability. The SME is provided with leading edge knowledge, technical advice and a subsidy for the graduate's employment cost, thus removing one of the biggest barriers to workforce growth.

What will the project achieve?

A business support initiative to assist over 200 small North East businesses and create up to 200 new jobs for university graduates.

Who is leading the project?

Entrust

How much ERDF investment?

£653,423

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,662,065

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Entrust on 0191 244 4000 or visit www.graduatesforbusiness.co.uk

PETEC LACE Electronics Technology Support

What is the project about?

To help small technology businesses exploit new market opportunities with installation of advanced, hi-tech equipment in a newly opened cleanroom at the Printable Electronic Technology Centre (PETEC) at NETPark. The PETEC Large Area Coating Equipment (LACE) project is enhancing the region's growing technology capabilities, enabling development and prototyping for plastic electronic applications in printable photovoltaics (PPV) and solid state lighting (SSL). Its technology brings innovative functions for electronic systems such as flexible computer displays used for electronic newspapers, mobile communications devices, televisions, sensors, and smart cards. These manufacturing processes typically require much lower levels of capital investment than current electronics technology, enabling small, customised devices with high design content.

What will the project achieve?

A state-of-the-art printable electronics facility to create 40 new jobs, assist 20 specialist businesses, and provide university training courses in PPV and SSL techniques.

Who is leading the project?

Centre for Process Innovation

How much ERDF investment?

£2,008,693

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£4,061,576

Where can I go for more information?

Please call the CPI on 01642 455 340 or visit www.uk-cpi.com

ERDF Technical Assistance

What is the project about?

It is about providing efficient and robust management and governance in order to ensure the effective implementation of the ERDF 2007-2013 Operational Programme (OP). ERDF Technical Assistance

will be used to part fund the costs associated with staff resources, external expertise and publicity activity needed to support the effective implementation of the Programme.

What will the project achieve?

The project is aiming to ensure that all of the programme funds are committed and spent in line with the OP's yearly expenditure targets and that all of the programme outputs and outcome targets are achieved thereby enabling the North East to achieve the overall Global Objective of the Programme to increase GVA per capita towards 90% of the UK average.

Who is leading the project?

Department for Communities and Local Government

How much ERDF investment? £4,396,842

Priority 3 – Technical Assistance

How much total investment? £8.793.690

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Raffaella Ebani at the Department for Communities and Local Government on 0303 444 6446 or email Raffaella.ebani@communities.gsi.gov.uk

JEREMIE Investment Fund/Finance for Business North East Fund

What is the project about?

The Finance for Business North East Fund - formerly called JEREMIE - will underpin the growth of business start-ups, technology-based companies and growing smaller businesses, helping to create jobs and prosperity for the region through targeted loans and equity investments. Finance for Business North East comprises six separate funds and businesses. The fund management firms leading the six funds that will comprise JEREMIE are:

- NorthStar Equity Investors, an active early stage fund management company established in Newcastle since 2004, who will manage the £15m Technology Proof of Concept Fund and the £20m Seed Fund.
- IP Group, which operates on a nationwide basis, who will run the £25m Technology Fund from offices in Newcastle.
- Rivers Capital Partners a new joint venture between leading technology investment firm E-Synergy and local business advisors Finance Tree of Newcastle - who will manage the £7.5m Angel Match Fund.
- FW Capital, a specialist in regional investment, who will manage the £20m Growth Plus Fund through their new North East office.
- NEL Fund Managers, of Newcastle, who will run the £20m Growth Fund.

What will the project achieve?

A new £125m 'super fund' to support up to 850 small and medium-sized North East companies, with the aim of creating more than 5,000 jobs over the next five years.

Who is leading the project?

North East Finance (Holdco) Ltd

How much ERDF investment? £54,250,000

Priority 1 – Enhancing & exploiting innovation

How much total investment? £142,500,000

Where can I go for more information?

Companies interested in accessing fund finance should visit www.northeastfinance.org

Sunderland Software City - Enterprise

What is the project about?

The Sunderland Software City initiative is developing the region's knowledge assets and physical infrastructure to create and grow software enterprises and attract inward investment. The BIC's contribution to the initiative is focusing on enterprise, business incubation and growth for the development of new software products and processes. Its latest investment will be used for the provision of bespoke pre-start support for software entrepreneurs, mentoring, finance, facilities and services. It will provide dedicated premises for new and growing software companies to co-ordinate start up activity and bring together a mix of managers, graduates and investors for software ventures.

What will the project achieve?

Increase the creation and growth of small businesses in the North East's software sector and create over 70 new businesses in the area.

Who is leading the project?

North East Business & Innovation Centre

How much ERDF investment?

£768,947

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £1,640,230

Where can I go for more information?

Please call the North East Business and Innovation Centre on 0191 516 6087.

Innovation Vouchers - Solutions for Business

What is the project about?

Help North East firms boost competitiveness by encouraging collaboration between SMEs and academic institutions, allowing businesses to use the vouchers to purchase support services and improve their competitiveness and efficiency. It will encourage small and medium sized companies to engage with Higher Education institutions such as the region's five universities, Innovation Connector

projects, Centres of Excellence and other Knowledge Base providers. Businesses most likely to attract support will be in the process of developing or testing a technology, product or service.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 350 businesses and safeguard 90 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Business & Enterprise North East (BENE)

How much ERDF investment? £997.633

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £2,052,100

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact BENE on 0845 600 9006.

Horizons – Export Business Support

What is the project about?

Horizons is open to companies who wish to target high-growth overseas markets and will provide them with support to develop and implement a market entry plan. Working with a dedicated UKTI International Trade Adviser, firms can apply for a Horizons grant to assist with a range of activities, such as participating in exhibitions and trade fairs; help with translation and language services; export skills development training; and, in some cases, assistance to help ensure a product complies with the standards required by a particular market. To take advantage of the scheme, companies must be targeting one of the high growth markets selected by UKTI and One North East, namely China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, India, Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, Qatar, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, North America, Japan and the Nordic countries. They must also have more than 10 employees and an annual turnover exceeding £250,000.

What will the project achieve?

Help at least 30 North East businesses to accelerate growth and increase turnover by opening up more global business opportunities. Boost the regional economy and business productivity by generating at least £10m additional turnover per annum by 2011.

Who is leading the project?

Department for Communities and Local Government

How much ERDF investment? £429.634

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £864,269

Where can I go for more information?

Please call the NE International Trade Hotline on 0845 05 05 054, email enquiries@ukti.rito.co.uk or visit www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk/ukti/north east

NHS Innovations North (ERDF)

What is the project about?

The initiative is to enable SMEs in the industry to exploit commercial ideas and create a sustainable healthcare business sector. It will help them participate in the commercialisation of NHS generated IP through the design, development and testing of new devices, and by manufacturing and marketing products under licence. Support will include market research to assess commercial potential, and assistance with clinical trials, business model development and NHS purchasing processes. The project will also allow North East businesses to tap into the NHS market with their own products and services.

What will the project achieve?

Help NHS Innovations North provide over 100 regional businesses with specialist support and access to intellectual property (IP), as well as creating 58 specialist jobs.

Who is leading the project?

NHS Innovations North

How much ERDF investment? £796,602

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £1,684,010

Where can I go for more information?

Please call NHS Innovations North on 0191 516 4400.

Design Network North

What is the project about?

One North East has appointed RTC North Limited as contractor to deliver the Design Network North initiative, which will support innovative companies in the development of high value world class products and services. The focus will be on new products and services originating from North East SMEs through the engagement of highly skilled teams of experts from the design and creative service sector, universities, industry, business support organisations, research institutes and centres of excellence.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 125 companies, create 72 new jobs and safeguard a further 150.

Who is leading the project?

Department for Communities and Local Government

How much ERDF investment?

£798,764

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £1,597,528

Where can I go for more information?

Contact RTC North on 0191 516 4400 or visit www.designnetworknorth.org

Providing access to finance for SMEs

What is the project about?

The project is putting in place a matching service and public subsidy to give SMEs and social enterprises access to expert advisors to help develop new products, processes and services. It will also help regional companies retain their skilled staff with a view to driving forward a new phase of economic growth once the recession is over.

What will the project achieve?

Help over 90 SMEs weather the economic downturn and prepare for recovery.

Who is leading the project?

One NorthEast/Wear Valley & Teesdale Enterprise Agency

How much ERDF investment?

£634,218

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,268,437

Where can I go for more information?

Contact the Teesdale Enterprise Agency on 01388 776 688.

Tees Valley SRP Capacity 2009-11

What is the project about?

The resource enables the team to work closely with the ERDF team to deliver the business support needs of the Tees Valley, help applicants develop their projects effectively and successfully and resolve any queries effectively.

What will the project achieve?

The project will ensure that operations are developed, implemented and managed in the most efficient and streamlined way possible to deliver the ERDF Programme as effectively as possible.

Who is leading the project?

Tees Valley Unlimited

How much ERDF investment? £106,929

Priority 3 – Technical Assistance

How much total investment? £213,858

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Tees Valley Unlimited on 01642 524400 or email: info@teesvalleyunlimited.gov.uk

Durham SRP Capacity 2009-11

What is the project about?

The project will combine the co-ordination of assistance to project applicants for both ERDF and Single Programme and assist with the development of the business process with applicants, resolving any queries and to action any amendments to projects that are necessary.

What will the project achieve?

The project will ensure that operations are developed, implemented and managed in the most efficient and streamlined way possible to deliver the ERDF Programme as effectively as possible.

Who is leading the project?

Durham County Council

How much ERDF investment? £75.153

Priority 3 - Technical Assistance

How much total investment? £150,305

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Durham County Council on 0303 123 7070.

Codeworks Connect/GameHorizon

What is the project about?

Codeworks Connect, the trade association for digital companies based in North East England, and Codeworks GameHorizon, a collaborative network of video games companies, are two business initiatives that support the growth of the North East's digital cluster. The investment is allowing Codeworks to continue to expand its membership and provide a larger forum for businesses to network, share software knowledge and collaborate with other SMEs within the industry.

What will the project achieve?

Increase Codeworks' network to 450 regional digital members and seek to include a greater number of software companies, IT managers and buyers in the community. Sponsor 15 Proof of Concept, software design and creative fund applications, raising £1m of funding for SMEs and sourcing £6m of business leads. Support over 500 businesses by 2011.

Who is leading the project?

Codeworks

How much ERDF investment? £971.102

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £2,920,050

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Codeworks on 0191 556 1122 or visit www.codeworks.net

Newcastle Enterprise Package

What is the project about?

Managed by the City Council, enterprise development and growth activity concentrates on identified disadvantaged areas, including neighbourhoods in the West End such as Benwell, Scotswood, Elswick, and Arthur's Hill, Byker and Walker in the East End, and Cowgate, Blakelaw, and Newbiggin Hall to the North. It works with young people to increase levels of entrepreneurship, help those needing assistance to start up their business or social enterprise, and provide support networks for existing companies. Those aspiring to set up in business or become self employed have access to a range of advice and guidance to help them from ideas generation through to business planning, procurement and financial assistance.

What will the project achieve?

Assist over 280 new and existing companies, create 150 jobs, and provide financial assistance to 120 SMEs. The key aim is to increase self employment in disadvantaged areas from 3% to the city average of 5% by 2013.

Who is leading the project?

Newcastle City Council

How much ERDF investment? £1,515,620

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £3,033,522

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Newcastle City Council on 0191 278 1855.

Raising Enterprise North Tyneside

What is the project about?

A package of business support funding for self employment to energize and stimulate enterprise in local disadvantaged wards in North Tyneside. It works in the heart of disadvantaged neighbourhoods, holding drop-in sessions and workshops in community centres around the borough to help people overcome barriers to enterprise. Mentoring and business diagnostic advice help them develop their plans before they take the next step into the mainstream Business Link service. It is specifically targeting activity at the four most deprived wards in the borough, Riverside, Wallsend, Chirton and Howdon, to create, promote and support a new culture of enterprise in these communities and their surrounding areas. Business generation workshops assist participants to assess their suitability for self-employment and provide information on potential franchise opportunities. Advisors work with individuals on a one-to-one basis to help them develop ideas by considering their existing skills, experience and interests to explore opportunities.

What will the project achieve?

North Tyneside Council is creating a Neighbourhood Enterprise Team which will target 1,500 potential entrepreneurs with pre start up ideas.

Who is leading the project?

North Tyneside Council

How much ERDF investment?

£747,387

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £1,494,774

Where can I go for more information?

Sean Collier, Manager Business and Employment on 0191 643 6409 or email sean.collier@northtyneside.gov.uk

Science to Business Hub

What is the project about?

A new science collaboration for the chemical industry and academia to nurture innovation and bridge the development gap between research and the prototyping of products and services. With a focus

on the speciality chemicals sector, the Science to business hub links with two similar projects run by CPI and NEPIC, building on existing links and a range of support organisations and representative bodies operating in the process and specialist chemicals sector. It will bring a series of supply chain events engaging with industrial experts from across the world and identifying future issues and opportunities for collaboration.

What will the project achieve?

Help over 100 small local businesses to gain a competitive edge in product development by opening up innovative relationships with academic institutions and research establishments. Support 40 sector specialists to develop and widen their expertise.

Who is leading the project?

Teesside University

How much ERDF investment? £860.343

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £1,792,381

Where can I go for more information?

David Pratt at University of Teesside on 01642 384413 or email david.pratt@tees.ac.uk or visit www.tees.ac.uk

Business Growth and Support for Enterprising Young People

What is the project about?

The project allows the continuation of the £1.3m Enterprising Young People initiative which commenced in 2006, and the new funding will encourage young people, particularly those from disadvantaged areas, to consider self employment or starting up their own business. The overall project is being delivered through The Prince's Trust North East offices covering Northumberland, Tyne & Wear, Durham and Tees Valley. A regional network of experienced staff works on an outreach basis to take business advice and guidance into local, disadvantaged areas of greatest need.

What will the project achieve?

Encourage over 300 young entrepreneurs to create their own start up companies in North East England.

Who is leading the project?

The Prince's Trust

How much ERDF investment?

£353.267

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £718,448

Where can I go for more information?

The Prince's Trust can be contacted on 0191 497 3210) or email offnero@princes-trust.org.uk

Inspire Gateshead

What is the project about?

A four pronged initiative to develop the borough's business community and encourage entrepreneurs by supporting social enterprises, new start ups and existing businesses. The project will accelerate the development of start up and fledgling companies by providing access to a range of services and targeted resources for entrepreneurs. It will also seek to engage families and local communities in a variety of enterprise development and business networking activity within disadvantaged areas of the borough.

The whole package consists of four projects: Animating Enterprise, Innovation in Social Enterprise, Business Incubation Gateshead, and Gateshead Business Community.

What will the project achieve?

The creation of new jobs and local businesses on the South side of the Tyne.

Who is leading the project?

Gateshead Council

How much ERDF investment?

£486,536

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £981,654

Where can I go for more information?

Rachel Mason at Gateshead Council on 0191 4333221 or email rachelmason@gateshead.gov.uk

R&D Globalisation Programme

What is the project about?

The project is assisting regional businesses in joint ventures, licensing, R&D, product development collaboration, technology transfer and setting up overseas subsidiaries. The outward facing service builds on the success of a proven pilot scheme and complements existing export and trade support provided by UKTI. It is working with 50 R&D based businesses each year to review their capacity to implement an international strategy and take that forward to exploit commercial opportunities. It

provides intensive support to develop this capacity to cover issues such as intellectual property rights, legal and regulatory environments, due diligence and negotiations in international fields.

What will the project achieve?

Help RTC North Ltd boost the impact of UKTI's R&D programme, assisting 150 innovative SMEs to break into international commercial sectors. Create 45 jobs, particularly in R&D, and safeguard a further 70.

Who is leading the project?

RTC North Limited

How much ERDF investment? £487,330 (+ £5,840 Technical Fix)

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £974,661 (+ £11,680 Technical Fix)

Where can I go for more information?

Contact RTC North Limited on 0191 516 4400.

Tarka (ERDF) Childcare Sector Business Support

What is the project about?

Tailored business support resources and expertise to community enterprise organisations in disadvantaged areas of County Durham. Tarka Limited is extending a specialised programme to include development for staff and volunteers, access to finance and tailored business support for not for profit enterprises. ERDF funding will sustain new or recently opened childcare businesses in the county, providing essential community enterprise support activity to maintain jobs and services during the economic downturn. Assistance will include marketing, sharing best practice, business analysis, financial management and legal support. Dovetailing with the ongoing work of SureStart and Business Link, the project will provide support for businesses, including specific advice and guidance with payroll, wage preparation and tax returns.

What will the project achieve?

Help 120 employees with specific development needs and supply 20 community enterprises with at least £1,000 of direct financial assistance.

Who is leading the project?

Tarka Limited

How much ERDF investment? £280,000

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £560,000

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Tarka Limited on 0191 377 2544

Energy & Environmental Technology Sector Support(Renew)

What is the project about?

Renew is focusing on helping SMEs get new technologies to market and fast tracking commercially viable ideas which use sustainable energy and environmental technology. This investment in the growth of the low carbon technologies sector has the potential for new jobs and additional start up companies and to help local businesses develop commercial projects. Strategic markets under consideration for early focus include a range of recycling technologies, sustainable waste treatment and waste to energy projects. Carbon capture and storage and related low carbon energy technologies are also high on the agenda.

What will the project achieve?

Help bring support expertise and growth to over 100 existing businesses in the low carbon technologies sector.

Who is leading the project?

Centre for Process Industries (CPI)

How much ERDF investment? £958,739

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £1,917,480

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.renew-cpi.com

Healthcare Technology Development Programme

What is the project about?

An integrated service for businesses to develop healthcare concepts and exploit the North East's strengths in health sciences and bring successful new products to market. It provides a clear and practical route for SMEs to transfer state-of-the-art research into commercial products such as medical devices and technological services. It offers targeted businesses fast track support and multidisciplinary expertise to include every stage of product development, from research and concept design through to feasibility, prototyping, design for manufacture and clinical testing.

What will the project achieve?

Help over 50 businesses to develop start up ideas or new products.

Who is leading the project?

Northumbria University

How much ERDF investment?

£691,174

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment?

£1,526,379

Where can I go for more information?

Teresa Kirby at Northumbria University at teresa.kirby@northumbria.ac.uk or visit www.northumbria.ac.uk

Northumberland Enterprise Bridge

What is the project about?

Delivered by NBSL (Northumberland Business Service Ltd) from its six existing Business Advice Centres in Alnwick, Berwick, Blyth, Hexham, Morpeth and Ashington, an intensive one to one support service is available for people to test, research and formulate business ideas and opportunities. It will increase self-employment and business formation rates and help produce an enterprise surge in the local economy. Guided by an experienced business coach, potential entrepreneurs can explore market opportunities, tap into sources of funding, and build up an understanding of a business plan and all the ingredients required for successful trading.

What will the project achieve?

Continuation of enterprise initiative to create 200 SMEs and 300 new jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Northumberland Business Service Ltd

How much ERDF investment? £715.213

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment?

£1,430,428

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.nbsl.org.uk

Supporting Business Resilience

What is the project about?

Providing additional support for the region's businesses during the economic downturn and active targeting of businesses to provide practical information to help businesses meet economic challenges. The package incorporates a range of assistance, including free business health checks and the roll out of a series of workshops designed to help firms take practical steps to deal with some of the issues they are facing in the current climate. Business Link experts deliver advice specifically related to the immediate economic challenges. The support package is designed to help firms affected by the downturn, with extra financial support to provide assistance towards debt management, financial structuring, expanding new markets, re-structuring and developing new products. Following visits and business health checks, Business Link advisors refer firms to the North East England Investment Centre (NEEIC).

What will the project achieve?

Assist 2,000 businesses with business healthchecks, workshops and mentoring.

Who is leading the project?

Business & Enterprise North East (BENE)

How much ERDF investment? £1,102,025

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £2,204,050

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact BENE on 0845 600 9006.

Institute of Digital Innovation (IDI) Phase 2

What is the project about?

This ERDF investment is being used to launch the second key phase of the IDI project, which began in 2005 with the provision of business accommodation and concept testing facilities. This stage is focusing on several region wide strands of business support activity delivered by the university, including DigitalCity fellowships, technology transfer, and digital inclusion and skills. It will maintain business growth in the digital sector during the current challenging economic climate. The initiative generates enterprise activity and employment opportunities for regional graduates, with financial support and expertise to enable them to develop and take ideas to business start up stage.

What will the project achieve?

Investment in digital technology facilities and financial support for SMEs to develop commercial ideas is to create 90 more new businesses.

Who is leading the project?

University of Teesside

How much ERDF investment? £1,923,190

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £4,642,135

Where can I go for more information?

Please visit www.idi-uk.org

Digital Placements & Knowledge Transfer

What is the project about?

Codeworks, the region's centre for digital innovation, secured this funding to continue with a highly successful programme that brings together SMEs with the latest digital knowledge and creativity from local universities. It allows Codeworks to tap into graduate knowledge and cutting edge research to help SMEs collaborate with the region's five universities and further develop the region's thriving digital industry cluster. The project brings industry and the universities closer together to address specific technology needs of SMEs and provide technical solutions by finding graduates with the appropriate digital know-how to undertake specific projects designed and developed by individual businesses. The upsurge of interaction and knowledge transfer between universities and SMEs focuses on improving product development, processes and the environment, particularly for businesses involved in healthcare and health sciences.

What will the project achieve?

Create and safeguard 80 jobs and assist 120 businesses in the digital sector.

Who is leading the project?

Codeworks (0191 556 1122)

How much ERDF investment? £578.513

Priority 1 – Enhancing and Exploiting Innovation

How much total investment? £2,100,014

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Codeworks on 0191 556 1122 or visit www.codeworks.net

Business & Enterprise North East IDB Project

What is the project about?

Opening up more business support solutions and funding opportunities, enhancing the existing Business Support Simplification Programme to improve customer service. The project offers more

account managed, tailored support to start up businesses and individuals via the Business Link branded information, diagnostic and brokerage (IDB) service. It also increases business support delivery in hard to reach areas and in communities with lower business densities. It enables approximately £4m per annum to be added to the value of solutions funding available to businesses and start ups using the service.

What will the project achieve?

Help double the number of relationship and account managers for the Business Link service, allowing more businesses and individuals to access support, to create 700 new businesses and 750 jobs.

Who is leading the project?

Business & Enterprise North East (BENE)

How much ERDF investment? £10,479,766

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £20,959,531

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact BENE on 0845 600 9006.

The Flexible Families Project

What is the project about?

The project helps parents and carers explore the benefits of running their own enterprise when it comes to managing childcare, getting back into employment or supplementing their income. It runs workshops and one-to-one mentoring through Sure Start and community centres, baby and toddler groups, nurseries, and health and leisure services. These support parents and carers in looking at how enterprise could work for their needs - helping them to develop their ideas and reach sources of support, as well as linking them with other people who are thinking about launching a business around caring responsibilities.

What will the project achieve?

Support new parents and carers in North East England to start their own businesses for more flexibility in family life.

Who is leading the project?

One North East

How much ERDF investment? £490,550

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £981,100

Where can I go for more information?

Contact Tim Pain at One North East on 0191 229 6400 or email tim.pain@onenortheast.co.uk

Design Centre for the North East – Premium Lease

What is the project about?

This relates to the initial costs and work which finalised the detailed design and specification of the Northern Design Centre.

What will the project achieve?

The project will lead to the creation of the Northern Design Centre.

Who is leading the project?

Homes and Communities Agency

How much ERDF investment?

£311,876

Priority 1 – Enhancing and exploiting innovation

How much total investment?

£623,752

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact the Homes and Communities Agency on 0300 1234 500.

Durham SRP Capacity

What is the project about?

This project will continue to facilitate and support the implementation of the ERDF Programme, ensuring that operations are developed, implemented and managed in the most efficient and streamlined way possible.

What will the project achieve?

It will contribute towards the achievement of the programme ensuring that all expenditure targets are met and the best possible results delivered for Durham.

Who is leading the project?

Durham County Council

How much ERDF investment? £16.487

Priority 3 – Technical Assistance

How much total investment? £32,974

Where can I go for more information?

Please contact Durham County Council on 0303 123 7070.

The MAS-NEPA Service

What is the project about?

To help MAS North East deliver a groundbreaking manufacturing support service to increase business productivity, boost start up and survival rates and improve environmental performance. The new ERDF programme is making a major contribution to a £30m contract to provide the combined Manufacturing Advisory Service (MAS) and the North East Productivity Alliance (NEPA). The MAS-NEPA project will make a major contribution to the ambition of the ERDF Competitiveness programme 2007-13 and the Regional Economic Strategy by increasing the numbers and survival of business start ups in the region, boosting business productivity and improving environmental performance.

What will the project achieve?

Assist 720 SMEs with improved performance and energy efficiency, create 46 jobs and safeguard 690

Who is leading the project?

MAS-NEPA/MAS North East

How much ERDF investment? £3,665,306

Priority 2 – Business Growth and Enterprise

How much total investment? £7,974,336

Where can I go for more information?

Contact MAS North East on 0191 501 8609, email enquiries@mas-northeast.co.uk or visit http://www.mas.bis.gov.uk/north-east

Ends