



Department for  
Communities and  
Local Government

# Business Support Guide

West Midlands European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)  
Programme 2007—2013

Version 1: August 2012



EUROPEAN UNION  
Investing in Your Future  
European Regional  
Development Fund 2007-13

# Introduction to the Guide

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## West Midlands ERDF Programme Business Support Guide

From 2007 to 2013, the West Midlands European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Programme is providing €400 million of investment to a range of initiatives and projects that stimulate local growth and regeneration, create jobs and support local businesses.

The West Midlands ERDF Programme Business Support Guide captures the details of all the current business support initiatives being delivered in the region providing help and guidance on where individual businesses seeking assistance can go for more information.

The initiatives have been separated by the three main types of support available:

- **Expertise and Advice**
- **Grant**
- **Equity or Loan Fund**

For each initiative the guide provides a short summary of the project and the category of support businesses can receive, any specific eligibility criteria and contact details for further information. At the back of the guide you will also find a quick reference table detailing all the initiatives featured showing the different categories of business support offered. Please note that an initiative may appear more than once in the guide should it be providing more than one type of support. This is referenced at the bottom of each project table.

The guide will be updated regularly to ensure all the latest ERDF business support initiatives are included. An interactive searchable version of the guide is also available on the West Midlands ERDF section of the Department for Communities and Local Government website at:

[www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/regenerationfunding/europeanregionaldevelopment/westmidlands/keydocuments/erdfprojects/](http://www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/regenerationfunding/europeanregionaldevelopment/westmidlands/keydocuments/erdfprojects/)

For enquires relating to the production of the guide or general information on the West Midlands Programme, contact the Programme Delivery Team: West Midlands on 0303 444 6587 or email: [WM.ERDFenquiries@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:WM.ERDFenquiries@communities.gsi.gov.uk)

# Expertise and Advice

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Accelerating Innovation in Mass Market Housing and Green Homes (AIM HIGH)</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Birmingham City Council (lead), RESCO, Buy for Good, G.Purchase Construction
<b>Description of Project</b>	This low carbon project looks to help SMEs in the West Midlands learn about and take forward business opportunities using innovative technologies focussed on energy efficiency within the housing market. Businesses can access support and guidance explaining how to enter the environmental technologies market and form consortiums with like-minded businesses to successfully bid for contracts within this area.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Collaborative Research and Development Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services Graduate Placements
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands Other: State Aid de-minimis requirement apply
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 December 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Roger Dunthorne Organisation: Birmingham City Council Telephone: 0121 464 4884 Email: Roger.Dunthorne@birmingham.gov.uk

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Advanced Materials Programme</b> <b>(1) Creating and Characterising Next Generation of Advanced Materials</b> <b>(2) Innovative Uses for Advanced Materials in the Modern World</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	University of Birmingham (1) (lead) , University of Warwick University of Warwick (2) (lead), University of Birmingham
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The Advanced Materials programme has expertise to cover everything from materials synthesis, analysis and characterization through to processing and device fabrication.</p> <p>With an investment of £10 million the programme has unrivalled expertise in both nano and bulk functional materials and processing. The state-of-the-art equipment and expertise are available to business and are applicable to a vast range of problems in the materials area facing industry today.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Resource Efficiency Collaborative Research and Development Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services Graduate Placements
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
<b>End Date of Project</b>	July 2018 (1) September 2018 (2)
<b>More Information</b>	<p>           Name: Richard Simpson (1)            Organisation: University of Birmingham            Telephone: 0121 414 9544            Email: r.simpson.1@bham.ac.uk         </p> <p>           Name: Karl West (2)            Organisation: University of Warwick            Telephone: 07824 541172            Email: k.s.west@warwick.ac.uk            Website: <a href="http://www.birminghamsciencecity.co.uk/research-alliance/">www.birminghamsciencecity.co.uk/research-alliance/</a> </p>

**This project also provides grant support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Advantage Media Production Fund</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Creative England
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The Advantage Media Production Fund was set up in 2007 to support the development of the West Midlands as an economic hub for filmmaking in the UK and to provide access to finance for SMEs active in this sector.</p> <p>The fund exists to provide production finance to film production companies based in the West Midlands. Supported projects can be of any genre including documentaries, but must be feature length and intended for theatrical release.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up (businesses must start an SPV to access funding)</p> <p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Resource Efficiency</p> <p>Collaborative Research and Development</p> <p>Knowledge Transfer</p> <p>Creating and Improving Products and Services</p> <p>International Trade (in the case of international co-productions)</p> <p>Business Finance</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: This is a sector specific project designed specifically to benefit feature film production companies based in the West Midlands</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	December 2013
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Creative England Talent Team</p> <p>Organisation: Creative England</p> <p>Telephone: 0844 824 6042</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:talent@creativeengland.co.uk">talent@creativeengland.co.uk</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.creativeengland.co.uk/">www.creativeengland.co.uk/</a></p>

**This project also provides equity or loan fund support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Assistive Technologies and Community Healthcare Project</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Health Design and Technology Institute at Coventry University
<b>Description of Project</b>	The project provides innovation support to the development of community healthcare products. This can either take the form of product design or the evaluation of products with end users from the target market through usability studies to support proof-of-concept and ongoing design and development.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands  Other: The project focuses specifically on supporting the development of non-medical healthcare products which have the potential to help older people, disabled people and people living with long-term conditions to manage their conditions better and improve their independence.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	30 November 2013
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Guy Smallman Organisation: Coventry University Telephone: 0247 615 8000 Email: gsmallman@cad.coventry.ac.uk Website: <a href="http://www.coventry.ac.uk/hdti">www.coventry.ac.uk/hdti</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Burslem Building Improvement Scheme</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Stoke-on-Trent City Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	The Burslem Building Improvement Scheme aims to restore the integrity of the historically important street scene within Burslem Town Centre area and to act as an economic driver for the Town by restoring the urban fabric, bringing buildings back into economic use and acting as an enabler by attracting/creating new business and employment.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Improving Premises or Developing New Sites
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Stoke only
<b>End Date of Project</b>	30 June 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Julian Read Organisation: Stoke-on-Trent City Council Telephone: 01782 232305 Email: julian.read@stoke.gov.uk

**This project also provides grant support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>CASiM<sup>2</sup>: Centre for Advanced Simulation and Modelling for Manufacturing</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	University of Birmingham, The Manufacturing Technology Centre, Loughborough University, Rolls Royce, Airbus in the UK
<b>Description of Project</b>	Businesses will be able to learn about the benefits of computational engineering in manufacture particularly in the areas of high integrity fabrication, near net shape manufacture, intelligent automation, and intelligent tooling and fixturing. This will be achieved by the use of targeted demonstration activities which will show how these techniques have been applied to solve real manufacturing challenges.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Resource Efficiency Collaborative Research and Development Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
<b>End Date of Project</b>	June 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Dr Jean-Christophe Gebelin Organisation: University of Birmingham Telephone: 0121 414 7881 Email: j.gebelin@bham.ac.uk



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Centre of Refurbishment Excellence</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Centre of Refurbishment Excellence
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>A national independent centre of learning and skills development for building refurbishment adopting a 'fabric first, but not fabric only' approach. The project will offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accredited training and learning programmes.</li> <li>• Business support and development.</li> <li>• Vocational courses with College Partners.</li> <li>• Practical product training led by suppliers and manufacturers.</li> <li>• Real life demonstrations in purpose designed display spaces.</li> <li>• A unique conference venue of an international standard.</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Growing and Improving Your Business  Resource Efficiency  Collaborative Research and Development  Knowledge Transfer  Creating and Improving Products and Services  Improving Premises or Developing New Sites</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: This project predominantly works with SMEs, however other sized businesses are also able to enquire regarding support.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	30 June 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Deb Rudge  Organisation: Centre of Refurbishment Excellence  Telephone: 01782 603786  Email: <a href="mailto:info@core-skills.com">info@core-skills.com</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.core-skills.com">www.core-skills.com</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Classic Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KEEN)</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	University of Wolverhampton (lead), Aston University, Birmingham City University, University of Birmingham, University College Birmingham, Coventry University, Harper Adams University College, Keele University, Newman University College, Staffordshire University, University of Warwick, University of Worcester
<b>Description of Project</b>	KEEN offers a level of flexibility to companies who are yet to realise their full potential. This is made possible through the transfer of knowledge into the business via a recent graduate (Affiliate) who is recruited to work full-time on a growth project, developed in association with the university, for six to 24 months. The university supports the company from application stage, during recruitment and for the lifetime of the project.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Resource Efficiency Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands  Other: SMEs only  If companies have previously received Knowledge Transfer via a KTP then the KEEN must be in an entirely different area/field in order to be eligible. More than 1 KEEN can be considered for a company but must be in a different specialisms in order to be eligible. Companies will be reimbursed towards the cost of the Affiliate salary; this will be dependent on sufficient evidence submitted via claim to the Partner University.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 July 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Emma Pearson Organisation: University of Wolverhampton Telephone: 01902 321654 Email: emma.pearson@wlv.ac.uk Website: <a href="http://www.wlv.ac.uk/keen">www.wlv.ac.uk/keen</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Competitiveness Through Collaboration</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	metnet (Marches Environmental Technologies Network) metnet is a partnership between Herefordshire Council, Shropshire Council, Telford and Wrekin and Worcestershire County Council (administered by Shropshire Council)
<b>Description of Project</b>	metnet supports businesses providing environmental goods and services (including waste management) based in the Marches (Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin) and businesses looking to diversify into the sector.  The network provides a range of free events including tailored businesses briefings and exhibiting opportunities ; promotes collaborative working through networking events; keeps members up to date on funding availability and sector news through its regular bulletins and provides a point of contact for finding the right person to talk to whether you have a new idea and need assistance from leading specialists or have a query for your local council
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Collaborative Research and Development Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services Graduate Placements Business Finance
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Herefordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire only  Other: SMEs only and must be an environmental company (including waste management) or a company looking to diversify into the environmental sector.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	March 2014
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Patricia Head / Dr Jane Yardley Organisation: Shropshire County Council Telephone: 01584 838249 / 838248 Email: metnet@shropshire.gov.uk Website: <a href="http://www.met-net.co.uk/">www.met-net.co.uk/</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Coventry and Warwickshire Enterprise and Business Growth Package: Enabling Innovation and Growth</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry City Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>This strand will focus on helping technology and digital businesses access and grow new markets. Businesses will be encouraged to join and/or develop collaborative supply chains to address such issues as funding, new product development, skills and training and tendering.</p> <p>Individual businesses and proposed supplier groups also have access to a portfolio of activities including access to finance, investments, marketing and people management. Grant support may also be available to businesses actively working with the package to grow, diversify, modernise and create new jobs in Coventry &amp; Warwickshire.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Collaborative Research and Development</p> <p>Knowledge Transfer</p> <p>Creating and Improving Products and Services</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: Coventry and Warwickshire only</p> <p>Other: SMEs only operating in the following sectors: Transport Technologies, Specialist Business and Professional Services, Information &amp; Communication Technologies, Environmental Technologies.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	December 2014
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Rachael Price</p> <p>Organisation: Coventry City Council</p> <p>Telephone: 0247 683 1208</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:Rachael.price@coventry.gov.uk">Rachael.price@coventry.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.coventry.gov.uk">www.coventry.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Coventry and Warwickshire Enterprise and Business Growth Package: Resource Efficiency Business Support</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry City Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>Support is available to improve business performance in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resource efficiency – identifying potential improvements and cost savings</li> <li>• Environmental management system (ISO 14001) implementation and support</li> <li>• Environmental training - raising general environmental awareness, waste duty of care and spill response training</li> <li>• Environmental audits</li> <li>• Audits of your environmental impacts and your legislative compliance.</li> </ul> <p>Grant support may also be available to businesses actively working with the package to grow, diversify, modernise and create new jobs in Coventry &amp; Warwickshire.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Resource Efficiency
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: Coventry and Warwickshire only</p> <p>Other: SMEs only operating in the following sectors: Transport Technologies, Building Technologies, Food &amp; Drink, Tourism &amp; Leisure, High Value Added Consumer, Specialist Business and Professional Services, Information &amp; Communication Technologies, Environmental Technologies, Screen and New Media for Education and Entertainment , Medical Technologies.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	December 2014
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Monika Bzowy  Organisation: Coventry City Council  Telephone: 0247 683 2416  Email: <a href="mailto:monika.bzowy@coventry.gov.uk">monika.bzowy@coventry.gov.uk</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.business-sustain.com">www.business-sustain.com</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Coventry and Warwickshire Enterprise and Business Growth Package: Accelerated Growth Business Support</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>This project offers face to face support for SMEs with the potential to achieve 'accelerated business growth'. Accelerated business growth is defined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New businesses with the potential to achieve £350k turnover or employ four or more staff in their first three years of trading.</li> <li>• Existing businesses with 1 – 9 employees with the potential to increase turnover by £350k over three years.</li> <li>• Existing businesses with 10 or more employees with the potential to increase annual turnover or employment by 5-10% over three years.</li> </ul> <p>Grant support may be available to businesses actively working with the package to grow, diversify, modernise and create new jobs in Coventry &amp; Warwickshire.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Growing and Improving Your Business          Creating and Improving Products and Services          Investment Readiness Support          Business Finance</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: Coventry and Warwickshire only</p> <p>Other: SMEs only operating in the following sectors: Transport Technologies, Building Technologies, Food &amp; Drink, Tourism &amp; Leisure, High Value Added Consumer, Specialist Business and Professional Services, Information &amp; Communication Technologies, Environmental Technologies, Screen and New Media for Education and Entertainment , Medical Technologies.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	December 2014
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Howard Andersen          Organisation: Coventry &amp; Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce          Telephone: 0247 665 4203          Email: <a href="mailto:howarda@cw-chamber.co.uk">howarda@cw-chamber.co.uk</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.cw-chamber.co.uk">www.cw-chamber.co.uk</a></p>

**This project also provides grant support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Coventry and Warwickshire Enterprise and Business Growth Package: Start Up Support</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce
<b>Description of Project</b>	This project offers a programme of workshops and face to face assistance for individuals wishing to start a business. This will cover advice and guidance on the range of issues encountered at the start up stage such as business planning, finance, legal issues, sales and marketing. The strand also offers assistance for new start businesses during their first year of trading.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up Investment Readiness Support Business Finance
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Coventry and Warwickshire only  Other: Support is available to individuals that live in Coventry, Nuneaton or Bedworth and are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unemployed</li> <li>• At risk of redundancy</li> <li>• In low paid work</li> <li>• Planning to start a high growth business in the Coventry and Warwickshire priority sectors.</li> </ul>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	December 2014
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Howard Andersen Organisation: Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce Telephone: 0247 665 4203 Email: <a href="mailto:howarda@cw-chamber.co.uk">howarda@cw-chamber.co.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.cw-chamber.co.uk">www.cw-chamber.co.uk</a>

**This project also provides grant support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Creative Enterprise</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry University
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>If you are starting up or running a creative business based in the West Midlands, the Creative Enterprise project can offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mentoring from specialists in your field</li> <li>• Business advice</li> <li>• Workshops and seminars</li> <li>• Academic expertise</li> <li>• Hot desking space</li> <li>• Networking events</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up          Growing and Improving Your Business          Knowledge Transfer          Creating and Improving Products and Services</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: SMEs only working in the creative sector (arts, design or media) with an annual turnover of 50 million or less and less than 25% controlled, either solely or jointly, by firms that are not SMEs.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	28 February 2014
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Peter McLuskie          Organisation: Coventry University          Telephone: 0247 615 8303          Email: <a href="mailto:pmcluskie@cad.coventry.ac.uk">pmcluskie@cad.coventry.ac.uk</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.creativeenterprise.org">www.creativeenterprise.org</a></p>



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Design Space</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Birmingham City Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>This project aims to promote the sustainability of businesses in the Jewellery Quarter in Birmingham by supporting new and existing businesses as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides incubation support and business advice/mentoring and guidance for start up businesses over a 12 month placement</li> <li>• Provides existing businesses with advice/mentoring/product development support</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up          Growing and Improving Your Business          Creating and Improving Products and Services          Managed Workspace          Business Finance</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: SMEs only working within the jewellery businesses sector.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	March 2013
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Manjit Bassra          Organisation: Birmingham City Council          Telephone: 0121 303 4873          Email: manjit.bassra@birmingham.gov.uk          Website: <a href="http://www.birmingham.gov.uk">www.birmingham.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Digital Heritage Demonstrator Project</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	University of Birmingham, New Library Birmingham, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, The HIVE Worcester, Ironbridge Gorge Museums Trust
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The project aims to demonstrate how collaborative projects exploring the use of digital technology with the Cultural and Heritage sector can develop new markets and increase profits for business.</p> <p>Alongside the newly appointed, dedicated on-site technical development team, the project will also enlist the skills and expertise of a wide range of additional academics from across the University of Birmingham including the School of Computer Science, the Human Computer Interaction Research Centre and the School of Electronic, Electrical and Computer Engineering.</p> <p>Based in the new purpose built Heritage and Cultural Learning Hub at the University of Birmingham, the project will offer tailored support from a wide range of experts in the field of digital technology and innovation and provide access to a suite of innovative multi-user, 3D multi-touch technologies, mobile devices and tablets, advanced user-testing facilities and augmented reality tools, all integrated into a unique digital prototyping lab.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Collaborative Research and Development</p> <p>Knowledge Transfer</p> <p>Creating and Improving Products and Services</p> <p>Graduate Placements</p> <p>Investment Readiness Support</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: SMEs only and State Aid rules apply.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	December 2014
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Gino Bellavia</p> <p>Organisation: University of Birmingham</p> <p>Telephone: 0121 414 9154</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:contacts@dhd.bham.ac.uk">contacts@dhd.bham.ac.uk</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/hclh">www.birmingham.ac.uk/hclh</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Enterprise 1830</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	The Prince's Trust
<b>Description of Project</b>	Enterprise 1830 gives young people, aged 18 to 30 pre-start support, start-up support and post-start mentoring. Clients may apply for start-up finance, subject to eligibility.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
	Other: This project is designed to help young people aged 18 to 30 and are unemployed at the time of application.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	March 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Gareth Smith Organisation: The Prince's Trust Telephone: 0121 772 9230 Email: <a href="mailto:gareth.smith@princes-trust.org.uk">gareth.smith@princes-trust.org.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.princes-trust.org.uk">www.princes-trust.org.uk</a>

**This project also provides equity or loan fund support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Enterprise Catalyst (2) Business Support Initiative</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Enterprising Communities at Birmingham City Council (lead), Winning Moves Ltd, Business and Learning Centre, Business Insight, Digbeth Trust
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The project seeks to build an entrepreneurial culture amongst disadvantaged communities and support businesses to grow. It will achieve this by engaging with entrepreneurs and fledgling businesses and provide intensive and integrated business support packages, including access to micro-finance, to unemployed clients, individuals interested in starting a business, and existing businesses seeking to expand and diversify.</p> <p>Overall, the project will engage with 2,500 individuals and businesses, assist 476 individuals to start a business in the designated target area of the city, and provide ongoing tailored support to 265 businesses (49 of whom will be social enterprises) to reduce or remove the barriers to business growth, in particular the availability of seed-corn or small-scale finance so that they can achieve growth.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up</p> <p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Knowledge Transfer</p> <p>Creating and Improving Products and Services</p> <p>Investment Readiness Support</p> <p>Improving Premises or Developing New Sites</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: Birmingham only within the following wards: Aston, Bordesley Green Hodge Hill, Ladywood, Lozells and East Handsworth, Moseley and Kings Heath, Nechells, Soho, South ardley, Sparkbrook, Springfield, Washwood Heath</p> <p>Other: SMEs and new start ups only; including Social Enterprises.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	20 June 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Aftab Ahmed</p> <p>Organisation: Birmingham City Council</p> <p>Telephone: 0121 675 7584</p> <p>Email: Aftab.ahmed@birmingham.gov.uk</p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/enterprisingcommunities">www.birmingham.gov.uk/enterprisingcommunities</a></p>

**This project also provides grant support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Enterprise Coaches</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Stoke-on-Trent City Council (lead), Business Enterprise Support Ltd
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The Coaches cover the whole of the City of Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire Moorlands District and Newcastle under Lyme.</p> <p>The Enterprise Coach service is available to any resident in these areas who is looking to explore the idea of working for themselves. The Coaches are there to offer support and guidance from an initial idea through to setting up a business.</p> <p>They can help with marketing ideas, business planning, personal survival budgets, networking and confidence building. All there services are completely free of charge.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Stoke and Staffordshire only
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 December 2014
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Gaynor Parkinson          Organisation: Business Enterprise Support Ltd          Telephone: 0783 465 7828          Email: <a href="mailto:gaynorp@enterprisesupport.org">gaynorp@enterprisesupport.org</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.enterprisesupport.org">www.enterprisesupport.org</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Entrepreneurs for the Future (e4f)</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Birmingham Science Park Aston
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>This is a dedicated programme to help the next generation of tech start ups deliver commercial success. For 6 months, the programme provides:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Desk/office space</li> <li>• Office infrastructure (phones, internet)</li> <li>• Networking &amp; Events (50 + a year)</li> <li>• Specialist support (Legal, Finance, HR etc.)</li> <li>• Mentoring</li> <li>• Access to finance (grants, loans, investment)</li> <li>• Access to people resources (interns, graduates, University support)</li> <li>• Free support from our Technology Sponsors</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up          Growing and Improving Your Business          Creating and Improving Products and Services          Investment Readiness Support          Managed Workspace</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: SMEs only and working in the technology sector.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 December 2013
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Katherine Preston          Organisation: Birmingham Science Park Aston          Telephone: 0121 250 3518          Email: <a href="mailto:katherinep@bsp-a.com">katherinep@bsp-a.com</a>          Website: <a href="http://e4f.bsp-a.com/">e4f.bsp-a.com/</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>European Bioenergy Research Institute (EBRI)</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Aston University
<b>Description of Project</b>	The project can briefly be described as the creation of a bioenergy demonstration facility combined with business engagement activities that will firmly establish the West Midlands as the European leader in bioenergy technology development, application and commercialisation.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Collaborative Research and Development Knowledge Transfer
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
<b>End Date of Project</b>	30 June 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Thomas Anderson Organisation: Aston University Telephone: 0121 204 3345 Email: t.anderson1@aston.ac.uk Website: <a href="http://www.bioenergy-midlands.org">www.bioenergy-midlands.org</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Exploiting Servitisation in West Midlands SMEs</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Aston Business School (lead), UK Councils for Electronic Business (UK CeB), Pera Consulting
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>Manufacturers are increasingly choosing to link a portfolio of services to their products. These services strengthen relationships with customers, create new and resilient revenue streams and set high barriers for competition. This services-led competitive strategy is achieved through a process known as servitisation.</p> <p>The project will work with West Midlands manufacturing SMEs to help them understand, and implement, creative servitisation strategies. In terms of the support available, there will be a team, from Aston Business School and industry, helping them to understand, and appreciate, the benefits of implementing a service-led competitive strategy in their manufacturing environment.</p> <p>This support will include: awareness events; workshops; one-to-one mentoring; support to help with the implementation of servitisation; and regular networking events. The project will support in excess of 400 SMEs.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Knowledge Transfer</p> <p>Creating and Improving Products and Services</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: SMEs only who manufacture products and have between 10 to 250 staff. Ideally suited to SMEs with a turnover in excess of £1 million and willing to consider implementing a service-led competitive strategy.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	April 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Eleanor Musson</p> <p>Organisation: Aston University</p> <p>Telephone: 0121 204 3580</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:e.musson@aston.ac.uk">e.musson@aston.ac.uk</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www1.aston.ac.uk/abs/">www1.aston.ac.uk/abs/</a></p>



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Fibre Optic Laser Sensing Technologies</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Aston University
<b>Description of Project</b>	The project will reinforce the West Midlands early start in two recently emerged enabling technologies - fibre lasers and optical bio-nano-sensing opening ways for innovative knowledge transfer, demonstration of new applications, commercialisation, and forming base for future sustainable incubation of new regional businesses.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Collaborative Research and Development Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 August 2012
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Sergei Turitsyn Organisation: Aston University Telephone: 0121 204 3538 Email: s.k.Turitsyn@aston.ac.uk

This project also provides grant support.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Generating Employment Opportunities</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	Supports SMEs with the recruitment of local people.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Knowledge Transfer Graduate Placements
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Solihull only
	Other: SMEs only and adhere to State Aid
<b>End Date of Project</b>	March 2013
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Sarah Bowers Organisation: Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council Telephone: 0121 704 8568 Email: sarahbowers@solihull.gov.uk Website: <a href="http://www.solihullforsuccess.com/geo">www.solihullforsuccess.com/geo</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Graduate Placement Service</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Graduate Advantage (lead), Birmingham City University, Worcester University, Wolverhampton University, Keele University, Coventry University.
<b>Description of Project</b>	Businesses can benefit from graduate internships for short term projects up to 12 months in duration. Subject to eligibility businesses can benefit from our payroll and hr service covering the cost of employers NI during the first 12 weeks of the internship. We also offer voluntary internships for smaller businesses subject to a rationale and we offer paid internships to all SME organisations.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Graduate Placements
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands Other: SMEs only
<b>End Date of Project</b>	January 2014
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Julie Stonall Organisation: Aston University Telephone: 0121 204 4832 Email: <a href="mailto:j.stonall@aston.ac.uk">j.stonall@aston.ac.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.graduateadvantage.co.uk">www.graduateadvantage.co.uk</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Growing the Social Enterprise Sector in the West Midlands</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry and Warwickshire CDA, ISE, SWEDA, Community Council of Shropshire, Community First (Herefordshire and Worcestershire)
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>Groups seeking to set up social enterprises and existing social enterprises in the West Midlands can receive comprehensive advisory support including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advice on business planning</li> <li>• Marketing</li> <li>• Financial controls and raising finance</li> <li>• Company formation and legal structures</li> <li>• Managing employees</li> <li>• Sales and promotion</li> <li>• Setting up trading arms</li> <li>• Entering new markets</li> <li>• Income generation</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up          Growing and Improving Your Business          Creating and Improving Products and Services          Investment Readiness Support          Business Finance</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Birmingham, Solihull, Coventry, Warwickshire, South Black Country, North Black Country, Herefordshire, Shropshire and Worcestershire only
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 August 2012
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Verina Garner          Organisation: CWCDA          Telephone: 0247 663 3911          Email: <a href="mailto:info@cwcdaco.uk">info@cwcdaco.uk</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.cwcdaco.uk">www.cwcdaco.uk</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>HEART of ENGLAND fine foods—Improving and Growing Food and Drink Businesses within the Supply Chain</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	HEART of ENGLAND fine foods Ltd
<b>Description of Project</b>	This project will provide support, advice and mentoring to existing and start up food and drink businesses to assist them improve business and profitability through development of new and existing markets both in the UK and overseas.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up Growing and Improving Your Business Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services International Trade
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
<b>End Date of Project</b>	March 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Ann Murphy Organisation: HEART of ENGLAND fine foods Ltd Telephone: 01743 452818 Email: ann.murphy@heff.co.uk Website: <a href="http://www.heff.co.uk">www.heff.co.uk</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Human Interface Technologies Applied Research Centre</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd (lead), Aston University
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>Human interface technologies (HIT) refer to the natural and humanistic ways that humans interface with digital devices as well as with other people remotely over large distances using the full range of human senses and gestures.</p> <p>The HIT-ARC project will establish a Research Centre in Coventry as well as satellite locations across the West Midlands focussed on providing collaborative R&amp;D support to SMEs and entrepreneurs wishing to develop a HIT-related product. The Centres will enable each client to develop their innovative “HIT” product idea through access to a maximum of 10 days support including research time and facilities, IP and commercialisation support and additional business focussed training.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Collaborative Research and Development Creating and Improving Products and Services
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: SMEs only</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	30 June 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Louise Fidler  Organisation: Coventry University Enterprise Ltd  Telephone: 0247 615 8201  Email: l.fidler@coventry.ac.uk</p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Innovation 1st</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	University of Wolverhampton, Business Solutions
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>Innovation 1<sup>st</sup> aims to ensure that businesses are given the knowledge and support to help them grow on. The project provides two days of fully funded support with a technical focus, aimed at assisting companies. This can be to develop new products, processes or services by raising the current technology level in their business; or by adopting an existing technology. The project provides the necessary information on the 'how' and the contacts for the 'who'. The support will look at the company's current position, its current and future plans then provide a bespoke Implementation Plan.</p> <p>The Visualisation Centres showcase and advise companies on how they can utilise cutting edge technology such as touch-sensitive LED screens, interactive whiteboards and presentation recording facilities to conceptualise business problems and formulate innovative solutions. Equipped with single or multi-point video conferencing, desktop sharing capability, touch-table and combined with a presentation recording facility, the Centres hold the key to a wealth of knowledge, helping companies work more innovatively, smartly and effectively.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up</p> <p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Resource Efficiency</p> <p>Knowledge Transfer</p> <p>Graduate Placements</p> <p>International Trade</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
<b>End Date of Project</b>	30 June 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Paul Burrow</p> <p>Organisation: University of Wolverhampton</p> <p>Telephone: 01902 518954</p> <p>Email: P.M.Burrow@wlv.ac.uk</p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.wlv.ac.uk/innovation1st">www.wlv.ac.uk/innovation1st</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Innovation University Enterprise Network (iUEN)</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd (lead), Wolverhampton University
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The iUEN project will support growth businesses based within the West Midlands in creating, developing and implementing new business opportunities through open innovation (OI). The project will support SMEs look at trends in OI, the benefits of OI, how to set up OI procedures and develop in-house skills as well as support collaborations with large organisations.</p> <p>It is specifically designed so that SMEs and large organisations can increase the effectiveness of their innovation processes.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Creating and Improving Products and Services</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: Businesses need to be working within the sectors of niche vehicles, digital media or assistive technologies.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 May 2014
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Louise Marjoram</p> <p>Organisation: Coventry University Enterprises Ltd</p> <p>Telephone: 0797 498 4283</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:lmajoram@cad.coventry.ac.uk">lmajoram@cad.coventry.ac.uk</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.coventry.ac.uk/enterprise">www.coventry.ac.uk/enterprise</a></p>



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Interiors &amp; Lifestyle Futures</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Birmingham City University
<b>Description of Project</b>	This project focuses on the development of the Interiors & Lifestyle Futures community through business to business networking, product showcasing and other events. Directly assists smaller SMEs to develop market and development strategies through visioning and other innovation related workshops.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up Growing and Improving Your Business Collaborative Research and Development Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands  Other: Businesses should be in the interiors and lifestyles sectors to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interiors: furniture, furnishings, textiles, carpets, floor and wall coverings, kitchens, bedrooms, bathrooms, ceramics, lighting, window products, interior architecture, fixtures and fittings.</li> <li>• Lifestyle products: jewellery and silverware, fashion, clothing and accessories, travel goods, leather goods, sports and leisure goods, homewares (including ceramics and glass), giftware and artworks.</li> </ul>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	30 September 2012
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Kathryn Burns Organisation: Interiors and Lifestyle Futures Telephone: 0121 331 7808 Email: Kathryn@ilfutures.co.uk Website: <a href="http://www.ilfutures.co.uk">www.ilfutures.co.uk</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Investing in the City Region</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Marketing Birmingham (lead), Birmingham City Council, Birmingham Airport, Black Country Consortium Association, Centro, Dance X Change, Sandwell Council, Solihull Council, Southside BID, Walsall Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	A project to join up the Birmingham, Black Country and Solihull City Region activity to increase investment, business events and visitor expenditure. The project includes the provision of business support to 500 SMEs.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Resource Efficiency Creating and Improving Products and Services Business Finance
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Birmingham, Solihull, South Black Country and North Black Country only  Other: SMEs only operating in the Priority 3 areas of Birmingham, Black Country and Solihull. Retail and construction businesses are exempt from applying.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	September 2014
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Ivor Marsh Organisation: Marketing Birmingham Telephone: 0121 202 5155 Email: <a href="mailto:ivor.marsh@marketingbirmingham.com">ivor.marsh@marketingbirmingham.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.businessbirmingham.com/services/erdf-opportunities">www.businessbirmingham.com/services/erdf-opportunities</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Journey for Success: Enterprise</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	The project provides potential entrepreneurs with advice and support to help them set up a business through both one to session and workshops on key business issues including finance and marketing. It also offers the same support to young businesses in the area during their first 12 months of trading.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up Growing and Improving Your Business Business Finance
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Solihull only
<b>End Date of Project</b>	September 2014
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Enterprise for Success Team Organisation: Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council Telephone: 0121 704 6363 Email: <a href="mailto:enterprise@solihull.gov.uk">enterprise@solihull.gov.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.solihullforsuccess.com/business/setting-up-a-business/enterprise-for-success">www.solihullforsuccess.com/business/setting-up-a-business/enterprise-for-success</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Let's Do—Boosting Business Performance</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce & Industry
<b>Description of Project</b>	This project offers businesses support through mentoring, targeted workshops and events and an annual business-to-business exhibition, the largest in Staffordshire.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Stoke and Staffordshire only
	Other: SMEs only and no retail.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 May 2013
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Adele Cope Organisation: North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce & Industry Telephone: 01782 213929 Email: <a href="mailto:adelec@nscci.co.uk">adelec@nscci.co.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.nscciprojectteam.co.uk">www.nscciprojectteam.co.uk</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Make It—Your Business</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Stoke-on-Trent City Council (lead), North Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The project will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver an inclusive Supply Chain Readiness Network, covering Contract Letting, dissemination of information on Policy and Initiatives with signposting to contracts relating to those initiatives.</li> <li>• Support Businesses to engage and improve in the key sectors of Construction, Ceramics, Creative and Health &amp; Med Tech.</li> <li>• Provide a web based solution for supply chain activity</li> <li>• Provide network support through a series of face to face events which have proven to be the most effective channel for building supply chain relationships and linking business support opportunities to key sector initiatives.</li> <li>• Utilise network data and networking events to identify key organisations with specific support and development requirements.</li> <li>• Link directly to the NSCCI Mentor Programme as an identifiable business support solution.</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Stoke and Staffordshire only.
	Other: SMEs only working in the sectors of Construction, Creative, Ceramics, Health and Medical Technologies.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 March 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Steve Lovatt          Organisation: Stoke-on-Trent City Council          Telephone: 01782 236632          Email: miyourbusiness@stoke.gov.uk</p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>New Technologies and Applications for Identification, Location and Sensing (NTAILS)</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	University of Wolverhampton, IT Futures
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The project's main objective is to facilitate collaboration between the University and West Midlands businesses such as tourism and manufacturing looking to adopt new technologies. This can include free business assistance in the adoption of these technologies, equipment loan, graduate placements, free to attend seminars and inclusion on an ICT network and suppliers database. The NTAILS Demonstrator Centre showcases technologies such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Radio Frequency Identification (RFID),</li> <li>• Automatic Identification and Data Capture (AIDC),</li> <li>• Barcodes and Quick Response (QR) Codes, Sensors and Global Positioning System (GPS).</li> </ul> <p>Visitors to the Centre will have the opportunity to use the technology and be guided on its application to their business.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up          Growing and Improving Your Business          Resource Efficiency          Collaborative Research and Development          Knowledge Transfer          Creating and Improving Products and Services          Graduate Placements</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: SMEs only, although there is an opportunity to work with a limited number of larger companies.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 December 2013
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Richard Przeplata          Organisation: University of Wolverhampton          Telephone: 01902 518506          Email: Richard.przeplata@wlv.ac.uk          Website: <a href="http://www.it-futures.com">www.it-futures.com</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>North Arran Way—Access Co-ordination &amp; Enterprise</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The project is being delivered in three sections:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access - Integrated access and public realm scheme within North Arran Way Village Centre and the surrounding neighbourhood.</li> <li>• Co-ordination – Create a local stakeholders forum to work collaboratively to deliver more co-ordinated services and linking economic benefits to physical, community and environmental interventions in order to maximise opportunities for the local community.</li> <li>• Enterprise - Development and 'fitting out' of business support and incubation space with intensive business planning support for third sector organisations, helping to improve sustainability and creating an environment to encourage more community management in the extended Package Plan area.</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Solihull only include the following wards: Bickenhill, Castle Bromwich, Chelmsley Wood, Elmdon, Kingshurst & Fordbridge, Lyndon, Olton, Shirley East, Shirley South, Shirley West, Silhill and Smith's Wood.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	June 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Rachel Westwood          Organisation: Solihull MBC          Telephone: 0121 704 6047          Email: <a href="mailto:rwestwood@solihull.gov.uk">rwestwood@solihull.gov.uk</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.solihullforsuccess.com/business/business-support/community-enterprise-support/">www.solihullforsuccess.com/business/business-support/community-enterprise-support/</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>North Staffordshire Employment and Skills Service</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Stoke-on-Trent City Council, JET Service
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>Through this project Jet Business provides a free professional and comprehensive recruitment service which understands your business needs, market position, values and future objectives.</p> <p>The company work throughout the local area to provide unemployed people with the confidence and skills they need to get back to work. All of the training provided is work related, nationally recognised, up-to-date and relevant to today's workplace. All candidates are fully trained and the company provide free skills training to businesses and organisations throughout North Staffordshire.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Stoke and North Staffordshire only
<b>End Date of Project</b>	June 2013
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Lindsay Mitchell (Employment Broker)</p> <p>Organisation: Stoke-on-Trent City Council</p> <p>Telephone: 01782 231215</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:Lindsay.mitchell@stoke.gov.uk">Lindsay.mitchell@stoke.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.jet2work.org.uk">www.jet2work.org.uk</a></p>



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>North Staffordshire Inward Investment</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Stoke-on-Trent City Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>A new dedicated inward investment service to cover Stoke-on-Trent and the North Staffordshire area. The Make It Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Inward Investment Service can help specifically with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information for businesses to choose the optimum location</li> <li>• Identification of suitable sites and premises</li> <li>• Help with logistics such as site visits and area tours</li> <li>• Advice on available funding and incentives</li> <li>• Support in relation to skills, training, salaries and recruitment costs</li> <li>• Assistance with industry and market research</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up Investment Readiness Support Improving Premises or Developing New Sites Business Finance</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: Stoke and North Staffordshire only</p> <p>Other: Retail businesses are not eligible.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	June 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: John Willis  Organisation: Stoke-on-Trent City Council  Telephone: 0300 111 8005  Email: <a href="mailto:john.willis@stoke.gov.uk">john.willis@stoke.gov.uk</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.makeitstokestaffs.co.uk">www.makeitstokestaffs.co.uk</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Promoting Biomarker Development in West Midlands SMEs</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Aston University
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The project aims to assist West Midland SMEs to develop sophisticated and innovative biomarker technologies for their given field (for example identification of disease onset/progression or detection of contaminants such as bacteria and viruses).</p> <p>The use of biomarkers will allow for quicker analysis with increased sensitivity whilst reducing overall costs, thereby increasing SME competitiveness.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Knowledge Transfer</p> <p>Creating and Improving Products and Services</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: SMEs only. State Aid received by companies during the last 36 months must not exceed €200,000</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	30 April 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Dr Rachel Willetts</p> <p>Organisation: Aston University</p> <p>Telephone: 0121 204 5163</p> <p>Email: r.willetts@aston.ac.uk</p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Science City Energy Efficiency</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	University of Warwick (lead), University of Birmingham
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The project is focused on developing technologies for low carbon buildings and vehicles. It has research facilities and expertise in areas such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solar/thermal technologies,</li> <li>• Power electronics, smart grids and control</li> <li>• New fuels and engine testing facilities (road and rail) including electric, hybrid, diesel and bio-fuels</li> </ul> <p>The project works with businesses who are interested developing their energy technologies or testing and analysing products and equipment.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Collaborative Research and Development Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
<b>End Date of Project</b>	December 2019
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Andrew Todd Organisation: University of Warwick Telephone: 0247 657 5483 Email: Andrew.todd@warwick.ac.uk Website: <a href="http://www.birminghamsciencecity.co.uk/research-alliance">www.birminghamsciencecity.co.uk/research-alliance</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Serious Games Studio</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>This project will provide a secure prototype development studio, which will bring together regional SMEs in the Interactive Digital Media Industry (Serious Games Sector) with potential commissioners (buyers) of Serious Games and digital media products, in order to support the development of highly innovative concepts into unique prototypes.</p> <p>The project will run a minimum of 30 two or three week studio sessions which will generate significant R&amp;D in the regional Serious Games Companies.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Knowledge Transfer</p> <p>Creating and Improving Products and Services</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: Limited capacity of support left within project</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 December 2012
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: George Constantinou</p> <p>Organisation: Coventry University Enterprises Ltd</p> <p>Telephone: 0797 498 4130</p> <p>Email: georgic@cad.coventry.ac.uk</p>

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<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Smarter Working West Midlands</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd
<b>Description of Project</b>	The Project will be working with businesses in the West Midlands to increase productivity, increase turnover, reduce carbon emissions and support job creation by accelerating the adoption of more sustainable working practices (Smarter Working).
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Resource Efficiency Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 October 2014
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Corinne Edwards Organisation: Coventry University Enterprises Ltd Telephone: 0797 498 4350 Email: c.edwards@coventry.ac.uk

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>SPEED Plus</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	University of Wolverhampton (lead), Keel University, Staffordshire University, Birmingham City University, Coventry University
<b>Description of Project</b>	This project provides business start-up assistance for students and graduates and associates of the partner institutions.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
	Other: Beneficiaries will generally already be linked to the partner universities.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	July 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Steve Moore Organisation: University of Wolverhampton Telephone: 01902 518960 Email: speed@wlv.ac.uk

**This project also provides grant support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Staffordshire Business Incubation Support</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Staffordshire and Black Country Business Innovation Centre Limited
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>Provision of intensive advice and assistance to businesses with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help with finance, marketing, communications, electro/mechanical, innovation, medical technology and creative industries areas.</li> <li>• Grant/funding for specialist advice/assistance</li> <li>• Workshops and Seminars, focusing on New product development; marketing; leadership; protecting your innovation; funding;</li> <li>• Accommodation (fully furnished with ICT) on flexible weekly terms</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up          Growing and Improving Your Business          Resource Efficiency          Creating and Improving Products and Services          Investment Readiness Support          Managed Workspace          Business Finance</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: Stoke and Staffordshire only</p> <p>Other: SMEs only in the following sectors: ICT, Creative, High Value Added, Medical Tech, Business &amp; Professional Services and Building Technologies.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 March 2013
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Jackie Millward / Sandra Butterworth          Organisation: Staffordshire and Black Country Business Innovation Centre Limited          Telephone: 01782 333798          Email: Jackie.millward@thebic.co.uk          Website: <a href="http://www.thebic.co.uk">www.thebic.co.uk</a></p>

**This project also provides grant support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Supporting Employment and Enterprise Development (SEED)</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Access to Business Wolverhampton (lead), SWEDA West Bromwich
<b>Description of Project</b>	This project provides support into self employment for disadvantaged groups offering access to business advice, enterprise workshops, networking, enterprise awareness events and ongoing business support.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up Growing and Improving Your Business
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: South Black Country and North Black Country only  Other: To gain support from this project you must be unemployed, a Black Country resident and fall under one of the categories: disability/ women/BME
<b>End Date of Project</b>	January 2014
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Susan Hughes Organisation: Access 2 Business Telephone: 01902 572397 Email: <a href="mailto:susan@access2business.co.uk">susan@access2business.co.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.access2business.co.uk">www.access2business.co.uk</a>



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Sustainable Building Futures</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry University
<b>Description of Project</b>	The project allows West Midlands SMEs to engage in the collaborative development, testing, assessment, and implementation of innovative environmental technology products and services for use in sustainable construction. The project is fully funded by Coventry University and ERDF and offers an exceptional opportunity for eligible businesses to benefit from knowledge transfer in this sector.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Starting Up</li> <li>Growing and Improving Your Business</li> <li>Resource Efficiency</li> <li>Collaborative Research and Development</li> <li>Knowledge Transfer</li> <li>Creating and Improving Products and Services</li> <li>Graduate Placements</li> <li>Improving Premises or Developing New Sites</li> <li>International Trade</li> </ul>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
	Other: SMEs only
<b>End Date of Project</b>	30 June 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Andrew Tonks          Organisation: Coventry University          Telephone: 0797 498 4683          Email: ATonks@cad.coventry.ac.uk          Website: <a href="http://www.coventry.ac.uk/sbf">www.coventry.ac.uk/sbf</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Technology and Innovation Futures West Midlands</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd in partnership with the Manufacturing Technology Centre
<b>Description of Project</b>	The Technology and Innovation Futures in partnership with Manufacturing Technology Centre will support West Midlands SMEs, linking foresight and strategic planning directly to technology identification development, adoption and commercialisation. As a result the project will drive the uptake of baseline technologies and subsequent adoption of new-to-market and future and emerging technologies (outlined through the UK foresight programme) that will see prominence and be mainstreamed in the 2020's .
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Resource Efficiency Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 May 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Corinne Edwards Organisation: Coventry University Enterprises Ltd Telephone: 0797 498 4350 Email: c.edwards@coventry.ac.uk

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>The Early Advantage Fund</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Midven Limited
<b>Description of Project</b>	The Fund makes predominantly equity investments alongside private individuals and/or institutions into early stage businesses in most sectors.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up Growing and Improving Your Business Creating and Improving Products and Services Investment Readiness Support Business Finance
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands  Other: SMEs only. There are some sectoral restrictions and the Fund cannot invest in a “company in difficulty” as defined in European Commission guidance.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 December 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Duncan Kerr Organisation: Midven Telephone: 0121 710 1990 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@midven.com">enquiries@midven.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.midven.co.uk">www.midven.co.uk</a>

**This project also provides equity or loan fund support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>The Exceed Fund</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Midven Limited
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The project provides risk capital and advice to businesses in the West Midlands. The fund can make an initial investment of up to £500,000.</p> <p>Our focus is on dynamic businesses with the potential to create a strong competitive position in a large growing market, helping them to achieve their goals and build profitable businesses with attractive exit options. We actively support the businesses we invest in, building close relationships and providing advice, guidance and opportunities.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up</p> <p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Business Finance</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: SMEs only however companies can vary in size from complete start-ups to those employing up to 250 people.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 December 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Surjit Kooner</p> <p>Organisation: Midven Limited</p> <p>Telephone: 0121 710 1990</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@midven.com">enquiries@midven.com</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.midven.co.uk">www.midven.co.uk</a></p>

**This project also provides equity or loan fund support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>The International Institute for Product and Service Innovation</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Warwick Manufacturing Group at the University of Warwick
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The International Institute for Product and Service Innovation is a centre of expertise with a business support programme for SMEs in the West Midlands to get access to new technology and ideas to develop new products and services. Services offered include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Customised Company Projects</li> <li>• Workshops</li> <li>• Product Innovation Clinics</li> <li>• Technology Demonstrations</li> <li>• Access to Student and Graduate Projects</li> <li>• Research and Development Collaboration</li> <li>• Assistance in Developing Funding Bids and Grant Applications</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up          Growing and Improving Your Business          Collaborative Research and Development          Knowledge Transfer          Creating and Improving Products and Services          Graduate Placements</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: SMEs only. The project is particularly interested in working with high growth potential technology enabled businesses.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	June 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Eleanor Precious          Organisation: University of Warwick          Telephone: 0247 657 5594          Email: <a href="mailto:e.r.precious@warwick.ac.uk">e.r.precious@warwick.ac.uk</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.warwick.ac.uk/iipsi">www.warwick.ac.uk/iipsi</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Ultra Efficient Lighting Product Development Centre (UELPDC)</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Birmingham Science Park Aston
<b>Description of Project</b>	The Ultra Efficient Lighting Product Development Centre is a programme that is providing selected West Midlands SMEs with advice and guidance for Ultra Efficient Lighting, Product Development and adoption. We are brokering, through the supply chain, the Implementation of 20 novel technologies into innovative products and processes before the end of March 2014
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Collaborative Research and Development Creating and Improving Products and Services
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands  Other: Businesses must comply with EU State Aid, be within the West Midlands and a supplier to or a customer of the lighting industry.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	March 2014
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Paul Williams Organisation: LUX-TSI Telephone: 0121 260 6150 Email: pwilliams@lux-tsi.com Website: <a href="http://www.optical-pc.co.uk/programmes">www.optical-pc.co.uk/programmes</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>West Midlands Industrial Symbiosis NET (WM_ISNET)</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	International Synergies Ltd
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The core objective of this project is to impart regional resource knowledge, specific innovative concepts, and practical techniques to businesses across the West Midlands, thereby extending industrial symbiosis thinking and embedding the approach within a greatly expanded range of industries, sectors and clusters within the region.</p> <p>The support provided by this project should increase the capacity of companies and their workforces to take advantage of the business opportunities identified by Industrial Symbiosis, enabling them to improve business performance through identification of opportunities for collaborative networking, sharing of under-utilised resources and access to technical information and support.</p> <p>The project will also enable participants to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the capability of their workforce and build a strong skills and knowledge base</li> <li>• Understand and manage their resources in all its forms and implement strategies to become more efficient and competitive</li> <li>• Identify and overcome technological barriers to resource efficiency</li> <li>• Identify new market opportunity within the West Midlands region</li> <li>• Overcome regulatory barriers by greater engagement of the Environmental Agency to influence and change the regulatory approach.</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Resource Efficiency
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 March 2013
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Dr Adrian Murphy          Organisation: International Synergies Ltd          Telephone: 0121 433 2680          Email: <a href="mailto:Adrian.murphy@international-synergies.com">Adrian.murphy@international-synergies.com</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.international-synergies.com">www.international-synergies.com</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>West Midlands SME Internationalisation Project</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd (lead), West Midlands Chamber of Commerce LLP, UK Trade and Investment.
<b>Description of Project</b>	The project offers direct support to eligible West Midlands SMEs to assist them in developing their international business aspirations and potential. The support covers both direct grant assistance and also advice and information on overseas priority opportunity markets and international innovation considerations.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	International Trade
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
	Other: SMEs only
<b>End Date of Project</b>	March 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Julie Coles Organisation: Coventry University Enterprises Ltd Telephone: 0247 623 6406 Email: <a href="mailto:wmint@cad.coventry.ac.uk">wmint@cad.coventry.ac.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.chamberinternationaltrade.co.uk">www.chamberinternationaltrade.co.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk">www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk</a>

**This project also provides grant support.**



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Worcestershire Resource and Efficiency Programme</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Worcestershire County Council (lead), Hereford & Worcester Chamber of Commerce
<b>Description of Project</b>	The project provides advice and grant support to SMEs to enable them to improve energy and water efficiency, reduce waste and increase profitability. Support available includes grants for installation of equipment, behaviour change programmes and research into process analysis, improved packaging and ecodesign.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Resource Efficiency Creating and Improving Products and Services Improving Premises or Developing New Sites
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Worcestershire only  Other: SMEs only employing fewer than 250 staff and with turnover of less than 50 million Euros per annum. To receive support businesses need to be working in the eligible sectors of manufacturing and construction. This project cannot support businesses within retail or primary agriculture sectors.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	March 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Chris Atkinson Organisation: Worcestershire County Council Telephone: 01905 822816 Email: <a href="mailto:sustainability@worcestershire.gov.uk">sustainability@worcestershire.gov.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/business">www.worcestershire.gov.uk/business</a>

**This project also provides grant support.**

# Grants

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Advanced Materials Programme</b> <b>(1) Creating and Characterising Next Generation of Advanced Materials</b> <b>(2) Innovative Uses for Advanced Materials in the Modern World</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	University of Birmingham (1) (lead) , University of Warwick University of Warwick (2) (lead), University of Birmingham
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The Advanced Materials programme has expertise to cover everything from materials synthesis, analysis and characterization through to processing and device fabrication.</p> <p>With an investment of £10 million the programme has unrivalled expertise in both nano and bulk functional materials and processing. The state-of-the-art equipment and expertise are available to business and are applicable to a vast range of problems in the materials area facing industry today.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Resource Efficiency Collaborative Research and Development Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services Graduate Placements
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
<b>End Date of Project</b>	July 2018 (1) September 2018 (2)
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Richard Simpson (1) Organisation: University of Birmingham Telephone: 0121 414 9544 Email: r.simpson.1@bham.ac.uk  Name: Karl West (2) Organisation: University of Warwick Telephone: 07824 541172 Email: k.s.west@warwick.ac.uk Website: <a href="http://www.birminghamsciencecity.co.uk/research-alliance/">www.birminghamsciencecity.co.uk/research-alliance/</a>

This project also provides expertise and advice support.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Black Country Business Property Investment Programme</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Walsall Council (lead), Dudley Council, Sandwell MBC, Wolverhampton City Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	Grant funding is available to assist SMEs by improving the stock of business premises. A maximum of 35% funding is available to assist companies with filling viability gaps which are hampering development. The main aim of the Programme is to increase BREEAM accredited new or refurbished floorspace which will assist with creating new jobs and prompting growth in the economy.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up Growing and Improving Your Business Resource Efficiency Improving Premises or Developing New Sites Managed Workspace Business Finance
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: South Black Country and North Black Country only
<b>End Date of Project</b>	1 December 2014
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Kauser Agha Organisation: Walsall Council Telephone: 01922 654756 Email: aghak@walsall.gov.uk

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Burslem Building Improvement Scheme</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Stoke-on-Trent City Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	The Burslem Building Improvement Scheme aims to restore the integrity of the historically important street scene within Burslem Town Centre area and to act as an economic driver for the Town by restoring the urban fabric, bringing buildings back into economic use and acting as an enabler by attracting/creating new business and employment.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Improving Premises or Developing New Sites
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Stoke only
<b>End Date of Project</b>	30 June 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Julian Read Organisation: Stoke-on-Trent City Council Telephone: 01782 232305 Email: julian.read@stoke.gov.uk

**This project also provides expertise and advice support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Coventry and Warwickshire Enterprise and Business Growth Package: Accelerated Growth Business Support</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>This project offers face to face support for SMEs with the potential to achieve 'accelerated business growth'. Accelerated business growth is defined as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New businesses with the potential to achieve £350k turnover or employ four or more staff in their first three years of trading.</li> <li>• Existing businesses with 1 – 9 employees with the potential to increase turnover by £350k over three years.</li> <li>• Existing businesses with 10 or more employees with the potential to increase annual turnover or employment by 5-10% over three years.</li> </ul> <p>Grant support may be available to businesses actively working with the package to grow, diversify, modernise and create new jobs in Coventry &amp; Warwickshire.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Growing and Improving Your Business          Creating and Improving Products and Services          Investment Readiness Support          Business Finance</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: Coventry and Warwickshire only</p> <p>Other: SMEs only operating in the following sectors: Transport Technologies, Building Technologies, Food &amp; Drink, Tourism &amp; Leisure, High Value Added Consumer, Specialist Business and Professional Services, Information &amp; Communication Technologies, Environmental Technologies, Screen and New Media for Education and Entertainment , Medical Technologies.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	December 2014
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Howard Andersen          Organisation: Coventry &amp; Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce          Telephone: 0247 665 4203          Email: <a href="mailto:howarda@cw-chamber.co.uk">howarda@cw-chamber.co.uk</a>          Website: <a href="http://www.cw-chamber.co.uk">www.cw-chamber.co.uk</a></p>

**This project also provides expertise and advice support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Coventry and Warwickshire Enterprise and Business Growth Package: Start Up Support</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce
<b>Description of Project</b>	This project offers a programme of workshops and face to face assistance for individuals wishing to start a business. This will cover advice and guidance on the range of issues encountered at the start up stage such as business planning, finance, legal issues, sales and marketing. The strand also offers assistance for new start businesses during their first year of trading.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up Investment Readiness Support Business Finance
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Coventry and Warwickshire only  Other: Support is available to individuals that live in Coventry, Nuneaton or Bedworth and are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unemployed</li> <li>• At risk of redundancy</li> <li>• In low paid work</li> <li>• Planning to start a high growth business in the Coventry and Warwickshire priority sectors.</li> </ul>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	December 2014
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Howard Andersen Organisation: Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce Telephone: 0247 665 4203 Email: <a href="mailto:howarda@cw-chamber.co.uk">howarda@cw-chamber.co.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.cw-chamber.co.uk">www.cw-chamber.co.uk</a>

**This project also provides expertise and advice support.**

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<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Dudley Townscape Heritage Initiative</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	This project provides grant towards improvements to historical shop fronts and/or refurbishment of heritage buildings.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Improving Premises or Developing New Sites
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: South Black Country only
<b>End Date of Project</b>	July 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Emma Pardoe Organisation: Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council Telephone: 0796 412 9874 Email: Emma.Pardoe@dudley.gov.uk

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>East and North Birmingham Industrial Corridors</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Birmingham City Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The East and North Birmingham Industrial Corridors area focuses on the core employment activities located around the A41, A34, A45, A38 and A47. These are important arterial routes into and out of the city, where a variety of businesses and industries have located over the years. The programme supports SMEs and organisations within the Corridor areas who wish to improve and develop their land and property. There are two levels of funding available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Property Assistance: Grants will be payable as a contribution of up to 50% of eligible property development costs, up to a maximum of £100,000. Applications on a first come first served basis.</li> <li>• Key Opportunities: Grants can be awarded at contribution rate of up to 35% of the eligible project development costs from a minimum grant value of £100,000.</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Improving Premises or Developing New Sites
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: Birmingham only</p> <p>Other: SMEs only or organisations equivalent in size and governance as per the EU SME definition. In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants must be private sector and ERDF eligible businesses</li> <li>• No retail or other marketable business-to-public activity</li> <li>• Specific outputs on improved business floor space, jobs created / safeguarded</li> <li>• Support subject to planning permission and match funding in place</li> </ul>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	<p>June 2015 (grant funded projects)</p> <p>Programme likely to close to new applicants by June 2014.</p>
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Planning and Regeneration Team</p> <p>Organisation: Birmingham City Council</p> <p>Telephone: 0121 303 1115</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:planningandregenerationenquiries@birmingham.gov.uk">planningandregenerationenquiries@birmingham.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/erdf">www.birmingham.gov.uk/erdf</a></p>



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Electric and Intelligent Vehicles Project</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The project offers grant support for West Midlands SMEs looking to access expertise relating to electric and intelligent vehicle technologies.</p> <p>This support aims to help businesses to diversify into new and emerging markets; build their knowledge, expertise and capability; and help to attract major new business to the West Midlands. Grants will cover 40% of the total SME spend which can be between £20,000 - £50,000. The grant can be used towards project related costs such as consultancy, I.P.R, market research or the use of facilities for testing and certification.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up</p> <p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Resource Efficiency</p> <p>Creating and Improving Products and Services</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: SMEs only working within the Automotive sector.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	December 2013
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Khezir Akhtar</p> <p>Organisation: Coventry University Enterprises Ltd</p> <p>Telephone: 0247 623 6245</p> <p>Email: kakhtar@cad.coventry.ac.uk</p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Enterprise Catalyst (2) Business Support Initiative</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Enterprising Communities at Birmingham City Council (lead), Winning Moves Ltd, Business and Learning Centre, Business Insight, Digbeth Trust
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The project seeks to build an entrepreneurial culture amongst disadvantaged communities and support businesses to grow. It will achieve this by engaging with entrepreneurs and fledgling businesses and provide intensive and integrated business support packages, including access to micro-finance, to unemployed clients, individuals interested in starting a business, and existing businesses seeking to expand and diversify.</p> <p>Overall, the project will engage with 2,500 individuals and businesses, assist 476 individuals to start a business in the designated target area of the city, and provide ongoing tailored support to 265 businesses (49 of whom will be social enterprises) to reduce or remove the barriers to business growth, in particular the availability of seed-corn or small-scale finance so that they can achieve growth.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up</p> <p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Knowledge Transfer</p> <p>Creating and Improving Products and Services</p> <p>Investment Readiness Support</p> <p>Improving Premises or Developing New Sites</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: Birmingham only within the following wards: Aston, Bordesley Green Hodge Hill, Ladywood, Lozells and East Handsworth, Moseley and Kings Heath, Nechells, Soho, South ardley, Sparkbrook, Springfield, Washwood Heath</p> <p>Other: SMEs and new start ups only; including Social Enterprises.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	20 June 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Aftab Ahmed</p> <p>Organisation: Birmingham City Council</p> <p>Telephone: 0121 675 7584</p> <p>Email: Aftab.ahmed@birmingham.gov.uk</p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/enterprisingcommunities">www.birmingham.gov.uk/enterprisingcommunities</a></p>

**This project also provides expertise and advice support.**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Fibre Optic Laser Sensing Technologies</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Aston University
<b>Description of Project</b>	The project will reinforce the West Midlands early start in two recently emerged enabling technologies - fibre lasers and optical bio-nano-sensing opening ways for innovative knowledge transfer, demonstration of new applications, commercialisation, and forming base for future sustainable incubation of new regional businesses.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Collaborative Research and Development Knowledge Transfer Creating and Improving Products and Services
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 August 2012
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Sergei Turitsyn Organisation: Aston University Telephone: 0121 204 3538 Email: s.k.Turitsyn@aston.ac.uk

This project also provides expertise and advice support.

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<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Innovation Networks Phase 2</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd
<b>Description of Project</b>	Innovation Networks offers capital or revenue grants of £10,000 to West Midlands SMEs that are collaborating on the development of an innovative new product, process or service.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Collaborative Research and Development Creating and Improving Products and Services
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
<b>End Date of Project</b>	March 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Gill Roberts Organisation: Coventry University Enterprises Ltd Telephone: 0247 623 6391 Email: groberts@cad.coventry.ac.uk Website: <a href="http://www.innovation-networks.co.uk">www.innovation-networks.co.uk</a>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Investing for Enterprise Space: Digbeth and the Jewellery Quarter</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Birmingham City Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>A Grants programme to encourage the improvement and development of key vacant, derelict or underused properties and sites for economic use. Funding is targeted at SME enterprises located in the Digbeth and Jewellery Quarter (inc surrounding area) of Birmingham. There are two levels of funding available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Property Assistance: Grants will be payable as a contribution of up to 50% of eligible property development costs from a minimum grant value of £20,000 up to a maximum of £100,000 Applications on a first come first served basis.</li> <li>• Key Opportunities: Grants can be awarded at contribution rate of up to 35% of the eligible project development costs from a minimum grant value of £100,000.</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Improving Premises or Developing New Sites
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: Birmingham only</p> <p>Other: SMEs only or organisations equivalent in size and governance as per the EU SME definition. In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants must be private sector and ERDF eligible businesses</li> <li>• No retail or other marketable business-to-public activity</li> <li>• Specific outputs on improved business floor space, jobs created / safeguarded</li> <li>• Support subject to planning permission and match funding in place</li> </ul>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	<p>June 2015 (grant funded projects)</p> <p>Programme likely to close to new applicants by June 2014.</p>
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Planning and Regeneration Team</p> <p>Organisation: Birmingham City Council</p> <p>Telephone: 0121 303 1115</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:planningandregenerationenquiries@birmingham.gov.uk">planningandregenerationenquiries@birmingham.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/erdf">www.birmingham.gov.uk/erdf</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Niche Innovation Scheme</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The scheme offers West Midlands SMEs R&amp;D grants of between £4,000 and £20,000 to develop new products for the Niche Vehicle Sector which are focussed on the Low Carbon Agenda.</p> <p>Grants must be used to cover the cost of purchasing services from established research partners such as Universities or Technology organisations to develop new and innovative products. The grant can cover up to 40% of the total project costs.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Collaborative Research and Development</p> <p>Creating and Improving Products and Services</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: SMEs only in the following categories: manufacturers of niche vehicles (volumes less than 5000 units per annum) and manufacturers of systems and/or components for niche vehicles across the following sectors: Automotive, Bus &amp; truck, Off-highway, Motor sports, Leisure vehicles. Projects must be focused on low carbon technologies :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electric machines and power electronics</li> <li>• Internal combustion engines</li> <li>• Energy storage and energy management</li> <li>• Intelligent mobility</li> <li>• Light weight vehicle and power train structures</li> </ul>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 December 2012
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Suzi Archer</p> <p>Organisation: Coventry University Enterprises Ltd</p> <p>Telephone: 0247 623 6326</p> <p>Email: sarcher@cad.coventry.ac.uk</p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Shropshire and Herefordshire Business Enterprise Fund</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Shropshire Council (lead), Herefordshire Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	Businesses can obtain grants to start-up businesses of £1,500 more established businesses can obtain grants of up to £5,000 both match funded by the applicant. Projects need to show how the investment will make a step change to the business performance.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up Business Finance
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Herefordshire and Shropshire only  Other: SMEs only with fewer than 250 employee's based in the two authority area's. Exemptions include Retail, Business to Consumer, Annex 1, Land Based Businesses. Can fund Tourism Businesses if they can demonstrate that they are attracting increased visitors numbers from outside of the area.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	December 2013
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Shropshire:  Name: Barbara Rogers  Organisation: Shropshire Council  Telephone: 01743 252596  Email: <a href="mailto:business@shropshire.gov.uk">business@shropshire.gov.uk</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/sbef">www.shropshire.gov.uk/sbef</a></p> <p>Herefordshire:  Name: Lyndsay McCron  Organisation: Herefordshire Council  Telephone: 01432 383633  Email: <a href="mailto:imccron@herefordshire.gov.uk">imccron@herefordshire.gov.uk</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/business">www.herefordshire.gov.uk/business</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>SPEED Plus</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	University of Wolverhampton (lead), Keel University, Staffordshire University, Birmingham City University, Coventry University
<b>Description of Project</b>	Business start-up assistance for students and graduates and associates of the partner institutions.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
	Other: Beneficiaries will generally already be linked to the partner universities.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	July 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Steve Moore Organisation: University of Wolverhampton Telephone: 01902 518960 Email: speed@wlv.ac.uk

This project also provides expertise and advice support.



<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Staffordshire Business Incubation Support</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Staffordshire and Black Country Business Innovation Centre Limited
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>Provision of intensive advice and assistance to businesses with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help with finance, marketing, communications, electro/mechanical, innovation, medical technology and creative industries areas.</li> <li>• Grant/funding for specialist advice/assistance</li> <li>• Workshops and Seminars, focusing on New product development; marketing; leadership; protecting your innovation; funding;</li> <li>• Accommodation (fully furnished with ICT) on flexible weekly terms</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up          Growing and Improving Your Business          Resource Efficiency          Creating and Improving Products and Services          Investment Readiness Support          Managed Workspace          Business Finance</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: Stoke and Staffordshire only</p> <p>Other: SMEs only in the following sectors: ICT, Creative, High Value Added, Medical Tech, Business &amp; Professional Services and Building Technologies.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 March 2013
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Jackie Millward / Sandra Butterworth          Organisation: Staffordshire and Black Country Business Innovation Centre Limited          Telephone: 01782 333798          Email: Jackie.millward@thebic.co.uk          Website: <a href="http://www.thebic.co.uk">www.thebic.co.uk</a></p>

This project also provides expertise and advice support.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Tyseley Property Assistance Programme and Tyseley Key Opportunities Programme</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Birmingham City Council
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The Tyseley Industrial Area covers over 230 businesses and around 100 hectares of traditional industrial and employment land. As well as being recognised as an important industrial location it has been identified as needing investment in the physical environment - particularly the under utilised sites and premises. These programmes supports SMEs and organisations within the area who wish to improve and develop their land and property. There are two levels of funding available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Property Assistance: Grants will be payable as a contribution of up to 50% of eligible property development costs, up to a maximum of £100,000. Applications on a first come first served basis.</li> <li>• Key Opportunities: Grants can be awarded at contribution rate of up to 35% of the eligible project development costs from a minimum grant value of £100,000.</li> </ul>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Improving Premises or Developing New Sites
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: Birmingham only</p> <p>Other: SMEs only or organisations equivalent in size and governance as per the EU SME definition. In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicants must be private sector and ERDF eligible businesses</li> <li>• No retail or other marketable business-to-public activity</li> <li>• Specific outputs on improved business floor space, jobs created / safeguarded</li> <li>• Support subject to planning permission and match funding in place</li> </ul>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	<p>June 2015 (grant funded projects)</p> <p>Programme likely to close to new applicants by June 2014.</p>
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Planning and Regeneration Team</p> <p>Organisation: Birmingham City Council</p> <p>Telephone: 0121 303 1115</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:planningandregenerationenquiries@birmingham.gov.uk">planningandregenerationenquiries@birmingham.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/erdf">www.birmingham.gov.uk/erdf</a></p>

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>West Midlands SME Internationalisation Project</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd (lead), West Midlands Chamber of Commerce LLP, UK Trade and Investment.
<b>Description of Project</b>	The project offers direct support to eligible West Midlands SMEs to assist them in developing their international business aspirations and potential. The support covers both direct grant assistance and also advice and information on overseas priority opportunity markets and international innovation considerations.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	International Trade
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
	Other: SMEs only
<b>End Date of Project</b>	March 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Julie Coles Organisation: Coventry University Enterprises Ltd Telephone: 0247 623 6406 Email: <a href="mailto:wmint@cad.coventry.ac.uk">wmint@cad.coventry.ac.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.chamberinternationaltrade.co.uk">www.chamberinternationaltrade.co.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk">www.uktradeinvest.gov.uk</a>

This project also provides expertise and advice support.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Worcestershire Resource and Efficiency Programme</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Worcestershire County Council (lead), Hereford & Worcester Chamber of Commerce
<b>Description of Project</b>	The project provides advice and grant support to SMEs to enable them to improve energy and water efficiency, reduce waste and increase profitability. Support available includes grants for installation of equipment, behaviour change programmes and research into process analysis, improved packaging and ecodesign.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Growing and Improving Your Business Resource Efficiency Creating and Improving Products and Services Improving Premises or Developing New Sites
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: Worcestershire only  Other: SMEs only employing fewer than 250 staff and with turnover of less than 50 million Euros per annum. To receive support businesses need to be working in the eligible sectors of manufacturing and construction. This project cannot support businesses within retail or primary agriculture sectors.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	March 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Chris Atkinson Organisation: Worcestershire County Council Telephone: 01905 822816 Email: sustainability@worcestershire.gov.uk

This project also provides expertise and advice support.

# Equity or Loan Fund

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Advantage Media Production Fund</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Creative England
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>The Advantage Media Production Fund was set up in 2007 to support the development of the West Midlands as an economic hub for filmmaking in the UK and to provide access to finance for SMEs active in this sector.</p> <p>The fund exists to provide production finance to film production companies based in the West Midlands. Supported projects can be of any genre including documentaries, but must be feature length and intended for theatrical release.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up (businesses must start an SPV to access funding)</p> <p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Resource Efficiency</p> <p>Collaborative Research and Development</p> <p>Knowledge Transfer</p> <p>Creating and Improving Products and Services</p> <p>International Trade (in the case of international co-productions)</p> <p>Business Finance</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: This is a sector specific project designed specifically to benefit feature film production companies based in the West Midlands</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	December 2013
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Creative England Talent Team</p> <p>Organisation: Creative England</p> <p>Telephone: 0844 824 6042</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:talent@creativeengland.co.uk">talent@creativeengland.co.uk</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.creativeengland.co.uk">www.creativeengland.co.uk</a></p>

This project also provides expertise and advice support.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Enterprise 1830</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	The Prince's Trust
<b>Description of Project</b>	Enterprise 1830 gives young people, aged 18 to 30 pre-start support, start-up support and post-start mentoring. Clients may apply for start-up finance, subject to eligibility.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands
	Other: This project is designed to help young people aged 18 to 30 and are unemployed at the time of application.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	March 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Gareth Smith Organisation: The Prince's Trust Telephone: 0121 772 9230 Email: <a href="mailto:gareth.smith@princes-trust.org.uk">gareth.smith@princes-trust.org.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.princes-trust.org.uk">www.princes-trust.org.uk</a>

This project also provides expertise and advice support.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>The Early Advantage Fund</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Midven Limited
<b>Description of Project</b>	The Fund makes predominantly equity investments alongside private individuals and/or institutions into early stage businesses in most sectors.
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	Starting Up Growing and Improving Your Business Creating and Improving Products and Services Investment Readiness Support Business Finance
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Coverage: All of the West Midlands  Other: SMEs only (broadly less than 250 employees). There are some sectoral restrictions. The Fund cannot invest in a “company in difficulty” as defined in EU guidance.
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 December 2015
<b>More Information</b>	Name: Duncan Kerr Organisation: Midven Limited Telephone: 0121 710 1990 Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@midven.com">enquiries@midven.com</a> Website: <a href="http://www.midven.co.uk">www.midven.co.uk</a>

This project also provides expertise and advice support.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>The Exceed Fund</b>
<b>Delivery Organisation</b>	Midven Limited
<b>Description of Project</b>	<p>We provide risk capital and advice to businesses in the West Midlands region. The fund can make an initial investment of up to £500,000.</p> <p>Our focus is on dynamic businesses with the potential to create a strong competitive position in a large growing market, helping them to achieve their goals and build profitable businesses with attractive exit options. We actively support the businesses we invest in, building close relationships and providing advice, guidance and opportunities.</p>
<b>Category of Support Available</b>	<p>Starting Up</p> <p>Growing and Improving Your Business</p> <p>Business Finance</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Coverage: All of the West Midlands</p> <p>Other: Companies that we assist can vary in size from complete start-ups to those employing up to 250 people.</p>
<b>End Date of Project</b>	31 December 2015
<b>More Information</b>	<p>Name: Surjit Kooner</p> <p>Organisation: Midven Limited</p> <p>Telephone: 0121 710 1990</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@midven.com">enquiries@midven.com</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.midven.co.uk">www.midven.co.uk</a></p>

This project also provides expertise and advice support.



# Quick Reference Guide

Name of Project:	Category of Business Support Available												Type of Support		
	Starting Up	Growing and Improving Your Business	Resource Efficiency	Collaborative Research and Development	Knowledge Transfer	Creating and Improving Products and Services	Graduate Placements	Investment Readiness Support	Improving Premises or Developing New Sites	Managed Workspace	International Trade	Business Finance	Expertise and Advice	Grant	Equity or Loan Fund
Accelerating Innovation in Mass Market Housing and Green Homes (AIM HIGH)		X		X	X	X	X						X		
Advanced Materials Programme		X	X	X	X	X	X						X	X	
Advantage Media Production Fund	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	X	X		X
Assistive Technologies and Community Healthcare Project					X	X							X		
Black Country Business Property Investment Programme	X	X	X						X	X		X		X	
Burslem Building Improvement Scheme									X				X	X	
CASIM <sup>2</sup> : Centre for Advanced Simulation and Modelling for Manufacturing		X	X	X	X	X							X		
Centre of Refurbishment Excellence		X	X	X	X	X			X				X		
Classic Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KEEN)		X	X		X	X							X		
Competitiveness Through Collaboration		X		X	X	X	X					X	X		
Coventry and Warwickshire Enterprise and Business Growth Package: Enabling Innovation and Growth		X		X	X	X							X		
Coventry and Warwickshire Enterprise and Business Growth Package: Resource		X	X										X		

Name of Project:	Category of Business Support Available											Type of Support			
	Starting Up	Growing and Improving Your Business	Resource Efficiency	Collaborative Research and Development	Knowledge Transfer	Creating and Improving Products and Services	Graduate Placements	Investment Readiness Support	Improving Premises or Developing New Sites	Managed Workspace	International Trade	Business Finance	Expertise and Advice	Grant	Equity or Loan Fund
Coventry and Warwickshire Enterprise and Business Growth Package: Accelerated Growth Business Support		X				X		X				X	X	X	
Coventry and Warwickshire Enterprise and Business Growth Package: Start Up Support	X							X				X	X	X	
Creative Enterprise	X	X			X	X							X		
Design Space	X	X				X				X		X	X		
Digital Heritage Demonstrator Project		X		X	X	X	X	X					X		
Dudley Townscape Heritage Initiative									X					X	
East and North Birmingham Industrial Corridors									X					X	
Electric and Intelligent Vehicles Project	X	X	X			X								X	
Enterprise 1830	X												X		X
Enterprise Catalyst (2) Business Support Initiative	X	X			X	X		X	X				X	X	
Enterprise Coaches	X												X		
Entrepreneurs for the Future (e4f)	X	X				X		X		X			X		
European Bioenergy Research Institute (EBRI)				X	X								X		
Exploiting Servitisation in West Midlands SMEs		X			X	X							X		

Name of Project:	Category of Business Support Available												Type of Support		
	Starting Up	Growing and Improving Your	Resource Efficiency	Collaborative Research and	Knowledge Transfer	Creating and Improving Products	Graduate Placements	Investment Readiness Support	Improving Premises or Developing New	Managed Workspace	International Trade	Business Finance	Expertise and Advice	Grant	Equity or Loan Fund
Fibre Optic Laser Sensing Technologies		X		X	X	X							X	X	
Generating Employment Opportunities		X			X		X						X		
Graduate Placement Service		X					X						X		
Growing the Social Enterprise Sector in the West Midlands	X	X				X		X				X	X		
HEART OF ENGLAND fine foods: Improving and Growing Food and Drink Businesses within the Supply Chain	X	X			X	X					X		X		
Human Interface Technologies Applied Research Centres				X		X							X		
Innovation 1st	X	X	X		X		X				X		X		
Innovation Networks Phase 2				X		X								X	
Innovation University Enterprise Network iUEN		X				X							X		
Interiors & Lifestyle Futures	X	X		X	X	X							X		
Investing for Enterprise Space: Digbeth and the Jewellery Quarter									X					X	
Investing in the City Region		X	X			X						X	X		
Journey for Success: Enterprise	X	X										X	X		
Let's Do –Boosting Business Performance		X											X		
Make It—Your Business		X											X		

Name of Project:	Category of Business Support Available												Type of Support		
	Starting Up	Growing and Improving Your	Resource Efficiency	Collaborative Research and Development	Knowledge Transfer	Creating and Improving Products and	Graduate Placements	Investment Readiness Support	Improving Premises or Developing New Sites	Managed Workspace	International Trade	Business Finance	Expertise and Advice	Grant	Equity or Loan Fund
New Technologies and Applications for Identification, Location and Sensing (NTAILS)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X		
Niche Innovation Scheme		X		X		X								X	
North Arran Way—Access Co-ordination & Enterprise		X											X		
North Staffordshire Employment and Skills Service		X											X		
North Staffordshire Inward Investment Programme	X							X	X			X	X		
Promoting Biomarker Development in West Midlands SMEs					X	X							X		
Science City Energy Efficiency				X	X	X							X		
Serious Games Studio		X			X	X							X		
Shropshire and Herefordshire Business Enterprise Fund	X											X		X	
Smarter Working West Midlands		X	X		X	X							X		
SPEED Plus	X												X	X	
Staffordshire Business Incubation Support	X	X	X			X		X		X		X	X	X	
Supporting Employment and Enterprise Development (SEED)	X	X											X		
Sustainable Building Futures	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X		X		

	Category of Business Support Available											Type of Support			
	Starting Up	Growing and Improving Your Business	Resource Efficiency	Collaborative Research and Development	Knowledge Transfer	Creating and Improving Products and Services	Graduate Placements	Investment Readiness Support	Improving Premises or Developing New Sites	Managed Workspace	International Trade	Business Finance	Expertise and Advice	Grant	Equity or Loan Fund
Name of Project:															
Technology and Innovation Futures West Midlands		X	X		X	X							X		
The Early Advantage Fund	X	X				X		X				X	X		X
The Exceed Fund	X	X										X	X		X
The International Institute for Product and Service Innovation	X	X		X	X	X	X						X		
Tyseley Property Assistance Programme and Tyseley Key Opportunities Programme									X					X	
Ultra Efficient Lighting Product and Development Centre (UELPDC)				X		X							X		
West Midlands Industrial Symbiosis NET (WM_ISNET)			X										X		
West Midlands SME Internationalisation Project											X		X	X	
Worcestershire Resource and Efficiency Programme		X	X			X			X				X	X	



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