



Business,
Growth and
Skills Hub



HEY
Growth
Hub

Hull & East Yorkshire Business Support Handbook

August 2024



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Overview

2023 saw substantial changes to the funded business support landscape in the Hull and East Yorkshire region. With the closedown of European Structural and Investment Fund (ESIF) programmes including the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), European Social Fund (ESF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), numerous business support, funding, and skills support programmes ceased delivery during 2023.

However, the launch of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) in 2022 and the subsequent roll-out of business support programmes in 2022/23, as well as the forthcoming launch of employment and skills programmes in 2024/25, means that a range of new business support and skills programmes have replaced those formerly funded by ESIF.

Furthermore, there have been a range of newly announced and launched business support programmes over recent years, including the HEY Growth Hub's Made Smarter and Creative Growth Programmes.

The Hull & East Yorkshire Business, Growth and Skills Hub, and its Growth Hub, are keen to ensure that all business support organisations, advisors and intermediaries are aware of the range of support and funding that is currently available to businesses in the region. This is to ensure that businesses can receive a single pathway of support, to avoid duplication of provision, and to ensure seamless and effective cross-referrals of client businesses between schemes.

This business support handbook provides a summary of the currently available business support, funding and skills support programmes in the HEY region. All listings are publicly funded programmes, or organisations and schemes that are non-commercial and/or not for profit. All information contained within this handbook was correct at the time of writing.

Should you have any feedback, questions, or comments about this handbook, please get in touch with the HEY Growth Hub team at growthhub@heybusinessgrowthskillshub.com.

August 2024

Programmes Summary

Type of Support

This is the type of support that each programme offers to clients, for example grants or advice.

Programme	Grant	Loans / Finance	Advice & Guidance	Mentoring	Peer Support / Development	Training
HEY Growth Hub			✓			
Invest Hull – Supporting Business Growth	✓		✓	✓		
Invest East Yorkshire – Business Support Services	✓		✓		✓	✓
Made Smarter	✓		✓		✓	✓
Creative Growth Programme			✓	✓	✓	
HEY Workforce			✓			
HEY Manufacturers Network			✓	✓	✓	✓
Growing Places Fund	✓	✓				
Department for Business & Trade: Support for Exporting			✓			
Export Growth Grant	✓					
Innovate UK EDGE	✓	✓		✓		
The Supply Chain Network			✓			
Help to Grow: Management				✓	✓	✓
BIPC Humber Partnership			✓			✓
Hull City Council – Inward Investment Team			✓			
Hull City Council – Managed Workspace Centres			✓	✓	✓	
Invest East Yorkshire – Inward Investment			✓			✓
Invest East Yorkshire – Business Centres			✓		✓	
Making Changes for Careers	✓		✓	✓		✓
The Employment Hub	✓		✓			✓
Skills Bootcamps						✓
Humber Innovation Support Programme: Innovation Grants	✓					
Humber Innovation Support Programme: Internships	✓		✓			
Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP)	✓		✓		✓	
Goole Property Activation Fund	✓					
Start Up Loans		✓				
Acorn Fund		✓				
Sirius		✓	✓	✓		

Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund II (NPIF II)		✓				
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Business Stage

These are the business stages that each programme supports, for example support to pre-start clients or Scale-Up businesses.

Pre-Start: An individual that has not yet started to trade or is not yet registered with HMRC

Start-Up: A business that has been trading for less than 3 years (and must be registered with HMRC)

Established: A business that has been trading for at least 3 years

Scale-Up: A business that has grown, or has the potential to grow, by 20% per year over 3 consecutive years

Programme	Pre-Start	Start-Up	Established	Scale-Up
HEY Growth Hub	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invest Hull – Supporting Business Growth	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invest East Yorkshire – Business Support Services	✓	✓	✓	✓
Made Smarter			✓	✓
Creative Growth Programme		✓	✓	✓
HEY Workforce	✓	✓	✓	✓
HEY Manufacturers Network		✓	✓	✓
Growing Places Fund			✓	✓
Department for Business & Trade: Support for Exporting		✓	✓	✓
Export Growth Grant			✓	✓
Innovate UK EDGE		✓	✓	✓
The Supply Chain Network		✓	✓	✓
Help to Grow: Management			✓	✓
BIPC Humber Partnership	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hull City Council – Inward Investment Team			✓	✓
Hull City Council – Managed Workspace Centres	✓	✓		
Invest East Yorkshire – Inward Investment			✓	✓
Invest East Yorkshire – Business Centres	✓	✓	✓	
Making Changes for Careers	✓	✓		
The Employment Hub			✓	
Skills Bootcamps		✓	✓	✓
Humber Innovation Support Programme: Innovation Grants		✓	✓	✓
Humber Innovation Support Programme: Internships		✓	✓	✓
Knowledge Transfer Partnerships			✓	✓
Goole Property Activation Fund	✓	✓	✓	✓
Start Up Loans	✓	✓		
Acorn Fund			✓	

Sirius	✓	✓	✓	
Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund II (NPIF II)			✓	✓

Programme Theme

These are the business themes that each scheme covers, for example Exporting or Net Zero.

Programme	General Support	Funding Provider	Digital Adoption	Exporting	Investment Readiness	Net Zero	People/Skills/ Workforce Dev	R&D and Innovation	Resource & Process Efficiency	Sales & Marketing	Supply Chains / New Markets
HEY Growth Hub	✓										
Invest Hull – Supporting Business Growth	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invest East Yorkshire – Business Support Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Made Smarter		✓	✓			✓	✓		✓		
Creative Growth Programme					✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
HEY Workforce							✓				
HEY Manufacturers Network	✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Growing Places Fund		✓			✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
Department for Business and Trade – Support for Exporting				✓							
Export Growth Grant				✓							
Innovate UK EDGE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Supply Chain Network											✓
Help to Grow: Management	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
BIPC Humber Partnership	✓										

Hull City Council – Inward Investment Team	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hull City Council – Managed Workspace Centres	✓		✓				✓			✓	
Invest East Yorkshire – Inward Investment					✓		✓				✓
Invest East Yorkshire – Business Centres	✓										
Making Changes for Careers	✓	✓									
The Employment Hub	✓	✓					✓				
Skills Bootcamps							✓				
Humber Innovation Support Programme: Innovation Grants		✓	✓					✓	✓		
Humber Innovation Support Programme: Internships		✓					✓				
Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP)		✓	✓			✓		✓	✓		
Goole Property Activation Fund		✓									
Start Up Loans		✓									
Acorn Fund		✓									
Sirius	✓	✓			✓					✓	✓

Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund II (NPIF II)		✓									
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Sector Focus

These are the business sectors that each programme supports, for example firms in the Construction or Visitor Economy sectors.

Programme	Chemicals	Construction	Digital & Creative	Energy & Renewables	Food & Drink	Health & Social Care	Logistics	Manufacturing & Engineering	Professional Services	Retail & Wholesale	Visitor Economy (inc. Leisure & Hospitality)
HEY Growth Hub	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invest Hull – Supporting Business Growth	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invest East Yorkshire – Business Support Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Made Smarter								✓			
Creative Growth Programme			✓								
HEY Workforce	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
HEY Manufacturers Network								✓			
Growing Places Fund	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓			
Department for Business and Trade – Support for Exporting	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Export Growth Grant	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Innovate UK EDGE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Supply Chain Network	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Help to Grow: Management	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
BIPC Humber Partnership	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hull City Council – Inward	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

Investment Team											
Hull City Council – Managed Workspace Centres			✓			✓			✓	✓	✓
Invest East Yorkshire – Inward Investment	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invest East Yorkshire – Business Centres	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Making Changes for Careers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
The Employment Hub	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Skills Bootcamps	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Humber Innovation Support Programme: Innovation Grants	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Humber Innovation Support Programme: Internships	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Goole Property Activation Fund						✓			✓	✓	✓
Start Up Loans	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Acorn Fund	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sirius	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund II (NPIF II)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Geographic Coverage

This is the geographic area that each programme covers, either Hull, the East Riding, or both areas.

Programme	Hull	East Riding of Yorkshire
HEY Growth Hub	✓	✓
Invest Hull – Supporting Business Growth	✓	
Invest East Yorkshire – Business Support Services		✓
Made Smarter	✓	✓
Creative Growth Programme	✓	✓
HEY Workforce	✓	✓
HEY Manufacturers Network	✓	✓
Growing Places Fund	✓	✓
Department for Business and Trade – Support for Exporting	✓	✓
Export Growth Grant	✓	
Innovate UK EDGE	✓	✓
The Supply Chain Network	✓	✓
Help to Grow: Management	✓	✓
BIPC Humber Partnership	✓	✓
Hull City Council – Inward Investment Team	✓	
Hull City Council – Managed Workspace Centres	✓	
Invest East Yorkshire – Inward Investment		✓
Invest East Yorkshire – Business Centres		✓
Making Changes for Careers	✓	
The Employment Hub	✓	
Skills Bootcamps	✓	✓
Humber Innovation Support Programme: Innovation Grants	✓	
Humber Innovation Support Programme: Internships	✓	
Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP)	✓	✓
Goole Property Activation Fund		✓
Start Up Loans	✓	✓
Acorn Fund	✓	✓
Sirius	✓	✓
Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund II (NPIF II)	✓	✓

HEY Growth Hub

Project Sponsor: Hull & East Yorkshire Business, Growth and Skills Hub

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: March 2025

Target Business Stages: Pre-Start, Start-Up, Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



Support Available

HEY Growth Hub is part of the HEY Business, Growth and Skills Hub, and provides businesses with quick and easy access to local and national business support, resources and funding to support their growth.

Part of the Growth Hub network in England, the Growth Hub is funded by the Government Department for Business and Trade (DBT) and seeks to streamline the support and funding available to businesses in Hull and East Yorkshire; making it easier for business owners to concentrate on growing their business.

The Growth Hub has a team of experienced and impartial business advisors, with some advisors based within the two HEY local authorities, thus ensuring a joined up approach to business support in the region.

The Growth Hub website is a valuable source of business information, guidance and resource, and is updated on a regular basis. The website also contains a business support directory where businesses can search for currently available support and funding in a quick and easy to use way.

For details on further support / services available from HEY Growth Hub, please view:

- Made Smarter Yorkshire & Humber (page 17)
- Creative Growth Programme (page 18)
- HEY Workforce (page 19)
- Hull & East Yorkshire Manufacturers Network (page 20)

Eligibility Information

The Growth Hub can support any business based within Hull & East Yorkshire, regardless of size, sector or maturity.

Please note that some eligibility criteria may exist for specific Growth Hub Programmes, such as Made Smarter and Creative Growth. Please find these details in the listings below.

Contact Details

Website: heygrowthhub.com

Facebook: /HEYGrowthHub

Email: growthhub@heybusinessgrowthskillshub.com

X (ex-Twitter): @HEY_Growth

Phone: 01482 485260

LinkedIn: /company/hey-growth-hub

Invest Hull – Supporting Business Growth

Project Sponsor: Hull City Council

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: March 2025

Target Business Stages: Pre-Start, Start-Up, Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull



Support Available

A range of business support is available via the Invest Hull – Supporting Business Growth Programme. The core offer consists of free, impartial, one-to-one business support, utilising the extensive experience of our in house delivery teams. The programme incorporates delivery across several Council teams including Enterprise Development, Employment Hub, Youth Enterprise, Managed Workspaces, Major Projects, Visit Hull & East Yorkshire (VHEY) and Hull Culture & Leisure (HCAL).

Information, Advice & Guidance

In addition to the range of knowledge available via our delivery teams, support is available to access web-based resources, workshops and webinars, templates for business planning and financial forecasts, including the unique offer from the Business & Intellectual Property Centre (BIPC) via HCAL.

Business Ideas Clinic

Delivered by the Enterprise & IP Librarians, these virtual clinics offer a one-to-one discussion to guide on starting a new business, business development, intellectual property information, company and market research databases and industry guides.

Workshops

An extensive programme of workshops has been developed in partnership with East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) covering topics such as social media for business, human resources, manufacturing and process improvements, sales and marketing, and carbon reduction.

Grant Schemes

Hull Business Energy Efficiency Scheme (HBEES)

Following the success of the EU funded scheme, HBEES phase two has been launched to continue supporting businesses to reduce energy usage and carbon emissions through the implementation of operational changes and energy efficiency measures. This includes installation of new technologies, access to expertise, advice and grant funding. Businesses accessing support will receive a fully funded energy assessment, undertaken by an energy specialist which will outline the opportunities to make energy efficiency improvements. Projects identified through this assessment may be eligible for grant funding of up to £10,000 (up to 40% intervention based on carbon saving).

Youth Enterprise - Test Market Grants

The Youth Enterprise and Micro Business team delivers youth entrepreneurship programmes which support young people aged 16-29 who want to run their own business. Working with the John Cracknell Youth Enterprise Bank, they can support aspiring young entrepreneurs with business training, test market grants (to support test trading in their first year or a new business idea), and mentoring.

All grant applications must be prepared with the support of an HCC Business Advisor (direct applications will not be accepted).

Eligibility Information

Provision is available to Hull businesses, tailored to business needs focusing on pre-start, start-up and growth support. All business types, sizes and sectors, including third sector/social enterprises can access support, however some elements such as grant schemes may have more focused criteria.

Contact Details

Website: investhull.co.uk/business-support

Email: business.support@hullcc.gov.uk

Phone: 01482 612612

Facebook: N/A

X (ex-Twitter): @investhull

LinkedIn: N/A

Invest East Yorkshire – Business Support Services

INVEST EAST YORKSHIRE

Project Sponsor: East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Pre-Start, Start-Up, Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: East Yorkshire

Support Available

Offering a comprehensive range of services, the team directly supports all types of businesses from across the East Riding. Whatever stage your business is at support is directly tailored to your individual business needs giving access to the relevant services required to help you thrive.

The services include:

1-2-1 Advice - Whether you are considering starting a business or already established, our highly experienced and knowledgeable team of advisors understand how complex business can be. Offering a variety of expertise against many business disciplines and sectors the team collectively work together to ensure you have access to the most appropriate knowledge and experience the team have to offer, including accessing other internal departments and procuring specialists where required. Every business is different, and your personal nominated business adviser will work with you to understand where you are in your journey and what your specific needs and challenges are to support you to grow and develop.

Grants - We have a range of grants available to support your business. These are available in conjunction with work undertaken with your nominated business adviser who will work with you to identify which project(s) will help your business grow and improve and also what grants may be available to support with the costs.

Specific eligibility criteria are associated with each type of project with grants potentially being available for between £250 and £50,000 with a maximum contribution of 50% towards identified eligible costs. Grants are available for distinct types of projects, such as:

- Revenue grants for specialist consultancy advice, accreditations, Marketing & Sales costs, websites, licences.
- Small scale capital expenditure for assets such as plant & machinery, ICT equipment, bespoke software systems including websites, improvements to retail premises including signage.
- Grants for larger capital expenditure projects such as upgrades and improvements to non-moveable fixed assets, repurposing of buildings for farm diversification, Infrastructure projects / site developments.
- Grants for employee training which support business growth plans

Workshops and events – From gathered business intelligence events are considered, designed, and delivered to meet the current needs of our business community.

A wide range of workshops, sector events, networking are consistently available giving you access to everything from starting a business and business planning, to specific business disciplines such as marketing and HR compliance through to being introduced to business opportunities through different meet the buyer events.

Signposting – Understanding the wider business support landscape, we work closely with other services and partners to ensure that as a business, you get the appropriate support, advice, or funding from the most relevant source. Where required, we also directly contract with specific business or sector specialists to complement our existing services to deliver workshops, resources, and advice.

Resources – As well as working with the team you also have access to The Invest East Yorkshire Resource Portal a one-stop-shop where you can find a variety of useful information, articles, videos, tools, and templates to support your business growth.

In addition, you can access **The Supply Chain Network** (see separate entry), a free business directory and opportunities map managed by the team. Where you can showcase your products and services, identify suitable companies to collaborate with, increase your visibility, and generate new enquiries. In addition, through the opportunities map you can search for additional pipelines of opportunities or look for a supplier yourself by posting opportunities on the free and easy to use platform.

For details on further support / services available from Invest East Yorkshire, please view:

- Invest East Yorkshire – Inward Investment (page 31)
- Invest East Yorkshire – Business Centres (page 32)
- The Supply Chain Network (page 24)
- or visit investeastyorkshire.co.uk

Eligibility Information

Support is available to all East Riding residents and businesses, as well as businesses planning to set up a new firm in the East Riding. Further eligibility for specific services such as grants are subject to the type of business and project in question and can be discussed with members of the team.

Contact Details

Website: investeastyorkshire.co.uk/business-support/

Email: business.support@eastriding.gov.uk

Phone: 01482 391622 / 01482 391640

Facebook: /investeastyorkshire

X (ex-Twitter): @InvestEastYorks

LinkedIn: /company/invest-east-yorkshire

Made Smarter Yorkshire & Humber

Project Sponsor: Hull & East Yorkshire Business, Growth and Skills Hub

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: March 2026

Target Business Stages: Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire

The logo for the Made Smarter programme, with 'MADE' in a smaller yellow font above 'SMARTER' in a larger, bold yellow font.

Support Available

Made Smarter is a government funded programme to drive growth amongst UK manufacturers via increased adoption of industrial digital technology. Made Smarter was formed following a nationwide review into UK manufacturing that recommended more innovation in developing new technologies and a faster implementation and adoption of those technologies. Made Smarter will boost the digital skills of industry leaders, bringing businesses and research development together to develop new technology, and helping makers embrace new digital tools.

There are many benefits that investment in technology can bring to your business. Reducing inefficiencies and cutting waste, increasing your sales growth and new market opportunities, overcoming capacity and resource issues, boosting your competitiveness, and increasing resilience, agility and innovation.

If you're a manufacturer in Hull and East Yorkshire, speak to our Made Smarter Digital Transformation Specialist today to enrol onto the programme. The support available includes:

- **Digital Roadmaps** – a bespoke digital transformation audit and roadmap for your business.
- **Expert Technical Support** – Impartial advice on selecting, adopting and integrating new industrial digital technology within your firm, provided by digital technology specialists.
- **Capex grants** – match funded grants to contribute towards the capital costs of new digital solutions such as specialist hardware and software.
- **Leading Digital Transformation** – management development training that equips business leaders with the skills they need to drive digital transformation in their firms.

Eligibility Information

To access the Made Smarter, a business must:

- Be a manufacturing business (based on SIC code)
- Must meet the definition of an SME
- Must have a trading address within Hull & East Yorkshire

Contact Details

Website: heygrowthhub.com/made-smarter-programme/

Email: growthhub@heybusinessgrowthskillshub.com

Phone: 01482 485260

Facebook: /HEYGrowthHub

X (ex-Twitter): @HEY_Growth

LinkedIn: /company/hey-growth-hub

Creative Growth Programme

Project Sponsor: Hull & East Yorkshire Business, Growth and Skills Hub

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: March 2025

Target Business Stages: Start-Up, Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



Support Available

The Creative Growth Hull & East Yorkshire Programme is designed to support ambitious and growth-orientated creative business who require advice and support to grow and access external investment. The programme will operate four cohort groups of like-minded businesses over the course of the 2024/25 year, with places on each cohort strictly limited to 15 businesses per cohort.

Over 12 weeks, participating businesses will benefit from:

- Expert workshops
- 121 Advice and Guidance
- Access to experienced mentors
- Peer Learning & Development Opportunities
- Social Networking Events
- Access to external investors

Eligibility Information

To register for the programme, businesses must:

- Have a trading address within the Hull and East Yorkshire region
- Have generate sales revenue in the last 2 years (i.e. not be a pre-start)
- Employ at least 2 full time equivalent staff (either directly or as freelances)
- Be able to demonstrate high-growth potential with ambitions to scale up the business and a need to access external investment to do so.

Business must operate within at least one of the following creative sub-sectors:

Advertising, Marketing & PR	Architecture	Crafts
Design & Fashion	Film, TV, Video, Radio & Photography	IT, Software, Apps & Video Games
Museums, Galleries & Libraries	Music, Visual and Performing Arts	Publishing & Translation

Contact Details

Website: heygrowthhub.com/hey-create-growth-programme/

Email: creativegrowth@heybusinessgrowthskillshub.com

Phone: 01482 485260

Facebook: /HEYGrowthHub

X (ex-Twitter): @HEY_Growth

LinkedIn: /company/hey-growth-hub

HEY Workforce

Project Sponsor: Hull & East Yorkshire Business, Growth and Skills Hub

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: March 2025

Target Business Stages: Pre-Start, Start-Up, Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



Support Available

People are at the heart of any successful organisation. Employees who are happy at work, motivated and healthy are more productive. Organisations constantly compete for talent. Attracting and maintaining good people is a challenge but being a good place to work and being supportive of your employees goes a long way to securing the commitment of your workforce.

The HEY Workforce website is an extensive library of information, toolkits and materials designed to help you implement good employment practices, support your employees and support your organisation to become as productive as it can be.

HEY Growth Hub also offers workforce development advice and support via its dedicated Workforce Development Business Advisor. This advisor offers free and impartial support across a wide range of workforce related matters, including:

- Apprenticeship recruitment, understanding the apprenticeship levy and levy transfer
- Advice on traineeships, student placements and T-Levels
- Access to funding and training for workforce skills development
- Advice on workforce health and wellbeing
- Support to adopt best practice within workforce development

Eligibility Information

HEY Workforce can be accessed by any business based within Hull & East Yorkshire, regardless of size, sector or maturity.

Contact Details

Website: heyworkforce.co.uk

Email: growthhub@heybusinessgrowthskillshub.com

Phone: 01482 485260

Facebook: /HEYGrowthHub

X (nee Twitter): @HEY_Growth

LinkedIn: /company/hey-growth-hub

HEY Manufacturers Network

Project Sponsor: Hull & East Yorkshire Business, Growth and Skills Hub

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Start-Up, Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



Support Available

The Network supports the growth and prosperity of the Hull and East Yorkshire manufacturing sector, by bringing together manufacturing firms to share best practice, develop knowledge, champion the sector, and raise awareness of trading challenges and issues.

Membership is free of charge for any business engaged in manufacturing in the Hull & East Yorkshire region, and the Network welcomes firms from a variety of manufacturing sub-sectors including fabrication, tooling, chemicals, food & drink, leisure home & caravan manufacture, and much else besides.

The network has a rolling programme of monthly events which includes:

- Workshops covering process efficiency, resource efficiency, workforce development, and more
- Behind the scenes 'Industry Insight' visits to regional manufacturing firms
- Symposium style events covering topics such as recruitment and skills, industrial digital technology, and net zero
- Social networking events

The network also operates a bi-monthly newsletter featuring updates from the world of manufacturing and business support. The network is also planning to develop a membership directory to support networking between regional manufacturing firms.

Eligibility Information

Any manufacturing business based within Hull and East Yorkshire is able to join the network and attend its events. Unless specifically invited, organisations other than manufacturing firms are not permitted to join the network or attend events, including professional services firms, business consultants, recruitment consultants, and training providers.

Contact Details

Website: heygrowthhub.com/hey-manufacturers-network/

Facebook: /HEYGrowthHub

Email: growthhub@heybusinessgrowthskillshub.com

X (nee Twitter): @HEY_Growth

Phone: 01482 485260

LinkedIn: /company/hey-growth-hub

Growing Places Fund

Project Sponsor: Hull & East Yorkshire Business, Growth and Skills Hub

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: March 2025

Target Business Stages: Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



**Business,
Growth and
Skills Hub**

Support Available

The Growing Places Fund (GPF) supports businesses from a wide range of sectors, who are continuing to underpin a vibrant local economy in both Hull & East Yorkshire and are looking for grants and/or loans for capital expenditure.

Grants of between £5,000 and £250,000, and loans of between £75,000 and typically up to £250,000 are available to eligible organisations, so that they can invest in the things they need to help their businesses grow.

Businesses applying will need to demonstrate profitability, that the project is viable and ready to proceed. Applicants may also wish to consider potential additional benefits such as how their project may contribute to the wider clean growth and carbon reduction targets of Hull and East Yorkshire.

Eligibility Information

The GPF investment and associated outputs must be within the Local Authority areas of Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire. Only incorporated businesses are eligible to apply to the fund.

Please note that the eligibility of any organisation is subject to UK Subsidy Control criteria.

Contact Details

Website: www.heybusinessgrowthskillshub.com/our-funding-and-projects/funding/growing-places-fund-business-growth-capital-investment-programme/

Email: a.lacey@heybusinessgrowthskillshub.com (Alison Lacey) / j.newman@heybusinessgrowthskillshub.com (Jaquie Newman)

Phone: 07702 922864 (Alison Lacey) / 07540 832997 (Jaquie Newman)

Facebook: N/A

X (nee Twitter): @hey_bgsh

LinkedIn: company/heylep

Department for Business and Trade – Support for Exporting

Project Sponsor: UK Government

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



Department for
Business & Trade

Support Available

The Department for Business and Trade (DBT) is the government department for economic growth. They support businesses to invest, grow and export, creating jobs and opportunities across the country.

As the government department for economic growth DBT has five main priorities:

1. Redraw our rules to ensure businesses thrive, markets are competitive, and consumers are protected.
2. Secure investment from UK and international businesses.
3. Advise, support, and promote British businesses to grow and export.
4. Open up new markets for businesses by removing barriers and striking trade deals.
5. Promote free trade, economic security, and resilient supply chains.

The local DBT team operates across the Northern Powerhouse supporting businesses through tailored services such as the [Export Academy](#) and International Trade Advisers. We have dedicated Advisers who have a wealth of commercial experience along with sector and market knowledge, who work with businesses of all sizes to help them accelerate their international growth ambitions through impartial and tailored advice.

Eligibility Information

Any business looking for support to export.

Contact Details

Website: www.great.gov.uk/

Email: dbtnph@trade.gov.uk

Phone: 020 4566 5206

Facebook: /BizTradegovuk/

X (nee Twitter): @tradegovuk_NPH

LinkedIn: company/department-for-business-and-trade/

Export Growth Grant

Project Sponsor: HEY Business, Growth and Skills Hub

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: March 2025

Target Business Stages: Established

Geographic Coverage: Hull



Support Available

Hull City Council would like to announce the successful awarding to the Hull and East Yorkshire Business, Growth and Skills Hub (HEY BGS Hub) of UK Shared Prosperity Funds (UKSPF) supporting Hull based businesses with an **Export Growth Grant (EGG)**. The Programme aims to provide revenue grants to Hull-based companies to support business growth through exporting to new markets.

Companies applying will be expected to evidence the availability of match funds towards their overall project cost. The overall objective of the EGG Programme is to assist businesses looking to exhibit at UK, European and International Trade Shows, to engage with new markets and grow products and/or service exports.

Eligibility

60:40 match funded grants up to a **maximum** of £5,400 are available to SMEs trading in a Hull postcode (HU1 to HU9) that are looking to exhibit at a UK or international trade show.

Contact Details

Website: www.heybusinessgrowthskillshub.com/export-growth-grant/

Facebook: N/A

Email: j.newman@heybusinessgrowthskillshub.com
(Jaquie Newman), a.lacey@businessgrowthskillshub.com
(Alison Lacey)

X (nee Twitter): @hey_bgsh

Phone: 07540 832997 (Jaquie Newman) 07702 922864
(Alison Lacey)

LinkedIn: company/heybgsh

Innovate UK EDGE

Project Sponsor: Innovate UK

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Start-Up, Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



Support Available

Innovate UK EDGE enables ambitious, innovative businesses with strong commercial potential to accelerate their growth and achieve scale whilst significantly improving the UK economy.

The services available are broad and fit into the following three pillars:

- Exploit & manage business innovation.
- Source funding & finance.
- Enter new markets.

This coaching activity may include but is not limited to: strategic planning, business model/value proposition innovation, Intellectual Property, financing your innovation, routes to market, strategic partnering, and net zero strategy.

Eligibility Information

Innovation-led high growth or high growth potential businesses up to 499 employees from any sector.

Contact Details

Website: www.innovateukedge.ukri.org/

Email: Andy.Taylor@innovateukedge.ukri.org

Phone: 0300 123 3066

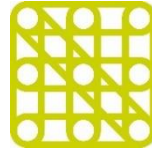
Facebook: /BizTradegovuk/

X (nee Twitter): @IUK_North

LinkedIn: /company/innovateuk

The Supply Chain Network

Project Sponsor: East Riding of Yorkshire Council
Launch Date / Status: Live
End Date: Ongoing
Target Business Stages: Established, Scale-Up
Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



The Supply Chain Network

Support Available

The Supply Chain Network (TSCN) has been developed by the East Riding of Yorkshire Council to support our business community to showcase their products and services to a wider market as well as encourage and support a more local supply chain.

Working alongside Hull City Council, the HEY Growth Hub and other key partners in the region we are committed to developing our local economy by supporting the growth of your business with TSCN being one of these routes. By giving you free access to a business directory and an opportunities map, we encourage and support you in enhancing your reach to potential new markets and customers as well as having a platform to increase your opportunity to find a wider supplier pool.

Register your business with The Supply Chain Network to:

- 1) Showcase your company's products and services
- 2) Increase your visibility
- 3) Help identify supplier connections
- 4) Generate enquiries
- 5) Access information on potential opportunities through new developments and projects
- 6) Receive alerts on opportunities in the sectors or disciplines you are interested in
- 7) Browse and search the map for new contracts.
- 8) Gain invites to targeted supply chain events
- 9) Promote your own supplier opportunities
- 10) Save time in finding new suppliers

By registering on TSCN and accessing services, its aim is also to help you to:

- Strengthen relationships with local partners
- Increase opportunities to buy local
- Reduce transportation costs and therefore;
- Reduce emissions and energy usage
- Support you in achieving your environmental and social responsibilities

Don't miss the opportunity to be seen by local, regional, national and international companies who have signed up to support the growth of their regional supply chains

Register now for free and complete your business listing by visiting: www.thesupplychainnetwork.co.uk

The Supply Chain Network

Making Opportunities Visible, Accessible & Winnable.

Eligibility Information

All business within the region.

Contact Details

Website: www.thesupplychainnetwork.co.uk/

Facebook: N/A

Email: supplychain@eastriding.gov.uk

X (nee Twitter): N/A

Phone: 01482 391622 or 01482 391640

LinkedIn: /supply-chain-net

Help to Grow: Management

Project Sponsor: University of Hull

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



Support Available

Help to Grow: Management Course is designed to boost the performance and resilience of businesses.

Designed and delivered by entrepreneurs and industry experts at world-class business schools, this leadership course will provide participants with time away from the challenges of running a business to invest in leadership, and to learn how to take their business to the next level.

The course runs over 12 weeks and includes online and face-to-face sessions, 1-to-1 mentoring and peer networking. With just one session a week, it is designed to fit around existing work and personal commitments. Participants will finish the course ready to lead on the delivery of increased profitability, innovation, and growth. Throughout the course they will:

- Develop leadership skills across all areas of business including strategic planning, employee engagement, finance and marketing.
- Develop strategies for market segmentation, positioning and targeting to streamline your marketing.
- Gain exclusive access to a local, regional and national peer network to share practical challenges, ideas and experiences.
- Work with a mentor to develop a Growth Action Plan tailored to their business and its unique journey.
- Learn how to engage employees on the business journey and plan the future structure of the business
- Identify new technologies and digital approaches to enhance innovation and productivity in their business model.
- Improve operational efficiency to save time and money.

The course is 90% funded by Government meaning that participants pay just £750.

Eligibility Information

Leaders and senior management from businesses that have been operating for over a year with between 5 – 249 employees are eligible.

Businesses with 10 or more employees can register 2 people (must be senior leaders).

Contact Details

Website: exceducation.hull.ac.uk/help-to-grow-hull/

Email: help-to-grow@hull.ac.uk

Phone: N/A

Facebook: N/A

X (nee Twitter): @SmallBizCharter

LinkedIn: N/A

Business & Intellectual Property Centre (BIPC) Humber Partnership

Project Sponsor: Hull Libraries

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Pre-Start, Start-up Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire

Business &
IP Centre
Humber
Partnership



Support Available

We offer:

- 1-2-1 Business Ideas Clinics
- Online webinars
- Bookkeeping Clinics
- IP Attorney sessions (ProBono)
- Business Insurance Clinics
- Innovation Clinics
- Patent Searches
- Intellectual Property Support
- Networking Events
- Business Workshops (Hull & East Riding local BIPC's)
- British Library webinar streaming
- Databases (COBRA, Statista etc please see www.hulllibraries.co.uk for the latest list)

Eligibility Information

Any business owner, sole-trader, or start-up.

Contact Details

Website: www.hulllibraries.co.uk/business-support-intellectual-property/business-ip-centre

Email: Kerry.wainman@hcandl.co.uk

Phone: 01482 614263

Facebook: /BIPCHull

X (nee Twitter): @BIPCHull

LinkedIn: /BIPC-Hull

Hull City Council – Inward Investment Team

Project Sponsor: Hull City Council

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull



Support Available

The team at Invest Hull are able to support the arrival of new business to the City and throughout the investment journey, whether the business is large or small.

Our team will be able to advise on funding support ranging from grant funding to loans through to equity funding. The eligibility criteria and the amount you may be able to receive are different from scheme to scheme.

Our team will provide businesses with:

- advice on the availability of access to finance, grants, and other financial incentives.
- a dedicated single point of contact for all dealings with the Council.
- business intelligence and insight
- assistance with the identification of suitable sites and premises.
- new connections and introduce investors to local sector networks.
- support with recruitment and retention of staff.
- relocation advice and tours.
- support with the development of PR
- Identification of potential supply chain partners.

Eligibility Information

The service is focused on providing support for:

- Local large and medium sized companies
- New investors to the area
- Potential high growth businesses

Contact Details

Website: investhull.co.uk/business-support/inward-investment

Email: investhull@hullcc.gov.uk

Phone: 01482 613089

Facebook: N/A

X (nee Twitter): @investhul

LinkedIn: /investhull

Hull City Council – Managed Workspace Centres

Project Sponsor: Hull City Council

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Pre-Start, Start-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull



Support Available

By joining one of our MWC's you don't just get an office or workspace, you get a dedicated support team to help you to develop your business. We welcome all businesses of all sizes and at all stages. Working closely with businesses and understanding their needs to drive their business to the next desired stage is something that we thrive on providing.

The team are passionate and focused – delivering confidential advice to your business to help prevent failure and the struggles that businesses can come across. We advise businesses to help them grow.

MWCs warmly welcome businesses of all sizes and stages, with a primary focus on starter, small, and SME-type enterprises. We engage in a close collaborative approach to intimately understand their distinctive needs. Our hallmark is forging a tight-knit partnership with these businesses, navigating their unique challenges, and steering them toward their envisioned success—an integral aspect and cornerstone of our unwavering commitment.

We have three business centres located across the city of Hull:

- Louis Pearlman Centre – situated in the West of Hull
- Bespoke Centre – situated in the North of Hull
- Craven Park Enterprise Centre – situated in the East of Hull

Eligibility Information

Any business looking to base themselves within one of the HCC Managed Workspace Centres.

Contact Details

Website: www.hccp.org.uk/managed-workspace-centres

Facebook: /HCCMWC

Email: managedworkspace@hullcc.gov.uk

X (nee Twitter): @hccmwc

Phone: 01482 612478

LinkedIn: N/A

Invest East Yorkshire – Inward Investment

INVEST EAST YORKSHIRE

Project Sponsor: East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: East Yorkshire

Support Available

The work of the Inward Investment Team is focussed on providing all new investors to the area and indigenous companies with a full range of services including:

- Advice on available land and property, including relocation support
- Local information and research
- Links to local supply chain
- Information on grants
- Links to local community
- Recruitment support
- Single point of contact for all dealings within the Council (e.g., planning etc) and wider public sector provision.
- Skills advice (<https://skillshullandeastyorkshire.co.uk/>)

NB: The above list is not exhaustive

For details on further support / services available from Invest East Yorkshire, please view:

- Invest East Yorkshire – Business Support Service (page 15)
- Invest East Yorkshire – Business Centres (page 32)
- The Supply Chain Network (page 24)

Eligibility Information

The service is available to all but focused on:

- Indigenous large and medium sized companies
- New investors to the area (foreign & domestic)

Contact Details

Website: investeastyorkshire.co.uk/land-opportunities/

Email: Invest.Eastyorkshire@eastriding.gov.uk

Phone: 01482 391614

Facebook: /investeastyorkshire

X (ex-Twitter): @InvestEastYorks

LinkedIn: /company/invest-east-yorkshire

Invest East Yorkshire – Business Centres

INVEST EAST YORKSHIRE

Project Sponsor: East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Pre-Start, Start-Up, Established

Geographic Coverage: East Yorkshire

Support Available

Encouraging new business and business growth within the East Riding is paramount to our work. As part of this ongoing commitment, we have invested in a range of modern business centres with office and workshop accommodation suitable for businesses at all stages: start-up, medium-sized and established.

Our business centre occupants share a stimulating, friendly and professional business environment with other dynamic companies. This gives the advantage of the collegiate support available within large corporations and allows excellent networking opportunities.

In uncertain times it is particularly important to be able to respond quickly to changes in business circumstances, and our business centre occupants can downsize or expand within a business centre without penalty and with ease. They can utilise the facilities of another business centre within the portfolio or move on, without further costs on the giving of one month's notice due to the flexible licence agreements we have in place.

To complement the offices and workshops we also have modern, inspiring meeting and conference spaces available to hire – whether it's an ad-hoc private chat, or a big group getting together, our business centres have adaptable space making us the ideal location for your next conference or event.

With 24/7 access, shared breakout and kitchen spaces, free onsite parking and a manned reception where your clients will be signposted in a professional manner; our business centres will provide the perfect place for you to start, grow or locate your business.

For details on further support / services available from Invest East Yorkshire, please view:

- Invest East Yorkshire – Business Support Service (page 15)
- Invest East Yorkshire – Inward Investment (page 31)
- The Supply Chain Network (page 24)

Eligibility Information

We have business centres located in Bridlington, Driffield, Beverley, Market Weighton, Brough, Hessle and Goole. All businesses are eligible to take space excluding those in retail and the motor industry.

ergo Business Centre at Hessle is sector specific however, and we would therefore be looking to accommodate businesses directly involved or in the supply chain to the low carbon / renewable sector.

Contact Details

Website: investeastyorkshire.co.uk/land-opportunities/

Email: Invest.Eastyorkshire@eastriding.gov.uk

Phone: 01482 391614

Facebook: /investeastyorkshire

X (ex-Twitter): @InvestEastYorks

LinkedIn: /company/invest-east-yorkshire

MC4C – Making Changes for Careers

Project Sponsor: Hull City Council

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing (March 2025 for grant funding element)

Target Business Stages: Pre-Start, Start-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull



Support Available

Making Changes for Careers is an enterprise programme that has experience and success in supporting young people aged 16 to 29 to start their own businesses and realise their entrepreneurship ambitions.

Through our Business and Big 13 Enterprise Skills sessions, it helps develop the knowledge and skills needed to start-up and function in the business world.

Training sessions cover getting started, structures, tax/HMRC, finances, marketing and mental wellbeing.

There is also a possible opportunity to access a test market grant, thanks to funding from UKSPF and the John Cracknell Youth Enterprise Bank, an organisation that has supported hundreds of Young Entrepreneurs.

Young people will have the opportunity to access an experienced business mentor, who will be on hand to offer expert advice and guidance.

Eligibility Information

Pre-start, start-up, or in early stages of business start-up journey

Contact Details

Website: www.mc4c.co.uk

Facebook: /MCFCinHull

Email: youthenterprise@hullcc.gov.uk

X (nee Twitter): @MCFCinHull

Phone: 01482 616219

LinkedIn: N/A

The Employment Hub

Project Sponsor: Hull City Council

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Established

Geographic Coverage: Hull

Support Available

Upskilling Support is a Hull City Council initiative which aims to help local businesses use workforce skills interventions to raise their productivity and profitability.

The funding available is 50% of the cost of training up to £3,000 (excluding vat) and for over £3,000 there is a £1,500 payment (not 50%).

We can also help at the Employment Hub by advertising your roles and promoting these to our clients. Why don't you book a "Meet the Employer" event at the Employment Hub?

We can offer you the Employment Hub in Hull Central Library at no cost. We will organise this for you and source candidates for your business according to your job specification. You will need to be available on the day to speak to candidates about the roles available. Our services are completely free to all Hull businesses.

Eligibility Information

- The training needs to enhance the individual and the business
- The training must not have already started or have previously taken place
- The training is for anyone who is directly employed by the business
- The training cannot be a legal requirement (e.g. Health and Safety) or be partly funded by another grant
- Funding cannot be used to support charity/voluntary organisations

Contact Details

Website: www.hull.gov.uk/jobs-volunteering/employment-hub

Email: employmentinclusionteam@hullcc.gov.uk

Phone: 01482 616623

Facebook: /HullCCEmploymentHub

X (nee Twitter): @Hull_hub

LinkedIn: /the-employment-hub-bb1554210



Skills Bootcamps

Project Sponsor: Hull Training & Adult Education

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: March 2025

Target Business Stages: Start-Up, Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



Support Available

Hull City Council on behalf of the HEY LEP has been successful in securing funding from the National Skills Fund to deliver the Skills Bootcamps, and it is hoped that this will continue in the coming years.

Skills Bootcamps are part of the Government's Lifetime Skills Guarantee which helps everyone gain skills for life. Hull Training & Adult Education offer bespoke training solutions to bridge existing skills gaps within high-demand sectors. Visit the Hull Training website below to view all currently available Skills Bootcamps.

Skills Bootcamps are:

- Flexible courses of up to 16 weeks at Level 3 to 5
- A minimum of 60 Guided Learning Hours giving people opportunities to build up sector-specific skills
- A guaranteed interview with a local employer

Employer cost

- Large employers who want to use Skills Bootcamps for their existing employees contribute 30% of the cost, whilst small and medium (SME) employers contribute 10%
- There are no direct recruitment or training costs for the recently unemployed, the self-employed, and those return to work after a break

Eligibility Information

Skills Bootcamps are free if you are aged 19+ and you are either:

- Employed or Self-employed
- Recently unemployed (in the past 12 months)
- Returning to work after a break
- Have a right to work in the UK and have lived in the UK for at least 3 years

You can only complete one Skills Bootcamp per funding year

Contact Details

Website: www.hcctraining.ac.uk/skills-bootcamp-hull/

Email: Skills.Bootcamp@hullcc.gov.uk.

Phone: 01482 616623

Facebook: /HullCCEmploymentHub

X (nee Twitter): @Hull_hub

LinkedIn: /the-employment-hub-bb1554210

Humber Innovation Support Programme: Innovation Grants

Project Sponsor: University of Hull

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: March 2025

Target Business Stages: Start-Up, Established, Scale-up

Geographic Coverage: Hull



Support Available

The HISP Grants are here to solve business problems with exciting innovation! HISP will support your business for innovative projects with 50% matched funded grants up to £10,000.

HISP is being delivered by the University of Hull, funded by Hull City Council via the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

HISP will meet with you, assess your innovation proposal to assess if it meets the innovation criteria of bring a new product to market or your enterprise or if it increases business sustainability. This can be software, product design, manufacturing and prototyping.

"Help your business innovate!"

Eligibility Information

Any SME trading in Hull that has an innovative business problem or idea.

Contact Details

Website: aura-innovation.co.uk

Email: aura@hull.ac.uk

Phone: 01482 464700

Facebook: N/A

X (nee Twitter): @_aurainnovation

LinkedIn: /aurainnovation

Humber Innovation Support Programme: Internships

Project Sponsor: University of Hull

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: March 2025

Target Business Stages: Start-Up, Established, Scale-up

Geographic Coverage: Hull



Support Available

HISP Internships are here to solve business problems with exciting innovation! HISP will support your business through recruitment and delivery to ensure maximum impact for your company and the intern.

HISP is being delivered by the University of Hull, funded by Hull City Council via the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). Once a match between an SME & Intern is made – SMEs will employ the intern and HISP will provide funding covering 100% of the wage costs. HISP Internships are paid National Living Wage (NLW) part-time up to 15 hours per week, over a 12 week duration.

You'll receive guidance on role suitability and candidate attraction to maximise the innovation opportunity from the region's students and graduates. An intern can inject fresh ideas, apply specialist knowledge and skills – helping you to reach your business goals quicker and easier. Through our dedicated team, we'll support you all the way to get your internship up and running. During the internship we'll support a smooth integration for both the intern and your business.

Overview:

- 12 Weeks in duration, paid at a minimum rate of the NLW
- Part-Time, up to 15 hours per week
- Interns are on-boarded and paid as any other employee
- 100% wage funding in arrears (up to 15 hours per week at NLW, over the full 12 weeks)
- "Help your business innovate!"

Eligibility Information

Any SME trading in Hull that has an innovative business problem or idea that a potential University student could help solve and/or evolve via a part time internship

Contact Details

Website: aura-innovation.co.uk

Facebook: N/A

Email: aura@hull.ac.uk

X (nee Twitter): @aurainnovation

Phone: 01482 464700

LinkedIn: /aurainnovation

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP)

Project Sponsor: University of Hull (HEY region knowledge provider)

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Established, Scale-up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER PARTNERSHIPS

Support Available

Knowledge Transfer Partnerships (KTP) is a national programme of support which promotes knowledge and technology transfer between company partners and universities.

Projects with large companies gain 50% support, and SME's 67%, with micro-business projects up to 75%. A classic SME KTP will last two years with a company contribution of £23K to £29K per year with a large company scheme expecting a £35k to £43K contribution.

The aim of every KTP is to match academic expertise to a knowledge gap at the company partner. The transfer of this expertise and knowledge must mean that the company partner can then resolve a strategic business problem or deliver an important market opportunity.

As part of the KTP the Lead Academic is committed to half a day per week of support with the project being delivered in-company by the KTP Associate. The Associate is a recently qualified graduate or postgraduate in a relevant discipline. For the duration of the KTP the Associate is an employee of the University but nationally nearly three quarters of Associates are employed by their company partners upon the closure of their projects, meaning that KTP is an excellent way to bring good quality people into your organisation.

The range of KTP projects is very wide potentially covering all sectors and enabling the development of new products and processes, embedding of new technology, optimisation of business processes, entry into new markets and increasing business capability, productivity, and efficiency.

Eligibility Information

KTP is available to Large Companies, SME's and Micro-Businesses as well as Charities and some Public Sector organisations. Most sectors are included, projects with foreign owned businesses are eligible but the project must be based in UK subsidiaries.

Return on investment is an important element of every KTP and as a result projects with Micro and New Start Businesses will be assessed with their capability to not only fund and manage their projects but also exploit the expected benefits of the project going forward a key focus.

Contact Details

Website: www.ktp-uk.org/ / www.hull.ac.uk/work-with-us/business/knowledge-transfer-partnerships

Email: business@hull.ac.uk

Phone: 07540 674933

Facebook: N/A

X (nee Twitter): N/A

LinkedIn: N/A

Goole Property Activation Fund

Project Sponsor: Goole Town Deal / East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: December 2025

Target Business Stages: Pre-Start, Start-Up, Established, Scale-up

Geographic Coverage: East Yorkshire (Goole)



Support Available

The Property Activation Fund (PAF) is a Town Deal grant fund which provides applicants with funding to stimulate economic activity through the reactivation of sites and buildings in specific areas of Goole town centre. The PAF grant programme is a part of the Governments Towns Fund designed to level up, transform, and regenerate failing town centres and is one of eight significant projects for Goole.

The PAF seeks to enhance and uplift the townscape and increase the attractiveness of Goole as a place to invest, live, work and undertake leisure activities in. The fund will contribute to reactivating and reinventing the town centre by improving the residential offer and supporting businesses to start, grow and expand.

The Property Activation Fund and the Investment plans it supports will contribute to the realisation of the vision of the Goole Town Investment Plan, which is as follows:

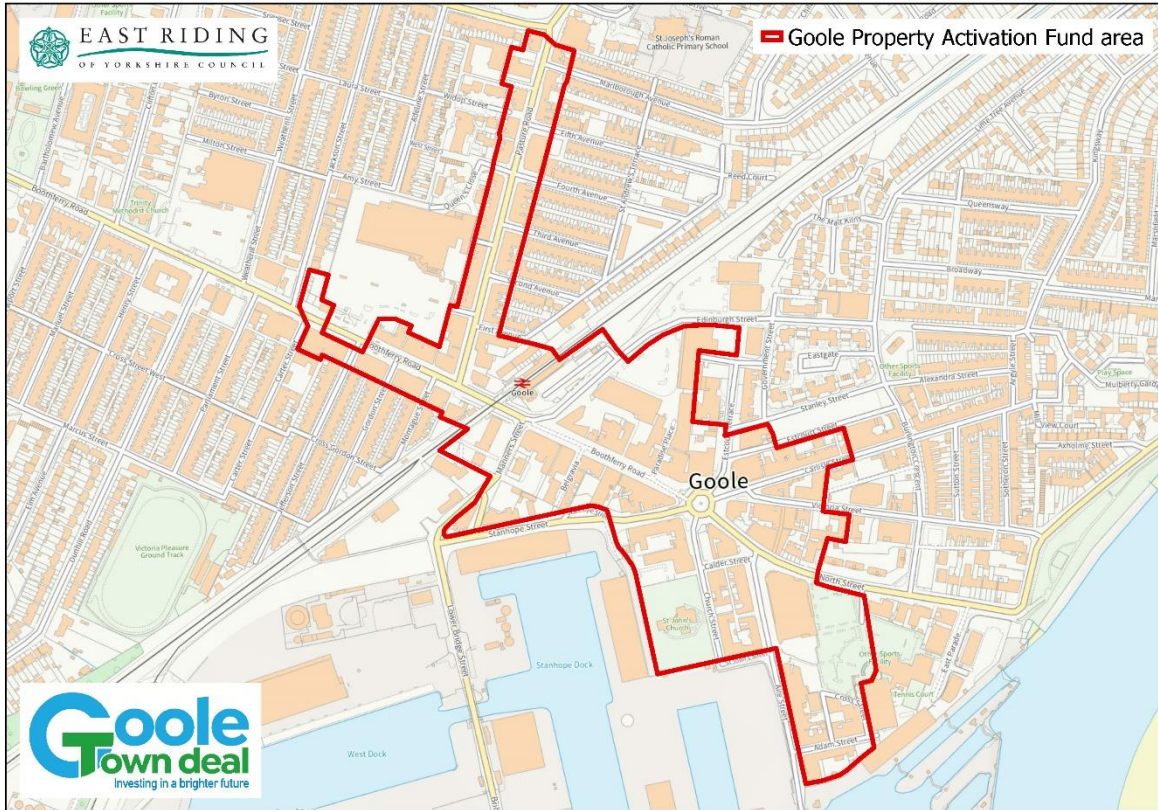
"By 2026 Goole town centre will have redefined itself as a low carbon town that is more cohesive, sustainable and attractive. It will be a place to be enjoyed that celebrates its rich urban character, boats, bridges, and bikes, in tune with its industrial infrastructure and water connections.

It will be a 'place to feel good and grow' continuously seeking to re-establish itself after the demise of the high street shopping era. Through this reinvention process, Goole will be an activity hub, enabling opportunities for local people through building skills, driving enterprise, and providing leisure activities that will promote health and wellbeing.

With an enhanced sense of opportunity and civic pride, residents, business, and visitors will have created a virtual cycle that in turn attracts more people and more investment into the town centre. Goole will be in harmony with the town's large international employers and global connections."

Eligibility Information

Any investment made by the PAF grant programme should be within the geographic areas outlined in the below map:



The following organisations may apply for funding:

- Businesses
- Registered Charities with incorporated status
- Incorporated 'Not for Profit' Organisations
- Learning Establishments
- Public Sector (including applying on behalf of an unincorporated organisation)

The eligibility of any organisation is subject to UK Subsidy Control

Applications must be made by an incorporated organisation with a legal personality and a bank account in the organisation's name. Applications must be made on behalf of a body or group that is not incorporated by one which is, for example a local authority, incorporated charity, not for profit company or incorporated business.

Businesses and not for profit companies will normally be expected to be able to demonstrate at least 1 year of trading activity and be able to supply at least one set of accounts (preferably audited) at the time of

submitting. New business and business who have been trading for less than one year will be considered by exception. Support will be subject to a review of previous trading history and experience.

Businesses and not for profit companies must have and be able to evidence a clear and legal ownership structure.

Incorporated Charities must meet their finance and public benefit responsibilities as required by the Charity Commission. Governing document and accounts to be appropriately filed with the commission.

Applicants will be required to demonstrate that the business/ organisation is managed in robust and compliant manner, has ongoing financial stability and can sustain the outputs of the investment.

Projects should be completed within the project completion date (as per application form) or by 31st December 2025 whichever is sooner. Significant concerns around project delivery may result in the funding offer being withdrawn.

It is important to note at the outset that if work has already started on a project, then it is not eligible for financial support under this programme. Grant funding must be claimed in arrears for work undertaken after an application form has been submitted and a written offer from Goole Town Deal Board or its accountable body East Riding of Yorkshire Council.

Project Costs

Eligible Project Costs include:

- Capital Development costs
- Acquisition and clearance costs
- Refurbishment, alteration and building work associated with the upgrade or repurposing of premises/sites.

Contact Details

Website: www.gooletowndeal.co.uk/projects/property-activation-fund/

Facebook: N/A

Email: Goolepaf@eastriding.gov.uk

X (nee Twitter): N/A

Phone: 01482 391722

LinkedIn: N/A

Start Up Loans

Project Sponsor: British Business Bank

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Pre-Start, Start-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



Support Available

A Start Up Loan is a government-backed personal loan available to individuals looking to start or grow a business in the UK. In addition to finance, successful applicants receive 12 months of free mentoring and exclusive business offers to help them succeed.

The loan is unsecured, so there's no need to put forward any assets or guarantors to support an application. All owners or partners in a business can individually apply for up to £25,000 each, with a maximum of £100,000 available per business

- Borrow up to £25,000
- Fixed interest rate of 6% per annum (per year)
- Repay the loan over a term of 1-5 years
- No fees for arranging the loan or paying it back early
- Support with writing business plans and cash flow forecasts
- 12 months of free mentoring once you receive a loan
- A range of useful templates and how-to guides
- Exclusive discounts on business products from O2, Experian, Intuit and 30+ more

Start Up Loans is administered by BBB but delivered through various partners which the website will direct them to dependent on location and business circumstance.

Eligibility Information

You can apply for a Start Up loan if:

- You're 18 years of age or older
- You're a current UK resident
- You're starting a new business or have been trading for up to 36 months
- You're unable to secure finance from other sources (self-declaration is ok)
- Your business is based in the UK
- You have the right to work in the UK
- Your business type and loan purpose is eligible under terms of the scheme
- You pass credit checks, and you can afford to repay the loan

Contact Details

Website: www.startuploans.co.uk

Facebook: /StartUpLoansUK

Email: Cat.smith@british-business-bank.co.uk

X (nee Twitter): @StartUpLoansUK

Phone: N/A

LinkedIn: /start-up-loans-company

Acorn Fund

Project Sponsor: Chamber Acorn Fund (Humber) Limited

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Established

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



Support Available

Acorn is a business-to-business lender who can lend regulated or unregulated to sole traders, Limited companies, partnerships and LLP's. The minimum loan amount is £50,000, and loans are secured, normally against land or property.

Personal guarantees and debenture required when lending to limited companies. Loans can be for any purpose – such as property purchase, property development, working capital, property alterations etc., and any business sector is considered.

Interest rates typically between 8% per annum to 12% per annum fixed, with maximum loan terms of 10 years. The loan interest can be repaid interest-only or repayment. In some cases, interest can be accrued

A 1% loan arrangement fee of the loan amount is charged as a setting up fee which can be added to the loan or paid separately.

Eligibility Information

Any business sector considered

Minimum 3 years evidence of trading or relevant previous business experience

Applicants are required to evidence good personal credit history

Contact Details

Website: www.chamberacornfund.com

Facebook: N/A

Email: c.simpson@chamberacornfund.com

X (nee Twitter): N/A

Phone: 01482 324976

LinkedIn: N/A

Sirius

Project Sponsor: Sirius

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Pre-Start, Start Up, Established

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



Support Available

Sirius is a Department of Business & Trade approved Local Enterprise Agency, and part of The National Enterprise Network offering free business advice, support and on-going mentoring to the self-employed and businesses situated in Hull and the East Riding of Yorkshire.

With more than 24 years of operation we have financially assisted approx. 390 businesses which has helped create approx. 1,950 jobs. In addition to that number, we have also assisted approximately 300 further individuals or businesses per year with our free, qualified, advice and support to either start up, or grow their businesses. That's over 7,000 self-employed or businesses!

Sirius, over the last 24 years has loaned over £3,200,000 to new and existing businesses to help with starting up and expansion. From this we have levered over £11,000,000 of traditional funding.

We would conservatively estimate that we have helped well over 12,000 local people to either set up their own business, grow or expand their business, or become self-employed. An accurate count of the jobs created is anyone's guess, but we would consider it to be over 15,000!

At Sirius Business Centre in Hedon, we have met with over 12,000 people on a one-to-one basis, offering free business start-up support, advice, & planning - with qualified advisors. We can support with:

- Help with business plan compilation
- Market research
- On-going free business support encouragement & mentoring
- Free business advice & planning strategies for growing/expanding your business
- Business loans
- Investment readiness & cashflow planning
- Help with grant applications & information
- Finance procurement
- Liaison with banks & other agencies
- Encouragement
- Advice & negotiation for property
- Acting as an information gateway
- Sourcing specific training
- Marketing and planning
- tax & skills advice
- Health & safety support
- Mentoring & support for existing companies

-
- Financial advice in disputes, ombudsman, factoring,
 - Cash flow planning & debt recovery
 - Networking support

Eligibility Information

Pre-start, Start-up, or established businesses looking to grow based in Hull or The East Riding of Yorkshire

Contact Details

Website: www.sirius-hull.co.uk

Email: Info@sirius-hull.co.uk

Phone: 01482 890146

Facebook: /SiriusHull

X (nee Twitter): @siriusnull

LinkedIn: /Sirius-enterprise-agency

Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund II (NPIF II)

Project Sponsor: British Business Bank

Launch Date / Status: Live

End Date: Ongoing

Target Business Stages: Start-Up, Established, Scale-Up

Geographic Coverage: Hull & East Yorkshire



Support Available

The Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund II will build on the success of the first Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund and will deliver a £660 million commitment of new funding to smaller businesses. The fund aims to drive sustainable economic growth by supporting innovation and creating local opportunity for new and growing businesses across the North of England.

The Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund II offers a range of commercial finance options with smaller loans and debt finance from £25,000 to £2 million and equity investment up to £5 million. The fund covers the whole of the North, including rural, coastal and urban areas, and will increase the supply and diversity of early-stage finance for smaller businesses across the North of England, providing funds to businesses that might otherwise not receive investment and helping to break down barriers in access to finance.

The fund offers three different commercial finance options designed to tackle identified funding gaps across the North of England:

Smaller Loans

- Loans of between £25,000 and £100,000
- For new or growing businesses
- By fund manager Business Enterprise Fund - [BEF | Business loans up to £250,000 \(befund.org\)](#)

Debt Finance

- Loans of between £100,000 and £2 million
- For businesses that can demonstrate growth potential
- By fund manager Mercia Asset Finance - [Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund II - NPIF \(mercia.co.uk\)](#)

Equity Finance

- Equity investment finance of up to £2 million
- Early stage equity funding
- For businesses with ambitious growth plans
- By fund manager Mercia Ventures - [Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund II - NPIF II Equity Finance \(mercia.co.uk\)](#)

The NPIF II funding options can support businesses with a range of business development projects, including:

Funding expansion projects

Leasing new commercial premises

Making asset acquisitions

Hiring a new team

Purchasing new machinery or equipment

Launching a new product or service

Eligibility Information

Businesses based within the Northern Powerhouse area may be able to apply, subject to specific eligibility criteria set by the fund managers. From start-ups to those with expansion and growth plans, if a business can demonstrate growth potential, it may be eligible to apply.

Contact Details

Website: See weblinks to fund manager websites above

Email: See fund manager websites for details

Phone: See fund manager websites for details

Facebook: /britishbusinessbank

X (nee Twitter): @BritishBBank

LinkedIn: /company/british-business-bank

Epilogue

Should you wish to provide feedback on this business support handbook, or wish to list your project or scheme in future editions of the handbook, then please contact the HEY Growth Hub team:

T: 01482 485260

E: growthhub@heybusinessgrowthskillshub.com