

# Micro Business Grant Scheme 2020/21



## What is the Micro Business Grant Scheme?

Micro Business Grants are available for small businesses in Mid Sussex who have a project idea which will help them grow.

Up to £2,000 is available on a 50 percent match-funding basis to support projects. In addition to this, MSDC will further provide up to £1,500 if businesses employ an apprentice.

### Eligibility

To be eligible for a grant, your business must meet the following criteria:

- o Your business must employ fewer than 10 employees
- o Businesses must be located within the District
- o Businesses must be properly constituted and able to provide evidence of this. Examples of evidence can be found on our website.
- o Projects must contribute towards the growth of the business and differs from 'business as usual', the Council will not cover these costs.
- o Businesses will be eligible for a maximum of two project grants over two consecutive years. Thereafter businesses will need to take a break of one year before being eligible to apply for the scheme again.
- o For the first month of launch, only new applicants are eligible to apply.

## Is your project eligible?

Projects are assessed against criteria which will be used when presenting projects to the Cabinet Grant panel. Your project must demonstrate one or more of the following;

- o Reach new customers
- o Increase the number of employees
- o Introduce new products or services
- o Improve business premises
- o Improve business productivity.

It is encouraged that projects align with the objectives of the Economic Development Strategy:

- o The creation of new jobs for local individuals
- o Improving the skills of the workforce
- o Supporting the local supply chain
- o Enhances the public realm or local amenities
- o Promotes or improves sustainability, with emphasis on environmental sustainability.

## Application Process

The portal for applications will open in **April 2020**. As noted in the eligibility criteria, the first month of launch will only open the portal to new applicants. Thereafter, returning applicants will be able to apply.