

# MakeItYork

## FOR BUSINESS

### Funding options for York based businesses

March 2019

**Before you start, think very carefully about the WHAT, WHY & WHAT.**

**What do you need the funding for?**

**Why do you want the funding? If you can afford to pay for it anyway then you're unlikely to succeed. What impact will it have on your business? Think job creation, job safeguarding, sales & profit increase.**

**It speaks for itself that grants are worth having but you have to commit time to submitting a strong application. We can help you with that and we won't charge you a fee or commission.**

#### 1. **Let's Grow North & East Yorkshire**

<http://bit.ly/2tihzj4>

- For help buying commercial premises or refurbing, machinery, equipment & other capital investment projects
- Grants from £10K to £1M contributing 10-20% of total costs
- Minimum project spend £33K
- Trading address in York, North Yorkshire or East Yorkshire

#### 2. **Business Growth Programme**

<http://bit.ly/1JYNkzI>

- For help buying machinery, equipment & fit out / refurb of buildings but not the purchase of property
- Grants from £10K to £250K contributing up to 20% of total costs
- Minimum project spend £50K
- 12 mths trading history

#### 3. **Product & Process Improvement**

<http://www.papi.org.uk/>

- For help buying machinery or equipment that enables innovation within your business. For example, you have identified a way of improving your end product but need to buy a specific piece of equipment to achieve this
- Grants up to £20K contributing 40% of total costs
- Now available across North & West Yorkshire plus the East Riding

**4. Resource Efficiency Fund**

<http://bit.ly/2tlweY4>

- Grants up to £10K contributing 50% of total costs (reduced to 25% for lighting projects)
- To be used to help lower the cost of energy, water and waste by providing financial support to help purchase new equipment
- Includes a free efficiency assessment
- Trading address in Leeds City Region

**5. Manufacturing Growth Programme**

<http://bit.ly/2lKNo2P>

- Grants to provide access to expert advice to help you grow your manufacturing business
- Access equates to 8 days across 4 months
- Topics cover a wide range including producing growth plans, accessing finance, marketing and many more. Includes help to acquire SALSA accreditation (Safe & Local Supplier Approval)

**7. Northern Powerhouse Investment Fund**

[www.npif.co.uk](http://www.npif.co.uk)

- Debt & equity based funds available to businesses across Yorkshire
- Micro Finance fund with loans from £25K to £100K delivered by Business Enterprise Fund (<https://www.befund.org/npif>) York contact is Andy Clough 07891 427956
- Debt Finance fund with loans from £100K to £750K delivered by Mercia Fund Managers <https://www.merciatech.co.uk/our-business/funds-we-manage/actively-investing/npif-debt/> York based contact is Ian Atkinson 07540 014911
- Equity Finance from £100K to £2M delivered by Mercia Fund Managers <https://www.merciatech.co.uk/our-business/funds-we-manage/actively-investing/npif-equity/>

**8. Ad:Venture**

<http://ad-venture.org.uk/>

- Programme specifically aimed at high growth pre-start or early stage businesses up to 3 years old
- Expert advice to help with planning, coaching and growth advice
- Must trade B2B
- Grants available from £500 to £2500 for start ups to assist with set up costs (excluding working capital) eg. Office furniture, IT equipment, website design & development
- Grants available from £2.5K to £25K for businesses that have been trading from 1 year up to 3 years to help with capital purchases
- Start up loans available through Business Enterprise Fund from £500 - £25K ([www.befund.org](http://www.befund.org))

**9. Access Innovation**

<http://bit.ly/2tiBpe3>

- Package of support available to help business access research based expertise to develop existing processes and products e.g. working with Green Chemistry Dept at University of York to establish alternative uses for byproducts from the food production process

[www.yorkmeansbusiness.co.uk](http://www.yorkmeansbusiness.co.uk)

Part of **MakeItYork**

- Research grants available up to £100K to help with 50% of the cost of collaborating with a research partner. Capital grant pot also available to help fund 20% of costs up to £100K i.e. Max grant of £20K.
- Specialist workshops will also be available
- Trading address in Leeds City Region

**10. Biorenewables Development Centre**

<http://bit.ly/1my9lqb>

- Range of grant based support available for businesses operating in the bioeconomy
- Support focusses on looking at ways to commercialise products & processes through a mix of testing & research
- Trading address in Leeds City Region or North & East Yorkshire

**11. Spark Fund**

<http://www.spark-fund.co.uk/>

- Available across York & North Yorkshire LEP area
- Up to £20K of innovation grants to help you change your business, not necessarily the world
- Up to £50K for R&D funding
- Up to £50K for Low Carbon R&D funding

**12. Exporting**

<https://www.great.gov.uk/uk/>

- Up to £5K grant available to cover 50% of cost when looking to attend trade shows including flights & accommodation or legal & professional fees relating to international T&C's / contracts plus more.
- Plus, Enterprise Europe Network can help you find local partners & distributors in your chosen country, <https://www.enterprise-europe.co.uk/services/Move-new-markets>

**13. Strategic Business Growth Programme**

<http://www.winning-pitch.co.uk/strategic-business-growth-programme/>

- Aimed at businesses over 3 years of age with strong growth plans, targeting creation of 5-10 new jobs over next 3 years
- Programme provides expert advice and 121 coaching to help SME's realise their potential
- Covers financial management, sales, planning & marketing
- Also provide workshops open to all, one in York on 7<sup>th</sup> Dec at Science Park 9am-12.30pm. Subject is scaling up processes so they run profitably.

**14. Apprenticeships**

<http://yorkshireapprenticeshiphub.co.uk/funding/>

- Whether your business pays the apprenticeship levy or not, there is support available when taking on an apprentice.
- Remember, an apprentice is not just a young, entry level person.

[www.yorkmeansbusiness.co.uk](http://www.yorkmeansbusiness.co.uk)

- Degree level apprenticeships available from the likes of York St John to upskill your senior employees

**15. Gigabit Voucher Scheme**

<https://www.superfastwestyorkshire.co.uk/business/gigabit-voucher-scheme>

- Any business regardless of sector can apply for support to upgrade their connectivity speed so that it is capable of delivering gigabit capability
- There is no application process as such with the process being supplier lead. Access support through the website and then find a supplier. The discount has already been applied from £500 - £3000.
- All applicants must be SME's located in the York area
- Potential applicants can apply together e.g. within the same building or business park so 5 businesses can obtain up to £15K of discount
- Business who trade from a home address can apply

**16. Skills Service**

<https://www.westyorkshirecolleges.co.uk/contracted-projects/the-skills-service>

- Wide range of training available for SME's with 40% contribution from the grant if eligible
- Marketing, social media, management, business development, financial skills, H&S, law, manufacturing, construction, engineering skills all included plus many more
- Businesses have to be in Leeds City Region and meet eligibility criteria

**FAQ's**

- **What area does the Leeds City Region LEP cover?** All of West Yorkshire plus York, Harrogate, Selby & Craven. From a York perspective, businesses paying their rates into City of York Council are within the Leeds City Region area.
- **What area does the York, North Yorkshire & East Riding LEP cover?** Exactly as the name suggests!
- **What size of businesses are eligible?** The majority of these support products are available to SME's employing less than 250 people and with up to £40M Turnover.
- **What sort of businesses are eligible?** Generally speaking, businesses need to trade B2B to be eligible, i.e. their end client is a business and not a consumer. Sectors such as retail are generally ineligible but please check with Make It York if you have any queries.
- **Is this the full list of grants and loans available to businesses in York?** No, this information is intended to cover the main options. There are a number of other niche grants available, again please check with Make It York if you are planning on investing in your business.
- **There seems to be a lot of grants that sound similar, which one is right for my business?** The Business Support team at Make It York are here to help. Contact Simon Middleton on 01904 551829 or [simon.middleton@makeityork.com](mailto:simon.middleton@makeityork.com) for guidance and support.