



## Business Gateway Growth Hub

A single place to access all forms of business support across Leicester and Leicestershire.

- > Free and impartial 1:1 advice
- > Presentations and workshops
- > Specialist support and expertise for high growth
- > Signposting and referrals to other support providers
- > Business Growth Grants for Capital projects from £2,000 to £25,000 to cover 35% of project costs

For more information go to:  
[bit.ly/bizgweb](http://bit.ly/bizgweb)



## Manufacturing Growth Programme (MGP)

MGP is designed to stimulate the growth of aspiring manufacturing businesses, in any sector, helping identify opportunities for accelerated growth, improvement and team development.

- > Average grant available is £1,650
- > Towards the cost of support costing approximately £5,000

[bit.ly/manuf-growth-prog](http://bit.ly/manuf-growth-prog)



## Supporting Productivity Innovation and Growth (SPRING)

This project assists SMEs to increase their capacity and capability by supporting business growth and productivity improvement measures.

- > An information, diagnostic and brokerage review
- > Part-funding grant to exhibit at trade fairs
- > Up to 2 days support – market/technology growth assessment
- > Grant up to 44% towards external costs of investments in enhanced capabilities and new technologies

**PROJECT ENDS JUNE 2022**

[bit.ly/lough-inet](http://bit.ly/lough-inet)



## Growing Enterprise

Grant for Enterprise offers businesses the opportunity to obtain 25% of eligible costs for equipment and consultancy services on a match funded basis.

Grant for Enterprise can be used for:

- Computer hardware/software
- Tools/machinery
- Marketing plan
- IT projects/website development
- Sales strategy
- > Grants between £1000 and £2500 are available
- > The minimum project spend is £4000

**PROJECT ENDS DEC 2021**

[bit.ly/nbv-enterprise](http://bit.ly/nbv-enterprise)



## Leicester Low Carbon Transport Accelerator

Grants towards the cost of replacing fossil fuelled Vehicles with Electric Vehicles and Hybrids for business use.

- > Grants available up to 40% of the price difference between fossil fuelled replacement and the new lower emission vehicle (subject to a £15,000 cap)
- > Amount of grant depends on the annual Co2 saving achieved
- > Support available with the application process

Call 0116 454 2154 or email:  
[ULEV-Grants@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:ULEV-Grants@leicester.gov.uk)



## Smart Innovation & Networking for Growth (SING)

Practical and grant assistance to make it easier for SMEs to accelerate development of new products, processes and services, and to encourage them to work with UK Research Institutions.

- > Grant funding of up to 40% towards external costs of development projects
- > 2 days research into technologies and market potential

[bit.ly/lough-inet](http://bit.ly/lough-inet)



## Digital Growth Programme

Helping SMEs across Leicestershire improve performance through the use of technology:

- > Awareness-raising seminars
- > Strategic action-planning workshops
- > Digital business advice
- > Grant funding up to £25,000 (35% towards investment in technology)

**PROJECT ENDS MARCH 2022**

Call the Business Gateway on 0116 366 8487  
[bit.ly/emc-digi-growth](http://bit.ly/emc-digi-growth)



## Internationalising SMEs

Advice and grant support available to support companies wishing to export.

Grants covering:

- Support for trade shows
- Translation
- Marketing
- Consultancy, etc.
- > Minimum grant available is £1,000
- > Maximum grant value rarely exceeds £10,000
- > 50% of total project cost

[bit.ly/emb-inter-sme](http://bit.ly/emb-inter-sme)



## Can't see the right Grant for you?

The Business Gateway Growth Hub can help find the right finance for your business.

Our service is free and impartial and we can connect you to other business support providers.

[www.bizgateway.org.uk](http://www.bizgateway.org.uk)

[growthhub@bizgateway.org.uk](mailto:growthhub@bizgateway.org.uk)

0116 366 8487

This leaflet is part-funded through the LLEP's ERDF Technical Assistance Project 2015-2020



**EUROPEAN UNION**  
European Regional Development Fund



## Leicester Innovation Hub

Practical R&D and innovation support to qualifying SMEs to design, develop, test, and launch innovative products and services in partnership with the University.

- > Up to £4,000 Innovation Voucher (consultancy, analytical services and sustainability audits)
- > Up to £20,000 Industrial R&D MPhil (company based R&D projects over one year)

[bit.ly/leic-innov-hub](http://bit.ly/leic-innov-hub)



## Midlands Engine Investment Fund (East Midlands Access2Finance)

Early stage debt and equity funding for growth potential start-ups / existing businesses.

- > Debt fund of £40m
- > Small Business Loan fund of £13m
- > Equity fund of £34.5m
- > Proof-of-Concept / Early Stage fund of £23m
- > Loans £25k to £1.5m
- > Investments up to £2m
- > 10 year programme (5 yrs investment - 5 yrs realisation)

[bit.ly/brit-biz-bank-meif](http://bit.ly/brit-biz-bank-meif)



## Exploring Enterprise

The 2-day Explore Enterprise workshop is designed to offer support to young people, aged 18-30, who have an interest in finding out more about self-employment.

Young people can receive 1-2-1 support in writing a business plan, access numerous in depth workshops delivered by experts, and receive 2 years support from an experienced business mentor to turn that idea in to reality.

The programme provides:

- > Will it Work Grants, up to £150
- > Start-up loans, up to £5,000

We believe Youth Can Do It. Discover your potential, or help someone discover theirs.

[bit.ly/exploring-enterprise](http://bit.ly/exploring-enterprise)



## Space Park Leicester STAR Accelerator

High-tech support to design, develop, prototype and launch innovative products and components utilising space engineering and manufacturing R&D strengths of the University of Leicester.

- > Design and additive manufacturing
- > Testing and validation of existing ideas
- > Technology Demonstrations

Contact Anjuu Trevedi:  
[at220@le.ac.uk](mailto:at220@le.ac.uk)



## Green BELLE

SMEs can apply for a grant to install low carbon and energy efficient measures in their premises, such as:

- Heating
- Lighting
- Heating and lighting controls
- Insulation
- Renewable energy
- Other energy efficiency measures, e.g. replacement air compressor
- > Grants of £1,000 to £7,000
- > Providing up to 50% of the total cost of the project

**PROJECT ENDS DEC 2021**

[bit.ly/green-belle](http://bit.ly/green-belle)



## SoLSTICE

Life Science companies in Leicestershire can access SoLSTICE support to develop new and existing products and services.

- > Support & Advice
- > Events
- > Innovation Support Grants – up to £20,000, to procure external suppliers or engage new specialist staff
- > Med-Tech Trials – up to £50,000, to support clinical trials
- > Specialist Networking Grants – up to £3,000, to help attend sector-specific events

[bit.ly/medi-solstice](http://bit.ly/medi-solstice)



Llep growth hub  
business gateway  
supporting business growth



**EUROPEAN UNION**  
European Regional Development Fund

2019-2020 Gateway  
to ERDF Business Grants