



Business Support and Growth Fund enhanced for 2017/18

Helping your business to grow in Central Bedfordshire

If you are a new / start up business or an SME based in Central Bedfordshire which is looking to grow, create new jobs, improve staff training and skills or improve your premises, you may be eligible for an award from the Business Support and Growth Fund.

The scheme offers support in three areas with a maximum award of £10k per business.

Business Rates Reduction

FREE Early Pre-Application Planning Advice

FREE Public Protection Food Hygiene and Health & Safety Training

For a business to qualify for support from the fund, it will need to demonstrate that it meets with one or more of the criteria below, which will ensure that the support is directed to key target areas that align with council service priorities of supporting business, jobs growth and increasing skills.

- 1) Supports an Inward Investment enquiry bringing new jobs in to the area.
- 2) Assists an existing business already based within Central Bedfordshire to expand and create additional jobs in the area.
- 3) Supports a business moving into a vacant unit in need of refurbishment and is subjected to paying a void rates charge.
- 4) Enables a new business start up and go live.
- 5) Supports a business to increase skills levels within its workforce.
- 6) Enhances compliance with legislation enforced by Central Bedfordshire Council.

To apply or for further information about the qualifying criteria, please contact jeff.caiger@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk or visit www.becentralbedfordshire.co.uk