

# Small Businesses

## - a guide for constituents

May 2021



The Welsh Parliament is the democratically elected body that represents the interests of Wales and its people. Commonly known as the Senedd, it makes laws for Wales, agrees Welsh taxes and holds the Welsh Government to account.

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# Small Businesses

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**Paper Overview:**

This guide aims to outline and signpost possible sources of support available to new and existing small businesses in Wales.



## Contents

Coronavirus-related business support.....	1
Welsh Government assistance.....	1
Business Wales.....	1
Development Bank of Wales.....	2
Redundancy Action Scheme (ReAct).....	2
SMARTCymru.....	3
Wales Tourism Investment Fund.....	3
UK Government support.....	4
British Business Bank.....	4
Start Up Loans Company.....	4
Not-for-profit organisations that support business.....	5
Business in Focus.....	5
Purple Shoots.....	5
Support for social enterprises.....	6
Wales Co-operative Centre.....	6
Wales Council for Voluntary Action.....	6

---

Support for female entrepreneurs.....	7
Chwarae Teg.....	7
Female Entrepreneurship Funding .....	7
Local Authority support .....	8
Blaenau Gwent .....	8
Bridgend .....	9
Caerphilly.....	10
Cardiff.....	12
Carmarthenshire.....	12
Ceredigion.....	12
Conwy.....	14
Denbighshire.....	14
Flintshire.....	15
Gwynedd.....	15
Isle of Anglesey.....	17
Merthyr Tydfil .....	18
Monmouthshire.....	18
Neath Port Talbot .....	18
Newport.....	19
Pembrokeshire.....	20
Powys.....	20

Rhondda Cynon Taf.....21

Swansea.....22

Torfaen .....23

Vale of Glamorgan.....23

Wrexham.....23

## Coronavirus-related business support

Our [regularly updated research article](#) provides details of coronavirus-related business support provided by both the Welsh and UK governments. Other useful sources of information include the [Business Wales Covid-19 support for business page](#) and the UK Government's [coronavirus business support finder](#).

## Welsh Government assistance

### Business Wales

The Welsh Government's Business Wales website and advisory service is the main source of information for businesses seeking support from the Welsh Government and other sources.

The website outlines the **business support** the Welsh Government provides for start-up and existing businesses in Wales, as well as providing a [finance locator](#) to locate potential grants and loans available from the Welsh Government and other sources.

#### **For further information:**

**Website:** [business.wales.gov.uk](https://business.wales.gov.uk)

**Telephone:** 0300 060 3000

**Email:** [Contact form](#)

There is a separately branded 'Food and Drink Wales' section within the Business Wales website. The Welsh Government runs a dedicated support service for businesses in the Food and Drink Sector which includes providing business and technical support, access to centres of excellence and manufacturing premises, and help with exports.

#### **For further information:**

**Website:** [businesswales.gov.wales/foodanddrink](https://businesswales.gov.wales/foodanddrink)

Big Ideas Wales is the section of the Business Wales website that sets out support available to young entrepreneurs. It provides information on workshops; business bootcamps; sources of general advice and support; resources for entrepreneurs; and the Unleashed Package of support offered by Business Wales.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://businesswales.gov.wales/bigideas/>

The Business Online Support Service (BOSS) is the part of the Business Wales website that helps entrepreneurs and businesses develop through online learning. It covers key areas to consider when starting a business; managing your business efficiently; workforce management; and product design and development.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://businesswales.gov.wales/boss/>

## Development Bank of Wales

The Development Bank of Wales helps Welsh SMEs by offering commercial growth investment starting from £1,000 up to £5 million.

The Development Bank was established by the Welsh Government to make it easier for businesses to get the finance needed to start up, strengthen and grow. The Development Bank manages a **range of funds** covering start-ups; business development and expansion; buying a business and management succession; developing a tech venture; and property development.

It also has an **eligibility checker** which businesses can use to see whether they may be able to receive assistance from the Development Bank.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://developmentbank.wales/>

**Telephone:** 0800 587 4140

**E-mail:** [info@developmentbank.wales](mailto:info@developmentbank.wales)

## Redundancy Action Scheme (ReAct)

The ReAct programme is funded by the Welsh Government with support from the European Social Fund. The programme helps people affected by redundancy gain new skills and encourages recruiting employers to employ a redundant worker.

Employers looking to recruit can get two packages for taking on someone who has been made redundant:

- Employer Recruitment Support - funds employers who recruit individuals made redundant in the past 3 months. The award offers up to £3,000 paid in four instalments as a contribution towards wage costs



- Employer Training Support - is a separate discretionary fund of up to £1,000 that an employer can put towards the cost of the new recruit's job-related training.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://businesswales.gov.wales/skillsgateway/skills-and-training-programmes/react>

**Telephone:** 0800 028 4844

**Email:** [reactenquiries@gov.wales](mailto:reactenquiries@gov.wales)

## SMARTCymru

SMARTCymru is a Welsh Government programme funded with support from the European Regional Development Fund. It supports Welsh businesses to develop, implement and commercialise new products, processes and services. It can provide business finance at every stage of the innovation process, for example:

- Feasibility - to investigate the viability of innovative ideas (up to £30,000);
- Industrial Research - to undertake practical research to develop proof of concept (up to £100,000);
- Experimental Development - to show the results of research in operation (up to £200,000); and
- Exploitation - to exploit the new product or process successfully (up to £20,000).

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://businesswales.gov.wales/expertisewales/support-and-funding-businesses/smartcymru>

**Telephone:** 0300 060 3000

## Wales Tourism Investment Fund

The Wales Tourism Investment Fund is delivered by the Welsh Government and Development Bank for Wales. It provides capital investment for the sector of between £100,000 and £5 million, including both grants and repayable finance. The fund can be used either to upgrade existing, or create new, high quality assets in the tourism sector. Further information is available by contacting the Welsh Government on 0845 010 8020 or at [WTIF@gov.wales](mailto:WTIF@gov.wales).

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://businesswales.gov.wales/tourism/finance>

**Telephone:** 0845 010 8020

**E-mail:** [WTIF@gov.wales](mailto:WTIF@gov.wales)

## UK Government support

The **Gov.UK website** contains a '**business support finder**' function which allows businesses to find government-backed support and finance, including:

- Grants;
- finance and loans;
- business support e.g. mentoring, consultancy; and
- funding for small and medium-sized businesses and start-ups

The search can be customised based on business location, size and activity.

### British Business Bank

The British Business Bank was established by the UK Government to improve access to finance for small businesses. It has a range of open programmes that provide financial support to small businesses, either for start-ups or existing businesses.

#### **For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.british-business-bank.co.uk/>

**Email:** [info@british-business-bank.co.uk](mailto:info@british-business-bank.co.uk)

### Start Up Loans Company

The Start Up Loans Company is a subsidiary of the British Business Bank. It provides government-backed loans to individuals looking to start or grow a business in the UK. Individuals can borrow between £500 and £25,000, with owners or partners in a business able to individually apply for loans of up to £100,000 for a business. There is a fixed interest rate of 6% per annum, repayable over between 1 and 5 years.

Businesses are required to meet eligibility criteria, including that they are either starting a new business, or have been trading for less than 24 months.

In addition to finance, successful applicants receive 12-months of free mentoring and exclusive business offers.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.startuploans.co.uk/>

**Telephone:** 0344 264 2600

**Email:** [Contact form](#)

## Not-for-profit organisations that support business

### Business in Focus

Business in Focus is a not-for-profit organisation that supports businesses to start-up and grow. It provides businesses with a mixture of free services and commercial consultancy. The free services it delivers are government funded, and include Business Wales, Focus Enterprise Hubs, Enterprise Merthyr, Big Ideas Wales and Social Business Wales.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.businessinfocus.co.uk/>

**Telephone:** 01656 868545

**E-mail:** [hello@businessinfocus.co.uk](mailto:hello@businessinfocus.co.uk)

### Purple Shoots

Purple Shoots is a not-for-profit micro finance organisation and a registered charity that provides loans of up to £3,000 to small businesses based in Wales. Its loans are available to start-ups and established businesses. The interest rate is 14.5% per annum and loans are repayable between 1 and 3 years. The loans can be used for purposes such as buying equipment; marketing; refurbishing premises; and running costs.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://purpleshoots.org>

**Telephone:** 07726 599 267

**Email:** [Contact form](#)

## Support for social enterprises

### Wales Co-operative Centre

The Wales Co-operative Centre's Social Business Wales project provides advice and support to people considering starting up or operating a social business and can provide intensive one-to-one support to social businesses across Wales which are looking to expand or create jobs. Social businesses include social enterprises, co-operatives, mutuals and employee-owned businesses.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://wales.coop/get-our-help/our-projects/social-business-wales/>

**Telephone:** 0300 111 5050

**Email:** [Contact form](#)

### Wales Council for Voluntary Action

The Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) runs Social Investment Cymru, which supports social enterprises in Wales with a range of financial products, including those operated jointly with organisations such as the Development Bank for Wales. Funding streams available include:

- [Community Asset Development Fund](#);
- [Communities Investment Fund](#);
- [Micro-business loan fund](#) (for social enterprises); and
- [Social Business Growth Fund](#)

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.wcva.org.uk/funding/social-investment-cymru>

**Telephone:** 0300 111 0124

**Email:** [sic@wcva.org.uk](mailto:sic@wcva.org.uk)

## Support for female entrepreneurs

As well as the other sources of support and assistance in this guide, female entrepreneurs can access a number of specific sources of advice and financial support.

### Chwarae Teg

Chwarae Teg operates a number of projects which support women in the workplace, or businesses to work towards gender equality in the workplace. These include:

- The Agile Nation 2 programmes **work with businesses** to become a FairPlay employer, and **with individual women** to develop skills and confidence to progress in the workplace;
- The **FairPlay Employer** service, which works with businesses to deliver gender equality; and
- The **LeadHerShip** programme which gives women aged 16-25 the opportunity to shadow senior business and politics leaders in Wales.

#### **For further information:**

**Website:** <https://chwaraeteg.com/>

**Telephone:** 02920 462745

**Email:** [post@chwaraeteg.com](mailto:post@chwaraeteg.com)

### Female Entrepreneurship Funding

NatWest has announced that it is providing targeted funding to support female-led businesses in the UK to recover from the impacts of coronavirus. Loans and finance are available to Sole Traders, Partnerships and Limited Companies which are female led (minimum 50% female ownership or a female in prominent position on the Board).

#### **For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.business.natwest.com/business/business-services/women-in-business.html>

**Telephone:** 0345 711 4477

## Local Authority support

Each of the 22 Local Authorities in Wales has a business support section on its website to help identify and locate the different types of support available to businesses in that locality.

Relevant contact details and examples of specific schemes are included below.

### Blaenau Gwent

#### General support

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The Economic Development Unit at Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council is dedicated to helping businesses to start, grow and prosper within Blaenau Gwent and also to build relationships with new inward investors and developers that may be looking to locate projects within the area.

The team offers guidance, support and signposting in relation to financial support, tendering, marketing and supply-chain development.

The Council has also created the Blaenau Gwent Business Hub, which provides businesses with online business advice and support on finance; property and land; investment opportunities; and local business events.

#### **For further information:**

**Websites:** <https://www.blaenau-gwent.gov.uk/en/business/> and <https://www.blaenaugwentbusinesshub.co.uk/Home>

**Telephone:** 01495 355700

**Email:** [business@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk](mailto:business@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk)

#### BG Effect Business Fund

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The BG Effect Business Fund provides grant funding of up to £2,000 (excluding VAT) to support start-ups in Blaenau Gwent. Applicants must be able to fund 20% of the total funding required. Eligible expenditure includes support and expert advice to develop a business idea; purchasing essential equipment; marketing materials; rental costs for business premises; and repairs and improvements to business premises.

#### **For further information:**

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**Website:** <https://www.blaenaugwentbusinesshub.co.uk/BusinessSupport/Financial-Support/BG-Effect-Business-Fund>

**Telephone:** 01495 355700

**Email:** [business@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk](mailto:business@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk)

### Kick Start Plus

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Kick Start Plus is a joint initiative funded by UK Steel Enterprise and administered by the Council. The initiative provides grants of up to £1,000 for new businesses from six months to three years to help them develop and expand. Eligible costs include those associated with marketing; ICT; websites; and training and accreditations.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.blaenaugwentbusinesshub.co.uk/BusinessSupport/Financial-Support/Kick-StartPlus-Grant>

**Telephone:** 01495 355700

**Email:** [business@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk](mailto:business@blaenau-gwent.gov.uk)

### Bridgend

#### General support

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Bridgend County Borough Council aims to provide new and existing businesses in the Bridgend area with support, free advice and information. This covers financial support; sites and premises; training initiatives; and local events.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/business/>

**Telephone:** 01656 815315

**Email:** [Business@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:Business@bridgend.gov.uk)

#### Business Start Up Fund

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A new round of the Business Start Up Fund will open for applications from 8 June 2021, and will be open to start-ups and businesses who have been trading for less than three years. It provides grants of between £250 and £4,000, and the grant can provide up to 50% of eligible costs. The grant can cover costs of capital equipment, computer equipment, website development and building works to premises. Applicants must submit an online application and a business plan with 12 months cash flow forecast.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/business/funding/economic-futures-fund/>

**Telephone:** 01656 815315

**Email:** [Business@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:Business@bridgend.gov.uk)

### Special Regeneration Fund

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The Special Regeneration Fund provides funding opportunities to small and medium sized businesses to support up to 40% of approved project costs. Eligible expenditure includes investment in capital equipment, specialist software, website design and investment in industrial premises. Applicants must submit an online application and a business plan with 12 months cash flow forecast.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/business/business-zone/special-regeneration-fund/>

**Telephone:** 01656 815334

**Email:** [ieuan.sherwood@bridgend.gov.uk](mailto:ieuan.sherwood@bridgend.gov.uk)

## Caerphilly

### General support

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Caerphilly County Borough's Business Enterprise Support Team can give new and existing businesses detailed advice and guidance on a wide range of topics to suit their individual needs.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/Business/Support,-promotion-and-advice/Business-Enterprise-Support-Team>

**Telephone:** 01443 866 220

**Email:** [Business@Caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:Business@Caerphilly.gov.uk)



## Caerphilly Business Start-up Grant

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The **Business Start-up Grant** is a flexible grant scheme delivered through a partnership with UK Steel Enterprise and Caerphilly County Borough Council. It is designed to help residents of Caerphilly County Borough set up a full-time business for the first time, who are not able to access any other sources of funding. The business must not have started prior to application and approval.

It is a discretionary grant and can provide up to 50% of eligible project costs to a maximum of £500.

Eligible costs could include capital equipment; ICT equipment; website development; marketing; and building works to premises.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/Business/Business-grants-and-funding/Caerphilly-business-start-up-grant>

**Telephone:** 01443 866 220

**Email:** [Contact form](#)

## Caerphilly Enterprise Fund

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The Caerphilly Enterprise Fund provides capital and revenue support to new and established businesses within the local authority area. It is open to sole traders, Partnerships, Limited Companies, Limited Liability Partnerships and community groups.

Eligible costs include websites and e-commerce sites; feasibility studies; business planning; one-off marketing costs; capital equipment; IT hardware and software; and property and infrastructure improvements to commercial, industrial and retail premises.

Grants are available for capital costs of up to £10,000, at a 50% intervention rate. Grants of up to £2,000 are available for revenue costs, at a 45% intervention rate.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/Business/Business-grants-and-funding/Caerphilly-enterprise-fund>

**Telephone:** 01443 866 220

**Email:** [Business@Caerphilly.gov.uk](mailto:Business@Caerphilly.gov.uk)

## Cardiff

The Economic Development Team of Cardiff Council can provide existing or new businesses looking to set up in the city with advice on identifying and securing loans, grants and equity from a range of organisations.

It also publishes details of workshop and business starter units which are aimed at encouraging new and expanding local businesses by offering business units with easy-in easy-out terms.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.cardiff.gov.uk/ENG/Business/Support-and-Finance-for-Business/Pages/default.aspx>

**Email:** [businessadvice@cardiff.gov.uk](mailto:businessadvice@cardiff.gov.uk)

## Carmarthenshire

### General support

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The [Carmarthenshire County Council](https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales) website has a dedicated section for businesses to source information on aspects such as business rates, business support and business waste.

The business team provide direct business support to many new and existing business owners in Carmarthenshire. They handle all aspects of business enquiries and provide a gateway to business support for ratepayers, offer direct advice and investment support to growing companies.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/business/funding/>

**Telephone:** 01554 748813

**Email:** [businessfund@carmarthenshire.gov.uk](mailto:businessfund@carmarthenshire.gov.uk)

## Ceredigion

The Ceredigion County Council website has a dedicated section for businesses to source information on aspects such as business rates, business support and business waste.

There is also a page for **Funding and Grants**, where businesses can access information on any current funding schemes and financial support.

### **For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/business/>

**Telephone:** 01545 570881

**Email:** [Contact form](#)

## Mid Wales Town Centre Property Investment Fund

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The Mid Wales Town Centre Property Investment Fund is available to commercial and residential building occupiers and owners within the six target towns within Powys and Ceredigion.

It is a package of support that will include loan, private investment and an element of grant. Applicants will need to demonstrate that existing private, grant, and loan finance mechanisms have been properly considered and exhausted prior to any top up from grant funding being sought.

Its purpose is to enhance building frontages and to bring vacant commercial and residential floor space back into beneficial business use. Where a local need can be identified, the grant would also fund development projects that would create new build commercial/residential floor space.

The minimum level of eligible project costs that can be considered is £30,000, excluding VAT. Applications are restricted to a maximum grant of £200,000 (excluding VAT) unless the scheme is exceptional in its impact when a grant up to £225,000 (excluding VAT) could be considered.

### **For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/business/funding-grants/town-centre-property-investment-fund/>

**Telephone:** 01545 572065

**Email:** [Gareth.Rowlands@ceredigion.gov.uk](mailto:Gareth.Rowlands@ceredigion.gov.uk)

## Conwy

### General support

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Conwy County Borough Council has established the Conwy Business Centre as a central hub for business support in Conwy, with a team dedicated to supporting businesses; hosting events for business; helping businesses find premises; and providing meeting and conference facilities.

**For further information:**

**Websites:** <https://www.conwy.gov.uk/en/Business/Business.aspx> and <https://conwybusinesscentre.com/>

**Telephone:** 01492 574574

**Email:** [businesscentre@conwy.gov.uk](mailto:businesscentre@conwy.gov.uk)

### Conwy Business Support Grant

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This is a grant scheme to support the growth of businesses, social enterprises and farm diversification projects within the local authority's boundaries that will create jobs, or increase productivity or turnover. New or established businesses can apply for grants up to £1,500 to help with the purchase of capital equipment; marketing materials; and specialist training and specialist professional fees.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://conwybusinesscentre.com/conwy-business-support-grant/>

**Telephone:** 01492 574574

**Email:** [businesscentre@conwy.gov.uk](mailto:businesscentre@conwy.gov.uk)

## Denbighshire

Denbighshire County Council can provide support, advice and information to new and existing businesses. Their website provides details on a number of business related areas including: starting up, business rates, training and events and business continuity.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.denbighshire.gov.uk/en/business/business.aspx>

**Telephone:** 01824 706000

**Email:** [Enquiry Form](#)

## Flintshire

The **Flintshire County Council** website contains a range of advice and information for businesses, including starting and funding businesses; a local business directory; and business rates.

The Business Development Team can discuss individual business circumstances and provide details of business support and grants available in Flintshire.

### **For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Business/Home.aspx>

**Telephone:** 01352 703040

**Email:** [busdev@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:busdev@flintshire.gov.uk)

## Gwynedd

### General support

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Gwynedd Council's website provides information on help, support and training available to businesses, as well as sources of funding.

### **For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Businesses/Businesses.aspx>

**Telephone:** 01286 679231

**Email:** [business@gwynedd.llyw.cymru](mailto:business@gwynedd.llyw.cymru)

### Business Loan Fund

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Small and medium businesses can apply for the **Business Loan Fund**. The purpose of the Fund is to establish or develop a business and not to re-pay any existing debts or other loans.

Small loans made by the Fund will be between £25,000 and £100,000 with the opportunity to borrow larger amounts up to £750,000. The length of a usual term of a small loan will be between 36 and 60 months.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Businesses/Finance,-funding-and-grants/Grants-and-financial-assistance/Business-Loan-Fund.aspx>

**Telephone:** 01286 679231

**Email:** [business@gwynedd.llyw.cymru](mailto:business@gwynedd.llyw.cymru)

### Centre Loans Funds

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Owners of centrally located premises in Bangor, Bethesda, Caernarfon and Penygroes are able to apply for loans to improve properties for continued ownership, to sell, to rent or unlock a vacant or stalled site. The value of loans is at a minimum of £5,000, with no maximum value up to the balance remaining within the fund.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Businesses/Finance,-funding-and-grants/Grants-and-financial-assistance/Grants-and-financial-assistance.aspx>

**Telephone:** 01286 679231

**Email:** [business@gwynedd.llyw.cymru](mailto:business@gwynedd.llyw.cymru)

### ISO Grant Scheme

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Gwynedd Council can assist small and medium sized businesses located in Gwynedd to achieve ISO (International Organisation for Standardisation) accreditations which set world-class specifications for products, services and systems, to ensure quality, safety and efficiency.

A grant scheme is available which contributes towards the costs of a consultant to work with businesses in order to achieve the necessary standard for certification. The cost of the actual certification is not included in the scheme

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Businesses/Finance,-funding-and-grants/Grants-and-financial-assistance/ISO-Grant-Scheme.aspx>

**Telephone:** 01286 679231

**Email:** [business@gwynedd.llyw.cymru](mailto:business@gwynedd.llyw.cymru)

## Support for Enterprise

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Support for Enterprise is delivered under the Arfor programme. It provides practical or financial support for a business to overcome the obstacles preventing their growth and creating jobs. It aims to support businesses that create products such as goods, food and drink, computer software, television productions within rural communities that are strongholds for the Welsh language in Gwynedd.

The scheme can provide funding to secure skills, help with the cost of equipment, or provide a temporary contribution to the rental costs of a building.

The maximum budget for the Support for Enterprise package is £250,000. There is no minimum or maximum sum for individual applications; however, roughly, it is anticipated that most applications for funding will be £5,000 to £10,000.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Businesses/Finance,-funding-and-grants/Grants-and-financial-assistance/Support-for-Enterprise.aspx>

**Telephone:** 01286 679231

**Email:** [business@gwynedd.llyw.cymru](mailto:business@gwynedd.llyw.cymru)

## Isle of Anglesey

### General support

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The Isle of Anglesey Council's business support webpages include details of local businesses; grants and funding sources; and the Anglesey Business Centre, which provides business support services and facilities to businesses working on the island.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.anglesey.gov.uk/en/browse/Business/>

**Telephone:** 01248 752480

**Email:** [econdev@ynysmon.gov.uk](mailto:econdev@ynysmon.gov.uk)

## Merthyr Tydfil

Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council's website provides support and advice to businesses, including grants and funding available; and more general advice.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.merthyr.gov.uk/business/support-and-advice-for-businesses/>

**Telephone:** 01685 725000

**Email:** [Contact form](#)

## Monmouthshire

Monmouthshire County Council's Business and Enterprise team advises and supports businesses in the county. It provides information on starting and growing a business; supporting young entrepreneurs; locating funding; and rural innovation.

**For further information:**

**Websites:** <http://monmouthshire.biz/>

**Telephone:** 01633 748316

**Email:** [info@monmouthshire.biz](mailto:info@monmouthshire.biz)

## Neath Port Talbot

General support

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Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council's NPT Business website provides details of business support provided by the local authority, including details of assistance for people starting a business in the area, or relocating an existing business.

**For further information:**

**Website:** [www.npt-business.co.uk](http://www.npt-business.co.uk)

**Telephone:** 01639 686835

**Email:** [business@npt.gov.uk](mailto:business@npt.gov.uk)

Innov8 Scheme

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The Innov8 Scheme is provided by Neath Port Talbot County Council. The scheme provides a range of support and advice to people aged 18+ on starting, developing and growing a business.

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The programme provides grant support to cover up to 50% of eligible start-up costs up to a maximum of £1,000. All capital costs (with the exclusion of vehicles) are eligible as well as pre-start costs such as stock, overheads and marketing.

Funding is subject to the client setting up their business within Neath Port Talbot and successfully completing a recognised start up course.

**For further information:**

**Website:** [www.npt-business.co.uk](http://www.npt-business.co.uk)

**Telephone:** 01639 765695

**Email:** [business@npt.gov.uk](mailto:business@npt.gov.uk)

### UK Steel Enterprise Start-Up Grant

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This joint initiative between Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and UK Steel Enterprise Limited provides financial assistance for new businesses less than 24 months old based in the Neath Port Talbot County Borough.

The grant covers up to 100% of eligible costs with a maximum of £500. Eligible costs include capital equipment; ICT equipment; website development; marketing; and building works to premises.

**For further information:**

**Website:** [www.npt-business.co.uk](http://www.npt-business.co.uk)

**Telephone:** 01639 765695

**Email:** [s.wyndham@npt.gov.uk](mailto:s.wyndham@npt.gov.uk)

## Newport

### General support

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Newport City Council's Economic Development team provides support for new and established businesses, including on financial assistance, locating in Newport, and on land and property.

**For further information:**

**Website:** [www.newport.gov.uk/en/Business/Business-home-page.aspx](http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Business/Business-home-page.aspx)

**Telephone:** 01633 656656

**Email:** [business.services@newport.gov.uk](mailto:business.services@newport.gov.uk)

## Newport City Council / UK Steel Enterprise Start Up Business Grants

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Newport City Council and UK Steel Enterprise offer a discretionary grant to pre start-ups and businesses up to 12 months old.

Businesses can receive up to 40% of eligible and reasonable costs. The minimum grant is £250 for a total spend of £625. The maximum grant is £1,500 for a minimum total spend of £3,750. Eligible costs include the first year's rent on commercial premises; plant and equipment; ICT equipment; and software, websites and related training.

### **For further information:**

**Website:** <http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Business/Financial-assistance/Grants/Start-up-business-grants.aspx>

**Telephone:** 01633 656656

**Email:** [business.services@newport.gov.uk](mailto:business.services@newport.gov.uk)

## Pembrokeshire

### General support

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Pembrokeshire Council's business support team provides advice and support to businesses, individuals and other organisations. It aims to foster a successful enterprising and entrepreneurial culture within the Pembrokeshire economy....

Targeted support is provided for specific business sectors to assist the development of viable projects and the creation of employment.

### **For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/business>

**Telephone:** 01437 776167

## Powys

### General support

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Powys County Council's website provides links a range of information for businesses, including sources of grants and advice, and services for business.

### **For further information:**

**Website:** <https://en.powys.gov.uk/article/4980/Advice-for-businesses>

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## Rhondda Cynon Taf

### General support

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Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's Regeneration and Planning Division works with the local business community and partners. It can help with advice on planning, finding premises and grant funding.

For further information:

**Website:** <https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Business/BusinessSupportandAdvice/BusinessSupportandAdvice.aspx>

**Telephone:** 01437 281124

**Email:** [regeneration@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:regeneration@rctcbc.gov.uk)

### Enterprise Investment Fund

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This flexible grant programme is delivered by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council. It provides financial assistance to new or existing SMEs, private and social enterprises that are located, or are planning to locate, in Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough. Grants can cover up to 50% of eligible project costs, excluding VAT.

The grants available for eligible home-based businesses range from £500 to £1,500, and grants for eligible commercial premises range from £1,500 to £10,000.

Financial support is available for full-time, existing and start-up SMEs employing less than 250 people based in Rhondda Cynon Taf.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Business/FundingandGrants/EnterpriseInvestmentFund.aspx>

**Telephone:** 01443 281124

**Email:** [regeneration@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:regeneration@rctcbc.gov.uk)

### Town Centre Flood Resilience Grant

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The Town Centre Flood Resilience Grant supports businesses to take measures to improve their resilience to future flooding events. It is open to small and medium-sized businesses in the retail areas of Aberdare; Ferndale; Llantrisant; Mountain Ash; Pontypridd; Porth; Tonypany and Treorchy. Priority will be given to businesses who can evidence that they were affected by flooding during Storm Dennis.

The grant can cover up to 75% of project costs up to £7,500.

Eligible measures that the grant could support include internal doors; floodgates to doorways; UPVC floor coverings and skirting; internal moisture resistant wall boarding; and raising of power points.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Business/BusinessSupportandAdvice/TownCentreFloodResilienceGrant.aspx>

**Telephone:** 01443 281124

**Email:** [regeneration@rctcbc.gov.uk](mailto:regeneration@rctcbc.gov.uk)

## Swansea

### General support

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Swansea Council's website contains a range of information on funding, running a business, recruitment support and property development.

**For further information**

**Website:** <https://www.swansea.gov.uk/businessadvice>

**Email:** [business@swansea.gov.uk](mailto:business@swansea.gov.uk)

### Property Enhancement Development Grant

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Financial assistance is available to bring derelict or vacant premises back into beneficial use and to ensure good quality building and shop front enhancements.

This funding can be a maximum of 40% of total costs, and will be assessed on an individual case by case basis, taking account of the economic and environmental benefits that the project provides. To qualify for the grant the completed scheme must accommodate new jobs.

Items that are eligible for a grant include building facades; roofs; shop fronts; floors; ceilings; staircases; re-wiring; and signage.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.swansea.gov.uk/businessfunding>

**Telephone:** 07826 950439

**Email:** [business@swansea.gov.uk](mailto:business@swansea.gov.uk)

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## Torfaen

Torfaen Economy, Enterprise and Environment

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Torfaen County Borough Council's Economy, Enterprise and Environment team provides direct and specialist support for businesses in the borough.

**For further information:**

**Website:** [www.southwalesbusiness.co.uk](http://www.southwalesbusiness.co.uk)

**Telephone:** 01633 648083

**Email:** [info@southwalesbusiness.co.uk](mailto:info@southwalesbusiness.co.uk)

## Vale of Glamorgan

General support

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Vale of Glamorgan Council has its own Business Support Team that can help business start-ups and existing businesses.

**For further information:**

**Website:** <https://www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk/en/working/Business-Support/Business-Advice-and-Guidance.aspx>

**Telephone:** 01446 704636

**Email:** [economic@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk](mailto:economic@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk)

## Wrexham

General support

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Wrexham County Borough Council's website states that very few grants are widely available in the Wrexham County Borough area, however, depending on the individual business, funding may be available.

**For further information:**

**Website:** [www.wrexham.gov.uk](http://www.wrexham.gov.uk)

**Telephone:** 01978 292092

**Email:** [businessline@wrexham.gov.uk](mailto:businessline@wrexham.gov.uk)