

## Business Funding

Three funding tables focusing on:

(1) Innovation/R&D, (2) Business Growth (grants/loans/equity), (3) Renewables/Energy/Water/Resource Efficiency

Importantly, it seems that many funding streams ultimately funded by the European Union have spent their funds and are no longer taking applications for funding. Where we know they are closed to new applications we have deleted the reference, otherwise we have made notes in BOLD. Hopefully, this will make using the table easier and allow you to find active funding streams. However, in many cases existing applications are continuing to be processed, so if you have an application in, contact the funder for further information. Elsewhere, other EU funded schemes may also be closing for new applications. Therefore, please check with the funding intermediaries before working up any application or planning new expenditure.

Please note some funding streams may focus on more than one area of support.

### 1. Innovation/R&D

Fund	Details/Use	£, sectors, deadlines, eligibility
<a href="#">Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP)</a> Innovate UK	<p>A KTP is a partnership between a company, university and a graduate who work together to deliver a strategic project for the business which the company would be unable to do without the expertise provided by the University.</p> <p><u>KTPs provide proven business benefits</u> - on average a KTP project provides an increase of over £1m in annual profits before tax, the creation of two genuine new jobs, and increases in skills of existing staff. The University of Brighton has a 100% success rate in securing this funding, and our KTP Manager will write the proposal on behalf of the team.</p>	<p><b>Innovate UK provides a 67% grant</b> (50% for large companies), SME 33% contribution £25-30K per annum.</p> <p><b>Sectors:</b> KTP applications and deadlines now follow the Innovate UK 4 thematic calls and the Open competition.</p> <p>For SMEs with at least 5 employees. An SME must show 2 years' worth of accounts and have at least 5 employees.</p>
<a href="#">KEEP+ programme</a> Anglia Ruskin (University of Brighton is a delivery partner via the Knowledge Exchange team)	<p><u>Knowledge Exchange and Embed Partnerships (KEEPs)</u> – similar to KTPs, running for 1 year. Businesses need to tender for the expertise via the KEEP+ website for 20 working days.</p> <p><u>Research and Innovation Collaborations (RICs)</u> – bespoke R&amp;D projects, businesses need to tender the R&amp;D they require via the KEEP+ website for 20 working days.</p> <p><u>Innovation Internships</u> – 12 week graduate placements, part funded. Procurement process not required.</p> <p><u>Grants for consultancy support</u> – for bespoke R&amp;D delivered by a university or 3rd party. Specialist expertise must contribute to the development of a new product, process or service. Fast track - no requirement to tender.</p>	<p><b>KEEPs</b> – 50% funding up to £60K  <b>RICs</b> – 50% funding (30% for capital costs)  <b>Grants for consultancy support</b> – 50% up to £12,499  <b>Standalone capital grant</b> - 50% up to £12,499  <b>All sectors, no deadlines.</b>  <b>For SMEs only.</b> Focus is on businesses in SELEP (East Sussex, Kent, Essex, not Brighton and Hove), GCGP, Hertfordshire and New Anglia LEP areas, although SMEs outside these areas may also apply.                      For more details contact the</p>

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	<p><u>Stand Alone Capital Grant</u> – for specialist equipment that provides a significant technological contribution to the development of a new product, process or service.</p>	<p><a href="#">Green Growth Platform</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Innovation competitions</a> Innovate UK</p>	<p><b>‘Open’ funding competition</b> (for all business sectors) – OPEN NOW <a href="#">see details here</a></p> <p><b>Currently open</b></p> <p>UK businesses can apply for a share of up to £300,000 for projects that develop and demonstrate <b>tools to automatically plan rail infrastructure</b>. <a href="https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/252/overview">https://apply-for-innovation-funding.service.gov.uk/competition/252/overview</a></p>	<p>25-70% grant depending on size of organisation and stage of project):</p> <p><b>For collaborative proposals</b> a university can be the lead or a partner.</p> <p>Other innovation programmes &amp; funding competitions in partnership with government, agencies and other bodies are announced via the <a href="#">main Innovate UK funding competitions page</a></p>
<p><a href="#">Innovation Loans</a> Innovate UK</p>	<p>2 year pilot programme of loans for late stage (experimental development) R&amp;D ahead of commercialisation including prototyping, demonstrating, piloting, testing and validation in environments that are representative of real-life operating conditions.</p> <p>Innovation Loans will follow 5 themed competitions (as per grant competitions above):</p> <p><b>Open Competition</b> – OPEN NOW – <a href="#">see details here</a></p> <p>For single SMEs only. Innovation Loans are a form of state aid – see clarification <a href="#">here</a>.</p>	<p><b>£100K to £1 million, up to 100% of eligible costs, interest rate currently 3.7%.</b></p> <p>Loan period up to 10 years including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) availability period up to 3 years for interest only</li> <li>(b) extension period up to 2 years, interest only</li> <li>(c) repayment period up to 5 years, loan payments taken on a 3 monthly basis.</li> </ul> <p><b>Open Competition – deadline 21<sup>st</sup> November</b></p>
<p><a href="#">Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF)</a> Innovate UK</p>	<p>The Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund focuses on core industrial challenges where (a) the UK has a world-leading research base and businesses ready to innovate, and/or (b) there is a large or fast-growing and sustainable global market. ISCF grant current funding themes:</p> <p>Audience of the future Faraday battery challenge From data to early diagnosis and precision medicine</p>	<p>Competitions based on these themes are launched throughout the year.</p> <p>25-70% grants depending on size of organisation and stage of project).</p>

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	<p>Healthy ageing  Leading-edge healthcare  Next-generation services  Prospering from the energy revolution  Quantum technologies  Robots for a safer world  Transforming construction  Transforming food production  Creative industries clusters  Driverless cars  Manufacturing and future materials  National Satellite Test Facility</p> <p><b>Prospering from the energy revolution</b>  The smart energy market is growing, with an estimated \$2 trillion set to be invested globally in energy infrastructure every year.</p> <p>Smart energy systems can significantly improve efficiency by intelligently linking energy supply, storage and use, as well as heating and transport. For consumers, they will support cleaner and cheaper energy.</p> <p>This challenge will invest £102.5 million in new local energy systems and approaches.</p>	
<p><a href="#">Investment Accelerator pilot</a>  Innovate UK</p>	<p>Technical feasibility studies in the two Innovate UK sector groups 'Infrastructure Systems' and 'Health &amp; Life Sciences' - pilot programme providing simultaneous grant funding and venture capital investment for early stage projects (100% of project costs).</p>	<p><b>100% project costs up to £150K</b> for projects running 3-12 months.  <b>Single SMEs</b> – 60-70% grant and 30-40% equity investment/convertible loans.  <b>CURRENTLY CLOSED</b></p>
<p><a href="#">Industrial Energy Efficiency Accelerator</a>  via Carbon Trust</p>	<p>Joint funding for an industrial company and a technology developer to demonstrate an innovative solution to reduce energy consumption and carbon emissions, and incubation support for the technology developer to commercialise the solution.  Requires UK demonstration site with medium-high energy intensity sector (not building) linked to technology readiness level (TRL) 6-8, technology neutral, and not already demonstrated in the UK (can be internationally or in other sectors).</p>	<p>40-60% of project costs, with funding between £150-750K expected per joint application.</p> <p>For all UK manufacturing sectors, technology developers, equipment suppliers, universities and research institutes.</p> <p><b>STILL OPEN</b></p>

Fund	Details/Use	£, sectors, deadlines, eligibility
<a href="#">EIT Climate – KIC</a> European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT), 4 bases in the UK	<p>Grant funding and support for start-ups, innovators and consortia to bring climate-focused innovations to market that align with the 12 Climate-KIC priorities for 2018:</p> <p>Retrofit/decentralised energy, green/resilient cities, clean urban mobility &amp; smart sustainable districts, climate-smart agriculture, transforming food systems, nurturing forests in integrated landscapes, recast materials productions, reducing industry emissions, rebooting regional economies, mainstreaming climate in financial markets, democratising climate risk information, and fostering bankable green assets in cities.</p> <p>There a 4 specific programmes that focus support for businesses:  <b>Pathfinder</b> – early stage innovation  <b>Partner Accelerator</b> – early stage validation of models and markets  <b>Demonstrator</b> – prove innovations are viable &amp; ready to be deployed/scaled  <b>Scaler</b> – support to overcome barriers to growth</p>	<p>There are 3 competition phases per year March/May/October:</p> <p><a href="#">apply for a grant here</a></p> <p><b>Pathfinder &amp; Partner Accelerator programmes:</b> up to €50K grant, max. 80% project costs, project max. 12 months</p> <p><b>Demonstrator:</b> up to €3 million grant, max. 67% project costs, project duration typically 1-3 years</p> <p><b>Scaler:</b> up to €1 million grant, max. 67% project costs, typically 4-12 moth project</p>
<a href="#">KIC InnoEnergy</a> European Institute of Innovation & Technology (EIT)	<p>Investment funding for projects to develop new products, solutions and services with high commercial potential. TRL 5 plus.</p> <p>Projects must fit one of the following thematic fields: Energy Storage, Energy Efficiency, Energy for Chemical Fuels, Smart &amp; Efficient Buildings &amp; Cities, Smart Electric Grid, Renewable Energies, Sustainable Nuclear &amp; Renewable Convergence, Clean Coal &amp; Gas Technologies.</p>	<p><b>€100K – €4 to 5 million (20-80% match)</b> – KIC InnoEnergy to receive 100% of its ROI within five years of the product or service’s commercialisation.</p> <p><b>Sectors:</b> projects must fit one of the 8 thematic fields            Investment Round is open for applications <b>year-round</b>.            Projects length 2-3 years, product to market within 5 years.</p> <p><b>Collaborative projects</b> with 3 -7 European partners, from a minimum of 2 countries.</p>
<a href="#">SME Instrument</a> EU funding	<p>The EU wide SME instrument is for single or groups of ‘highly innovative SMEs with international ambitions, determined to turn strong, innovative business ideas into winners on the market’. SME instrument provides full-cycle business innovation support over 3 phases. Business innovation coaching support for the duration of their project.</p> <p><b>Phase 1</b> – proof of concept  <b>Phase 2</b> – development &amp; demonstration  <b>Phase 3</b> – go to market</p>	<p>Phase 1 - € 50,000 grant            Phase 2 - € 500,000 to 2,5 million grant            Phase 3 – EU support only (no grant)            See specific SME Instrument open (topic specific) calls <a href="#">here</a>.</p>

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<a href="#">Horizon 2020</a> EU funding	There are various topic specific funding calls for businesses grouped under Excellent Science, Industrial Leadership and Societal Challenges. Most H2020 funding is collaborative requiring consortiums of at least 3 members from different EU countries.	Instructions on how to participate in H2020 can be found <a href="#">here</a> .  See open and forthcoming H2020 topic calls <a href="#">here</a> .
<a href="#">EUREKA Eurostars</a> EU funding	SME funding for collaborative R&D, focused on developing new products, processes and services. <b>CURRENTLY CLOSED</b>	<b>Up to €360K per UK participating SME (60% grant)</b> . No funding for RTOs. <b>Rolling fund</b> with biennial deadlines.

## 2. Business Growth

Fund	Details/Use	£, sectors, deadlines, eligibility
<a href="#">Business Growth Fund – Grants</a> Locate East Sussex	<b>Capital investment ONLY</b> – e.g. building works to upgrade or extend premises (owner occupiers only), purchasing equipment and machinery, developing software, one-off marketing campaigns, developing a new website etc. targeted consultancy, specialised training and new product development. Funding of property or land acquisition is not eligible.  If an apprentice position is created as a result of the grant an Apprenticeship Grant of £1.5k is also available.	<b>£3K-£25K grant</b> , 40% grant (up to £8K grant can be applied for, for each job created) <b>Priority sectors:</b> advanced manufacturing, advanced materials and electronic systems, digital & media, low carbon environmental goods and services, land management. <b>No deadlines. Quarterly panels.</b>  <b>For SMEs, micro, start-ups &amp; social enterprises</b> in East Sussex (excludes Brighton & Hove)
<a href="#">LoCASE Business Growth Grants</a> via Kent County Council  <b>FUNDING AVAILABILITY CURRENTLY DEPENDENT ON UNDERSPEND BY PREVIOUS AWARDS BEING RECYCLED</b>	Grants available for capital and/or revenue projects that focus on general growth and/or Innovation/R&D. Now includes purchase of electric vehicles.  Low carbon/environmental sectors businesses for this funding stream are defined as operating in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- to decarbonise energy systems,</li><li>- energy or resource efficiency</li></ul>	<b>£1k to £20k grant</b> , 40% grant, i.e. maximum grant £10K for a £25K project. For businesses in the low carbon/environmental sector located in the SELEP region. This includes East Sussex, but <u>not</u> Brighton & Hove. See map <a href="#">here</a> .  Rolling fund with monthly evaluation panels. For SMEs.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- preserving and enhancing the natural environment.</li> </ul>	See further info <a href="#">here</a> or speak to the Green Growth Platform team.
<a href="#">Business Growth Fund – Loans</a> Locate East Sussex	<p><b>Capital investment ONLY</b> e.g. building works to upgrade or extend premises (owner occupiers only), purchasing equipment and machinery, developing software, one-off marketing campaigns, developing a new website etc. targeted consultancy, specialised training &amp; new product development. Funding for property /land acquisition not eligible. If an apprentice position is created as a result of the loan funding, an Apprenticeship Grant of £1.5k is also available.</p> <p>Several types of funding available to upgrade, refurbish or convert empty or underused light industrial &amp; office buildings via the <a href="#">Upgrading Empty Commercial Property Fund</a>.</p>	<p><b>£10K to £200K loan</b>, £16k per job created. Interest rate up to 5% &amp; maximum term 5 years. Minimum 50% match funding required.</p> <p><b>Priority Sectors:</b> advanced manufacturing, advanced materials and electronic systems, digital &amp; media, low carbon environmental goods and services, land management.</p> <p><b>No deadlines (quarterly panels).</b></p> <p><b>For SMEs, micro, start-ups &amp; social enterprises</b> in East Sussex (excludes Brighton &amp; Hove).</p>
Business Growth Funding <a href="#">East Sussex Invest 5</a>	<p><b>Provides grants from £15k to £40k and loans from £10k to £200k</b></p> <p><b>You need to have applied for SEBB funding (see below) before applying</b></p> <p>Grant funding requires minimum match funding of 60% and is usually awarded alongside a loan. The loans require a minimum match funding of 50% and have an arrangement fee of £400 to £500. The aim is job creation for grants you need to show one job per £8k grant and for loans one job per £16k loan. These figures are larger in the priority sectors.</p>	<p><b>Capital expenditure items only.</b></p> <p><b>For SMEs &amp; start-ups</b> in East Sussex includes charities and social enterprises is more than 50% of turnover is from trading.</p> <p>Priority sectors: Land-management; digital &amp; media; advanced manufacturing; advanced materials &amp; electronic systems; low carbon &amp; environmental goods and services.</p>
<a href="#">Wealden and Eastbourne Small Business loan Scheme</a> via Lets Do Business Group	<p>For businesses based in Wealden &amp; Eastbourne unable to get mainstream business finance. Loan can be used for cash flow, stock, marketing and advertising, equipment or vehicles.</p>	<p><b>£5-15K loan, over 6 months to 5 years (at 12-14% apr).</b></p> <p>All sectors. For businesses of less than 10 employees, operating more than 12 months.</p>
<a href="#">South East Business Boost (SEBB)</a> via Business East Sussex	<p>Capital grants for projects that can demonstrate business growth, such as for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Premises (related to extension and improvement)</li> <li>- IT Equipment and Specialist Software</li> <li>- Plant, Equipment, Machinery and Tooling (includes training and installation costs)</li> <li>- Specialist Training (related to a capital purchase)</li> </ul>	<p><b>£1K-£10K grant (30% of total).</b></p> <p>For SMEs, start-ups and pre start-ups located in the SELEP region. This includes East Sussex, but <u>not</u> Brighton &amp; Hove. See map <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>For details on how to apply <a href="#">see here</a>.</p>
<a href="#">Coast to Capital Expansion Loan Scheme</a> FSE Group	<p>Loans for scaling up/expansion.</p>	<p>Loans for £50K-£500K payable over 4 years.</p> <p>For SMEs in C2C area with existing sales &amp; customers, trading min. 12 months.</p>

Fund	Details/Use	£, sectors, deadlines, eligibility
		Some sector exclusions apply.
<a href="#">Coast to Capital Equity Growth Fund</a> FSE Group	Equity investment structured as convertible loan or preferred ordinary shares. Refinancing of existing loans or creditors, and financing of acquisitions or turnarounds not eligible.	<b>Equity investment</b> from £50K to £200K for high growth SMEs in C2C area. Must be matched at least 50:50 with private investment. Some sector exclusions apply.
<a href="#">Start-up loans</a> Let's do Business	For new businesses in cases where you believe you will be refused a bank loan. Free mentoring included with successful loan applications, and <a href="#">exclusive offers</a> on business products and services.	<b>Up to £25K loan, 6% interest, repayable over 12-60 months.</b> For businesses trading less than 12 months and start-ups.
<a href="#">Shell LiveWIRE Smarter Future Programme</a>	For young entrepreneurs that have an idea that addresses the UK's future transport, energy, or natural resource challenges, or makes urban environments cleaner and more sustainable places to work and live in.	<b>£5k grant</b> (no match funding required). Monthly deadlines All sectors. For those aged 16-30 only (trading for less than a year or will start trading within 6 months).

### 3. Renewables / Energy / Water / Resource Efficiency

Fund	Details/use	£, sectors, deadlines, eligibility
<a href="#">LoCASE Energy Efficiency &amp; Renewables Grant</a> via Thurrock Borough Council  <b>FUNDING AVAILABILITY CURRENTLY DEPENDENT ON UNDERSPEND BY PREVIOUS AWARDS BEING RECYCLED</b>	A Capital and/or revenue grant for equipment that shows a quantifiable energy saving, such as lighting, heating, insulation, machinery upgrades, control systems or equipment to generate heat and/or electricity from renewables. Now includes purchase of electric vehicles.  Free business energy audits are required ahead of any grant application. LoCASE energy audits are provided via East Sussex County Council (through their delivery partner Carbon Smart). See info on energy audits <a href="#">here</a> .	<b>£1k to £20k grant</b> , 40% grant.  For businesses in <b>any</b> sector located in the SELEP region. This includes East Sussex, but <u>not</u> Brighton & Hove. See map <a href="#">here</a> . Rolling fund with monthly evaluation panels. For SMEs.  Speak to the Green Growth Platform team.
<a href="#">Utilise Plus Energy Efficiency Grants</a> via Sustainable Business Partnership	Energy audits, energy efficiency workshops and grants available through the Utilise Plus Programme. An energy audit or informal health check should be completed ahead of applying for a grant and best practice related to material/equipment selection should be applied.  Contact the Sustainable Business Partnership to <a href="#">find out more</a> .	<b>£1K to £5K grant</b> , 33% grant, i.e. max. £5K grant for £15K project.  Focus is for SMEs in the C2C area (West Sussex, Brighton & Hove, Croydon, East Surrey and Lewes, although businesses outside these areas can also apply.

Fund	Details/use	£, sectors, deadlines, eligibility
<p><a href="#">Carbon Trust Green Business Fund</a> Carbon Trust</p>	<p><b>FREE</b> 'Energy Opportunity Assessments' - to help identify energy saving opportunities &amp; develop robust business cases for the purchase of the appropriate equipment. Support may be provided remotely via telephone and email, or on-site.</p> <p><b>FREE</b> Implementation &amp; Equipment Procurement support (up to 5 days of consultancy support) – for specific energy saving projects which can include feasibility checks, writing performance specs, tendering support.</p> <p><b>FREE</b> training workshops – see workshop locations <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><b>'Capital Contribution'</b> grant - part funding for energy saving equipment, e.g. new warehouse lighting system, office heating and air conditioning equipment or factory controls system. Equipment must be purchased via the <a href="#">Green Business Directory</a>.</p>	<p>Energy Opportunity Assessments for SMEs.</p> <p>Implementation &amp; Equipment Procurement support for businesses with up to 1,000 employees.</p> <p>Training workshops aimed at businesses with fewer than 50 employees.</p> <p><b>15% 'Capital Contribution' grant</b> up to £10K, minimum total project cost £5K, i.e. <b>£1.5-10K grant</b>. For SMEs only.</p>
<p><a href="#">The Rampion Fund</a> via Sussex Community Foundation</p>	<p>The fund has been set up to support projects that benefit the local community, particularly linked to the environment, ecology, climate change, energy and community facilities, with priority for disadvantaged people and communities. Applications and benefit should fit the area on the map <a href="#">see detailed map here</a> (coastal strip from Beachy Head to Littlehampton, and up to Twineham near the substation).</p> <p>Capital and revenue expenses eligible and can include equipment, materials and associated labour, feasibility studies, staff costs (including training), rent/hire, marketing, organisational development (such as business planning/fund raising strategies), volunteer expenses. 8-10 week approval process from submission of application. Grant payment up front, although for larger grants payments may be paid in stages.</p>	<p><b>£1-10K grant (100%), £10-50K (50% grant)</b></p> <p>Charities, CICs, social enterprises and community groups (criteria applies). Statutory bodies cannot apply but organisations such as school PTAs can apply on their behalf.</p> <p>Applications can be made throughout the year with January, May and Sept deadlines.</p> <p>Next deadline <b>11th January 2019</b> (Round 3 2018-19)</p>