

Business Loan

First Enterprise Business Agency, through its Community Development Finance Institution (CDFI) is able to offer direct financial support to businesses within the East Midlands through a **supporting associate Welland Enterprise Agency**. The loan is available to existing, as well as start-up businesses to meet costs of setting up and implementing expansion plans. The loan provides opportunities to those that have a viable business plan and are unable to raise sufficient funds through other sources.

Amount of Support

The minimum loan is £5,000 and the maximum loan is £20,000.

Period of Repayment

The loan is to be repaid over a period of 1 to 5 years.

Interest Charged

Interest is calculated at a minimum of 5% above Base Rate, fixed for the period of the loan repayment.

Qualifying Criteria

- The business must be located or intending to locate in The East Midlands.
- The business must comply with all statutory, regulatory and legal requirements.
- The fund is available to bridge a deficit in overall funding requirements, a cash contribution of 30% being required from the client.
- Evidence of either job creation or retention.
- The viability of the business or proposition must be demonstrated to the Agency.
- The applicant must have resided in or have had a business in The East Midlands for more than 18 months.

Exclusions

- Assistance will not be given to businesses involved with religion, pornography, gambling, money lending, property purchases or property development.
- Applications for cars will not be considered except for commercial vehicles which are deemed to be an essential requirement of the business. Leasing is the preferred route for all vehicle purchase.



Application Requirements

Applicants must provide:

- a) A comprehensive up to date business plan covering all aspects of the proposed project/venture.
- b) Minimum of 2 years' cashflow forecasts and the last 6 months Bank statements if appropriate.
- c) A minimum of two years audited accounts (if you have been operating for that amount of time), or current management information.
- d) Other financial information may be requested to ensure that the financial support sought falls within the required criteria.
- e) A completed application form, available from Welland Enterprise.
- f) Any other supporting information that you consider appropriate.

Please Note:

1. A credit search is carried out on every application and a satisfactory explanation is required in case of adverse credit history before consideration is given to the application. An adverse credit record should not exclude you from applying, as it is not the only criteria used to consider your application.
2. It is expected that funding will be sought from the commercial sector and that this loan will be utilised as top up finance as part of an overall financial package. A copy of the appropriate facility letter will be sought by the Agency.
3. Whilst loans are not permitted to limited companies, consideration will be given to lending to directors to enable a capital injection to be made into the business.
4. Your dedicated business adviser will notify you of the timescale for the assessment of your application.
5. The loan is discretionary and should not be regarded as automatic in any circumstances.
6. The decision to sanction a loan rests with the First Enterprise Board of Directors whose decision will be final. In the event of an application being declined, there is no appeal process and the Agency is unable to enter into any communication, either written or oral, regarding unsuccessful applications.
7. Representatives of FEBA, Commercial Banks, and Business Support agencies across the East Midlands will constitute the loan panel that meet to assess the applications.

For Further Details, Contact

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