



New Business Grant 2021

Purpose of the scheme & eligibility criteria

To provide one off grant support to South Kesteven businesses in order to support initiatives from businesses to allow them to diversify, add resilience, and / or aid effective recovery of the business. This scheme is only open to business or non business rates registered businesses that meet the eligibility criteria as detailed below:

- The business should provide a written detailed plan and summary of tangible business startup costs and equipment
- The business should provide a written detailed plan and summary of how the grant funds will be utilised, how the initiative will benefit the business, details of any jobs created or retained as a result. The grant can be used to fund up to 50% of the cost of specific items and services that are part of the business startup process. Invoices & quotation copies will need to be provided.
- Initiatives and items eligible need to be clearly identifiable and part of the written summary plan
- Priority will be given to applications including job creation, and that are well documented and achievable
- The grant scheme would also include up to 12 hours of one to one support which will allow continual contact during the first crucial 6 month period of the initiative and allow quick response to difficulties or opportunities that may arise and foster a long term relationship with the business

Government has allowed Councils to exercise their local discretion in identifying businesses requiring support. South Kesteven District Council has decided to adopt these principles, and, in all cases, will only consider businesses for grants where all of the following criteria is met:

- Businesses that were established and trading after January 1st 2021
- The business must be located in the South Kesteven district

The application process:

Applications should be made online at www.investsk.co.uk by 5pm on January 31st. This is a one-off grant. Our ARG allocation from Government is finite. Grants will be awarded on a first come, first served basis and the scheme may close before this date (which will be advised on www.investsk.co.uk)

Businesses will be required to provide the following evidence to demonstrate their eligibility.

This includes:

- A clear written business plan covering the initiatives and / or products being supported by the grant application



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- A clear illustrated benefit to the business
- Details of jobs created or retained by the grant support
- Financial projections to support the initiative the business is putting forward

The grant award

Where the eligibility criteria has been met, a **one off grant payment of up to 50%** of identifiable costs to a **maximum of £12500** will be made. The funding % may be lower according to the identifiable benefit of the initiative to the business

Excluded businesses:

- Businesses who have not seen a minimum of 30% impact to profits during the pandemic period
- Businesses that have already received the maximum levels of state aid permitted under the de-minimis and the Covid-19 temporary state aid framework
- Businesses that were in administration, are insolvent or where a striking off notice has been made at the date of commencement of lockdown on 5 November 2020

Who can receive the grant?

Where the hereditament is in the local non domestic rating list, the person that will receive the grant will be the person who, according to the Council's records, was the ratepayer in respect of the hereditament at the effective date.

Where grants are awarded to businesses that are not liable for rates, the Council will decide who shall be awarded the grant.

Where any business or individual misrepresents information or contrives to take advantage of the scheme, the Council will look to recover any grant paid and take appropriate legal action. Likewise, if any business or individual is found to have falsified records in order to obtain a grant.

Additional details

Grant income received by a business is taxable. The Business Diversification, Recovery & Resilience Grant 2021 will need to be included as income in the tax return of the business.

Only businesses which make an overall profit once grant income is included will be subject to tax.

South Kesteven District Council commits to making payments within 15 working days following approval of a grant application from a business eligible to receive the grant.



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Payments may be made in two 50% stage payments according to the type of initiative being supported

The Council may withhold all or part of any grant payment where there is reason to believe that the eligibility conditions have not been met.

The Council will determine the severity of impact upon the business before authorising this discretionary grant.

The Government and the local Council will not accept deliberate manipulation and fraud. Any business caught falsifying their records to gain grant money will face prosecution and any funding issued will be subject to claw back, as may any grants paid in error.

State Aid rules and requirements apply to this scheme.

Businesses will need to notify their Local Authority if they no longer meet the eligibility criteria for additional grants at any point in any local restrictions period. For example, if they become insolvent.

There shall be no right of appeal and the decision of the Council is final.

The Council reserves the right to vary the terms of the scheme at any time should it be necessary to do so.

Working on behalf of and in partnership with South Kesteven District Council, this grant programme is being administered by InvestSK - the district's economic growth and regeneration company.



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To apply for this grant please email business@investk.co.uk with the following-;

- your name
- your address
- your business name
- the name of the scheme you wish to apply for