



Eligibility Criteria for OTS Business Support Funding

Applicants for funding should be sure that they fit with the following definition

A social enterprise is

‘...a business with primarily social objectives whose surpluses are primarily reinvested for that purpose in the business or in the community, rather than being driven by the need to maximise profits for shareholders and owners.’

The following also apply

- Charitable organisations which are trading within their charitable aims and where 25% of their income comes from trading activities are eligible.
- Social enterprises without an asset lock are not excluded from applying for OTS Business Support Funding.
- Involvement with their local Social Enterprise Network is desirable but not mandatory however it is hoped that all successful applicants will see the value of joining their network.
- The chosen specialist business support provision being accessed via this funding must be sourced from Business Link's Supplier Matching Service.
- The funding can be used to pay for support that helps the social enterprise to 'acquire the services of a business professional to help develop and sustain the work of the organisation'. It is for revenue purchases and NOT capital items ie for specialist advice for the design of a marketing campaign but not for the printing of the resulting leaflets and posters.
- The minimum an organisation can apply for is £500 and the maximum is £2,500.