



Business Funding Guide

Thank you for your interest in applying for funding.

In this guide, you will find helpful information regarding our priorities, our key sectors and pre-application eligibility criteria.

If you have any questions about applying for funding, please email invest@westlothian.gov.uk or contact your dedicated adviser directly.



Introduction

There is targeted grant funding available through West Lothian Council's Economic Development & Regeneration Service. Funding is delivered by the team at Business Gateway West Lothian. Support is discretionary, designed to support both new and existing businesses in achieving sustainable long-term growth.

Priorities

The grants prioritise projects that contribute to wider economic development by:

- Increasing business turnover
- Creating employment opportunities
- Improving productivity and automation
- Supporting environmental sustainability
- Enhancing digital capability and innovation
- Supporting training and upskilling

Key Sectors

The grants are primarily available to businesses operating within the following key sectors:

- Construction
- Creative Industries
- Engineering, Design and Manufacturing
- Food & Drink (Manufacturing / Processing)
- Life Sciences (Including Health Technology and MedTech)
- Electronics and Software
- Renewable Energy
- Tourism

Businesses operating outside these sectors may still be eligible where proposed projects demonstrate clear strategic alignment with the Council's economic priorities. If you are unsure about your eligibility, please discuss your project with your Business Gateway West Lothian adviser.

Pre-Application

Criteria	Guidance
Location	Businesses must be based in West Lothian.
Trading	Business should be trading for more than 12 months and have reached VAT threshold.
Funding Limit	Businesses can receive up to 50% of eligible project costs (excluding VAT). The maximum project cost is £15,000.00.
Application Limit	Businesses receiving a grant may not reapply for a further 18-months following drawdown of funds. A maximum of 2 grants can be awarded to a business.
Project Start	Businesses must not have commenced any of the activities for which they are applying for funding.
Real Living Wage	Businesses employing staff must pay at least the Real Living Wage.
Supporting Documents	As part of your application you will be required to submit the following information: Management Accounts, Financial Projections and an Environmental Plan.
Payment	All grants are paid retrospectively. This means that following a successful offer of grant, the applicant will need to pay out money upfront and then reclaim the grant money afterwards. Invoices and bank statements will need to be submitted as evidence to support your claim.
Monitoring	Monitoring will take place throughout the project lifecycle and following completion to evaluate the impact of Council grant funding on business growth. This will be measured using a range of indicators, with particular emphasis on turnover growth, job creation and reductions in emissions.



Business Support Overview April 2025 – March 2026

“The support we received has helped us think more strategically about the business. It has strengthened our leadership structure and given us the confidence to grow in a controlled and sustainable way, while remaining proud of our West Lothian roots.”

**Moreland McDiarmid,
Capital Service Solutions Group Ltd**



636

**Cases of
unique business
support provided.**



£441,763

**Total funding
provided to
existing businesses.**

“West Lothian Council have been very supportive to our business in a variety of ways. The funding that they have provided has allowed to both progress critical projects and solve several business issues. Approximately 19 local jobs have been created as a result.”

**Ernest Larnach,
Edinburgh Instruments**