

Micro-business Grants Scheme

Project:	Development of services
Applicant:	Building Blocks Therapy
Address:	23 Woodpecker Crescent, Burgess Hill
Type of business:	Occupational therapy
Grant Request to MSDC	£1,150
Total project cost:	£2,314

Summary of project proposal and aims:

To purchase a number of assessment packages in order to develop assessment services to clients

Background

Building Blocks Therapy is currently trading as a sole trader. The business operates as a private occupational therapist with a specialisation in neuro-rehabilitation and complex neuro disability, typically working with children who have acquired a brain injury or cerebral palsy. Building Blocks Therapy is looking to expand by taking on more clients. To do this the company wishes to develop their assessment tools in order to provide evidence to families in order for them to seek additional educational support.

To do this, Building Blocks Therapy are seeking grant funding in order to purchase the main assessment tools required to be able to offer this new comprehensive service.

How does the project meet the stated criteria?

Delivering wider outreach – the ability to offer a new service will generate a wider client base.

Assisting with delivery of new business lines – a new business line will be developed as a direct result of this grant.

Enabling more employees to be taken on – not applicable

Delivering community benefit – not applicable

Officer evaluation of the project

Building Blocks Therapy fits the criteria of a micro-business with only one full-time employee. The business has provided satisfactory proof that it is a properly constituted company and is located within the District.

The grant funding will support the growth of the company through the purchase of assessment tools in order to be able to offer new services. This meets the overall aim of the grant programme (supporting the growth of microbusinesses) and is therefore an appropriate project to receive support.

Recommendation

That a grant of £1,150 is awarded to Building Blocks Therapy to aid in the purchase of a series of assessment tools for clients.

Micro-business Grants Scheme

Project:	Installation of cold storage
Applicant:	Farm, Field and Forest Ltd
Address:	40 High Street Lindfield
Type of business:	Butchers
Grant Request to MSDC	£2,000
Total project cost:	£14,000

Summary of project proposal and aims:

To install a cold storage unit in a new premises.

Background

Farm, Field and Forest Ltd (trading as Cottenham's of Lindfield-Craft Butcher) is a small retail craft butcher, with a focus on supporting the Sussex farming community, by both selling produce and promoting the farms where the meat comes from. The business is to soon take on a new lease of an adjacent derelict building. The building will be fitted with a large cold storage unit, in order to store produce more effectively. The main benefit of this will be that the business will be able to use the area to manage seasonal increases in supply, such as the upcoming Christmas period. The new space will also allow the business to expand its venison supply, which is in high demand.

How does the project meet the stated criteria?

Delivering wider outreach – the ability to store more supply will allow the business to increase its customer base, especially during busy seasonal periods

Assisting with delivery of new business lines – the additional storage space will allow the business to develop its product lines

Enabling more employees to be taken on –

Delivering community benefit – The increased storage will allow the business to better support local farms through increased purchase of supply

Officer evaluation of the project

Farm Field and Forest Ltd fit the criteria of a micro-business with three full-time employees and one part-time employee. The business has provided satisfactory proof that it is a properly constituted company and is located within the District.

The grant funding will support the installation of a cold storage unit in new premises in order to better meet customer demand. This meets the overall aim of the grant programme (supporting the growth of microbusinesses) and is therefore an appropriate project to receive support.

Recommendation

That a grant of £2,000 is awarded Farm Field and Forest Ltd to aid in the installation of a new cold storage unit

Micro-business Grants Scheme

Project:	New product development
Applicant:	Green Goddess
Address:	18 Willow Way, Hurstpierpoint
Type of business:	Manufacture of cleaning products
Grant Request to MSDC	£2,000
Total project cost:	£5,000

Summary of project proposal and aims:

To aid in the process of developing a new line of cleaning products, a personal care range.

Background

Green Goddess is a sole trader which specialises in the manufacture and retail of all natural, environmentally friendly, cleaning products. Currently the business sells household cleaning products through small, local, retailers and through their website. Green Goddess has also setup in some retailers a service which allows customers to bring in old product bottles in order to be refilled, to promote sustainability and reduce waste.

Green Goddess is seeking grant funding in order to develop a new range of all natural products dedicated to personal care. These products would include, shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand wash and dog shampoo. The grant would assist in the purchase of ingredients, legal testing, insurance, packaging and marketing the products. Green Goddess is looking to develop the products to be sold through their website and existing retailers by October, in preparation for the busy Christmas season.

How does the project meet the stated criteria?

Delivering wider outreach – this project will allow the business to reach a wider client base through offering a new product line.

Assisting with delivery of new business lines – a new product line will be created as a direct result of this grant.

Enabling more employees to be taken on – not applicable.

Delivering community benefit – not applicable.

Officer evaluation of the project

Green Goddess fits the criteria of a micro-business with only one full-time employee. The business has provided satisfactory proof that it is a properly constituted company and is located within the District.

The grant funding will support the growth of the business through the development of a new product line. This meets the overall aim of the grant programme (supporting the growth of microbusinesses) and is therefore an appropriate project to receive support.

Recommendation

That a grant of £2,000 is awarded to Green Goddess to aid in the development of a new line of all natural cleaning products.

Micro-business Grants Scheme

Project:	New website and brand
Applicant:	Kinesica Ltd
Address:	Rose Cottage, Stone Quarry Road Chelwood Gate
Type of business:	Marketing
Grant Request to MSDC	£1,000
Total project cost:	£2,750

Summary of project proposal and aims:

To develop a new website and brand identity for a new branch of the business.

Background

Kinesica Ltd is a Business Consultancy which offers a wide range of services to businesses including marketing, project management and business skills trainings. The business identified that there is a significant knowledge gap within business in terms of utilising digital and social media. As a result the business set up a social media marketing section to their business services, Social Overload, which has seen a great deal of success.

Kinesica Ltd is seeking grant funding in order to develop this service through creating a website and developing a new brand identity. Currently the majority of business for their service has been generated through word of mouth and networking. The business does not currently have a website, so the development of this new website will promote not only the services of Social Overload but also that of Kinesica Ltd as a whole.

How does the project meet the stated criteria?

Delivering wider outreach – the development of a brand identity and website will allow the business to better promote their services to potential new clients.

Assisting with delivery of new business lines – not applicable

Enabling more employees to be taken on – not applicable

Delivering community benefit – not applicable

Officer evaluation of the project

Kinesica Ltd fits the criteria of a micro-business with three part time employees. The business has provided satisfactory proof that it is a properly constituted company and is located within the District.

The grant funding will support the growth of the company through the development of a website and branding. This meets the overall aim of the grant programme (supporting the growth of microbusinesses) and is therefore an appropriate project to receive support.

Recommendation

That a grant of £1,000 is awarded to Kinesica Ltd to aid in the development of a new website and brand identity.

Micro-business Grants Scheme

Project:	Website Improvements
Applicant:	OCH Solutions Ltd
Type of business:	Consultancy
Address:	60 Meadow Lane, Burgess Hill
Grant Request to MSDC	£2,000
Total project cost:	£4,000

Summary of project proposal and aims:

To redesign an existing website to implement new features.

Background

OCH Solutions Ltd (trading as Outstanding Care Homes Consultancy) is a business ran by the previous manager of a West Sussex Nursing Home. This care home was the first in the county to receive an outstanding rating in all areas of the Care Quality Commission. OCH Solutions' aim is to aid other care homes improve the quality of care delivered.

OCH Solutions is seeking grant funding in order to implement a tool, which has been developed in order to assess care homes, into their website. The tool developed is known as the Care Home Leadership Assessment Score (CLA Score), the objective of which is to assess the leadership skills of care home managers objectively. Currently no similar system exists. OCH Solutions believe that the performance of care home managers varies greatly from care home to care home and as a result leads to massive variation of quality of care across the country. The process is currently being managed independently by the owner, with all the data from scoring system being interpreted by hand. The grant would allow OCH solutions integrate and automate this system within their website.

How does the project meet the stated criteria?

Delivering wider outreach – the implementation of this tool will allow OCH Solutions reach a wider client base.

Assisting with delivery of new business lines – a new business line will be created directly as a result of the grant.

Enabling more employees to be taken on – not applicable

Delivering community benefit – the development and implementation of this tool will increase the level of care in care homes within the district.

Officer evaluation of the project

OCH Solutions Ltd fits the criteria of a micro-business with only one full-time employee. The business has provided satisfactory proof that it is a properly constituted company and is located within the District.

The grant funding will support the growth of the company through the redevelopment of their website and implementation of an online assessment tool. This meets the overall aim of the grant programme (supporting the growth of microbusinesses) and is therefore an appropriate project to receive support.

Recommendation

That a grant of £2,000 is awarded to OCH Solutions Ltd for website redevelopments.

Micro-business Grants Scheme

Project:	New service
Applicant:	The Perrymount Ltd
Address:	Hurstwood Grange, Hurstwood Lane Haywards Heath
Type of business:	Osteopathy
Grant Request to MSDC	£2,000
Total project cost:	£5,000

Summary of project proposal and aims:

To develop a new drop-in mother and baby service.

Background

The Perrymount Ltd is an osteopathy and natural health clinic which offers a range of services. One branch of the business helps to support babies, children and new mothers. This is done through a range of services including advice on health, nutrition and breastfeeding.

The business has noted that current demands on NHS services mean that the NHS is at the moment unable to offer the same level of home visit to mothers as in the past. As a result of this, The Perrymount Ltd is seeking grant funding to expand their mother and baby facilities through the creation of a drop in service, through which they can respond to this unmet demand.

The aim of this service will be to provide consistent and knowledgeable advice to local mothers from the start of their pregnancy through to toddler advice.

How does the project meet the stated criteria?

Delivering wider outreach – the growth of The Perrymount Ltd's mother and baby service will allow the clinic to reach a larger client base.

Assisting with delivery of new business lines – a new business line will be developed through the creation of the drop in clinic.

Enabling more employees to be taken on – the clinic will have two private midwives working at the drop in centre, with the hope of a health advisor also.

Delivering community benefit – the drop in centre will provide advice and support to local mothers in community.

Officer evaluation of the project

The Perrymount Ltd fits the criteria of a micro-business with only one full-time employee. The business has provided satisfactory proof that it is a properly constituted company and is located within the District.

The grant funding will support the growth of the company through the development of mother and baby services. This meets the overall aim of the grant programme (supporting the growth of microbusinesses) and is therefore an appropriate project to receive support.

Recommendation

That a grant of £2,000 is awarded to the Perrymount Ltd to aid in the development of a new website and the development of a new service.

Micro-business Grants Scheme

Project:	Building improvements
Applicant:	Potential Personal Training Ltd
Address:	Unit 7, Enterprise Park, Lewes Road Lindfield
Type of business:	Health and fitness
Grant Request to MSDC	£1,500
Total project cost:	£3,000

Summary of project proposal and aims:

To renovate premises following incomplete work by a previous builder.

Background

Potential Personal Fitness Ltd is a company which offers a range of fitness services including personal and group training services which traditional gyms do not offer. While the business currently has a good client base, they have encountered some recent financial difficulties. The key driver of these difficulties is that many areas of their premises have been left unsafe and unusable by a builder with whom they had previously contracted to renovate their premises. The builder left with the work incomplete and not up to building control standards.

As a result Potential Personal Fitness Ltd are having to undertake more renovation works in order to fix the problems that remain, and are seeking grant funding in order to support this. Work that needs to be done includes replacing glass panes, fixing the gym flooring and installing smoke seals on doors. Once this work is complete, the company will be able to undertake more activities and projects, which have had to be postponed, enabling them to grow. The builder which is lined up for the renovation works is local to Mid Sussex, and another applicant of this scheme.

How does the project meet the stated criteria?

Delivering wider outreach – the much needed renovation works will enable the business to begin to re-focus on the acquisition of clients.

Assisting with delivery of new business lines – not applicable

Enabling more employees to be taken on – not applicable

Delivering community benefit – the work on the site will enable business for another local business in the area.

Officer evaluation of the project

Potential Personal Fitness fit the criteria of a micro-business with four full-time and four part-time employees. The business has provided satisfactory proof that it is a properly constituted company and is located within the District.

The grant funding will support the growth of the company through much needed renovation works to their premises. This meets the overall aim of the grant programme (supporting the growth of microbusinesses) and is therefore an appropriate project to receive support.

Recommendation

That a grant of £1,500 is awarded to Potential Personal Training Ltd to aid in the renovation works on their premises.

Micro-business Grants Scheme

Project:	New website
Applicant:	RLS Recruitment Solutions Ltd
Address:	Suite 5, JYW House, Haywards Heath
Type of business:	Recruitment
Grant Request to MSDC	£2,000
Total project cost:	£5,000

Summary of project proposal and aims:

To develop a new website with increased functionality.

Background

RLS Recruitment Solutions Ltd is a business which specialise in the recruitment for the Digital Marketing Sector. The business has stated that 90 per cent of their clients are local Sussex based businesses. The business currently lacks a website which promotes the services they provide, the current site is outdated and lacks functionality, and does not make reference to their speciality in digital marketing.

RLS Recruitment Solutions Ltd is seeking grant funding in order to develop a new website which will greatly benefit the business. Not only will this new website better promote their services, but will also have beneficial functions such as CV uploads, blogs, and sign in areas.

How does the project meet the stated criteria?

Delivering wider outreach – the development of the site will allow the business to better market their services to potential clients

Assisting with delivery of new business lines – not applicable

Enabling more employees to be taken on – not applicable

Delivering community benefit – not applicable

Officer evaluation of the project

RLS Recruitment Solutions Ltd fit the criteria of a micro-business with four full-time employees. The business has provided satisfactory proof that it is a properly constituted company and is located within the District.

The grant funding will support the growth of the company through the development of a new and better functioning website. This meets the overall aim of the grant programme (supporting the growth of microbusinesses) and is therefore an appropriate project to receive support.

Recommendation

That a grant of £2,000 is awarded to RLS Recruitment Solutions Ltd to aid in the renovation works on their premises.

Micro-business Grants Scheme

Project:	Apprentice
Applicant:	Scofi Plumbing
Address:	67 Noel Rise, Burgess Hill
Type of business:	Plumbing and maintenance
Grant Request to MSDC	£1,500
Total project cost:	Apprenticeship costs

Summary of project proposal and aims:

To assist in the hiring of an apprentice.

Background

Scofi plumbing is a business which specialises in plumbing, heating and gas services. The business was set up in 2013 and generated work through sub-contracting. For the last 18 months, the business has taken on more work independently and has had good uptake from clients. Scofi Plumbing now feels the business is capable of expanding through the hiring of an apprentice.

Scofi Plumbing has a candidate lined up already and has been recently trialling them through Steve Willis Training, a local business which provides training and apprenticeships. The business feels the candidate is a good fit within the business and is capable of the work that is required. Scofi Plumbing is seeking grant funding in order to help develop this position.

How does the project meet the stated criteria?

Delivering wider outreach – the hiring of an apprentice will allow the business to take on more work and increase their client base.

Assisting with delivery of new business lines – not applicable

Enabling more employees to be taken on – the grant will aid in the creation of an apprenticeship position.

Delivering community benefit – not applicable

Officer evaluation of the project

Scofi Plumbing fit the criteria of a micro-business with one full-time employee and one part time employee. The business has provided satisfactory proof that it is a properly constituted company and is located within the District.

The grant funding will support the growth of the company through the development of an apprenticeship within the business. This meets the overall aim of the grant programme (supporting the growth of microbusinesses and assisting microbusiness to recruit apprentices) and is therefore an appropriate project to receive support

Recommendation

That a grant of £1,500 is awarded to Scofi Plumbing to aid in the development of an apprenticeship position.

Micro-business Grants Scheme

Project:	Building Renovation
Applicant:	Slake Café Ltd
Address:	20 High Street, Lindfield
Type of business:	Café
Grant Request to MSDC	£2,000
Total project cost:	£28,000

Summary of project proposal and aims:

To aid in the preparation and refurbishment of new premises.

Background

Slake Café Ltd is a new business due to start trading in September. The aim of the business is to set up a small, luxury coffee shop, with a positive atmosphere and 'on-trend' branding. Slake Café Ltd is seeking grant funding in order to aid in the renovation and preparation of its first store in Lindfield. The store will have a seating area and a section dedicated to the sale of branded products such as re-usable cups and coffee samples.

Due to the high footfall of the chosen location, the shop will also offer a takeaway service, provided via a sliding window being installed on the storefront. The grant will help Slake Café Ltd fund the purchase and installation of the coffee machines, necessary for the business.

How does the project meet the stated criteria?

Delivering wider outreach – the preparation of premises for Slake Cafe will allow the business to begin trading.

Assisting with delivery of new business lines – a start-up business will begin trading as a result of this grant.

Enabling more employees to be taken on – the start-up of a new business will require staff to be taken on.

Delivering community benefit – not applicable

Officer evaluation of the project

Slake Café Ltd fits the criteria of a micro-business with one full time. The business has provided satisfactory proof that it is a properly constituted company and is located within the District.

The project will assist the business in renovating the space to be used at its first store. This meets the overall aim of the grant programme (supporting the growth of microbusinesses) and is therefore an appropriate project to receive support.

Recommendation

That a grant of £2,000 is awarded to Slake Café Ltd to support renovation and preparation of new premises.