



# Business Plan Template and Guidelines





# Section 1 – Basic details

#### **Business Name**

## Contacts:

- · Business Address (trading / registered office if appropriate)
- · e-mail
- $\cdot$  website
- $\cdot$  Telephone(s)
- · Mobile
- · Fax

Principal Business Activity what does/will your business do?

# Section 2 – The Proprietor(s)

<u>Name</u>

Address (if different to business address)

<u>Phone(s)</u>

<u>e-mail</u>

Background:

- $\cdot$  Previous business experience etc
- $\cdot$  Relevant skills, qualifications, knowledge, and experience
- $\cdot$  Interests and hobbies (optional)
- $\cdot$  Personal strengths
- · Personal weaknesses
- $\cdot$  Any training requirements
- $\cdot$  (or attach a CV)

[repeat for additional business owners]

# Section 3 - The Business

<u>Legal format:</u>

are you/will you be a

- · sole trader,
- · partnership,
- · limited company
- · etc

Further details - (e.g. number of partners, shareholder details, directors)

Detailed description of the product or service What exactly you do, and how do you do it?



# Aims and Objectives

Short term: what do you want/need to achieve in the next three years? Please include a detailed explanation of the project that you are seeking grant funding for and how it fits into your wider plans

Medium term - what do you want/need to achieve form y3 onwards?

#### SWOT analysis

- · Strengths
- · Weaknesses
- · Opportunities
- · Threats

#### PESTLE analysis

factors beyond your control, but possibly affording opportunities, and/or posing threats

- Political
- $\cdot$  Economic
- · Social
- $\cdot$  Technological
- · Legal
- · Environmental

# Intellectual Property

· Does your proposed project include the use of any intellectual property?

· If so do you own that intellectual property – if not how do you intend to secure the rights to use it?

 $\cdot$  Will your proposed project create any new intellectual property?

· How do you intend to go about safeguarding that intellectual property?

# Section 4 – Your Market(s)

# Market Segment

how would you describe your customer base in terms of:

· sector – industrial, commercial, consumer?

- · age?
- · gender?
- · income group?
- · local, regional, national, international?

#### Market Size and Potential

- $\cdot$  What is the demand for your product or service?
- $\cdot$  What are the trends in your marketplace?



#### **Competitor Analysis**

- · Who are your competitors?
- · Where are your competitors?
- $\cdot$  How do they promote themselves?
- $\cdot$  How and/or why do you differ from your competitors?
- $\cdot$  Is your product or service unique? If so, why and how?

How have you researched your market?

#### Marketing Objectives

Consider:

- · Sales levels to be achieved
- · Image to be portrayed
- · Footfall required
- · Market share required
- · Target markets
- $\cdot$  Product or service to be delivered

Marketing Strategy

(you have identified who/where they are, how do you/are you going to let them know you exist, and persuade them to buy?)

Product Already described in Section 3

Place

How will you deliver your product or service?

Promotion How do you / intend to promote your product or service? How do you/will you reach the customers identified by Market Research?

Price How much will you charge? Why? (how have you arrived at your selling price?) What is your break even point?

# Section 5 – Operations

How and where will your business operate?

<u>Premises</u>

- · Size?
- · Location?
- · Cost?
- · Tenure?
- · Etc



#### Plant & Equipment

- · Type?
- · Size?
- · Cost?
- · Maintenance?
- $\cdot$  Ownership (lease, HP, outright purchase etc)?

# <u>ICT</u>

- · What?
- · Capacity/performance?
- · How many?
- · Cost?
- · Maintenance?
- · Ownership (lease, HP, outright purchase etc)?

# <u>Vehicles</u>

- · What?
- · Size?
- · How many?
- · Cost?
- · Maintenance?
- · Ownership (lease, HP, outright purchase etc)?

# Legal Requirements

- · Licenses
- $\cdot$  Consents (including planning permission, LABC etc)
- · Leases
- $\cdot$  Contracts
- · T&CT
- Employment
- · Etc
- · Costs associated?

# <u>Health& Safety</u>

- · Legislation
- · Risk Assessments
- · Authority
- · Hazards
- $\cdot$  Controls
- · Etc

# <u>Insurances</u>

Do you need/have you arranged:

- · Public liability?
- · Employers' liability?
- · Professional Indemnity?
- · Vehicles?
- $\cdot$  Buildings and contents ?
- · Etc



Personnel Requirements (Please relate your answers particularly to the project for which you are seeking funding)

- · Who?
- · Why?
- · Doing what?
- · How many?
- · Skills?
- · Training?
- · Costs?

Suppliers (Please explain, in answering these points, how the project which you are seeking grant funding towards contributes towards the wider local economy)

- · What?
- · Who from?
- · Where?
- · When?
- · Costs?
- · Terms?

#### <u>Money</u>

- · How much?
- $\cdot$  What for? (capital purchases, working capital etc)
- · When?
- · Where from? (personal investment, bank, grants, hp etc)
- · Shortfall?

<u>Contingencies</u>

- What happens if:
- · You are injured?
- · You die?
- · An employee is ill?
- · The market fails?
- · Legislation changes etc

# Section 6 – Risks

Set out the risks involved in successfully delivering the business development activities you are seeking a grant for, and explain what steps you will take to try to mitigate these risks

# Section 7 – Appendices

Samples of promotional materials Terms and conditions Price lists Photos of work Anything else that describes or explains what, why, where etc





