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A Guide to EU *funding* Opportunities in the East Midlands

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Contents

1. Foreword
2. Background to EU Funding
3. EU Funding in Action in the East Midlands
4. Where to start looking?
5. Who can apply?
 - Farmers
 - Non-Governmental and Civil Society Organisations
 - Public Bodies
 - Researchers
 - Small and Medium Sized Enterprises
 - Young People
6. Tips: How to make a successful application?
7. Table Overview of East Midlands Programmes
8. What programmes are available in the East Midlands?
 - Annual Grant Work
 - Asylum and Migration Fund
 - Conference interpreting Support
 - Connected Europe Facility
 - Consumer Programme
 - Competitiveness of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises
 - Creative Europe
 - Customs 2020
 - European Agricultural Fund for Regional Development
 - Employment and Social Innovation Fund
 - European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
 - European Energy Efficiency Fund
 - European Food Safety Authority
 - European Investment Bank
 - European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
 - Erasmus+
 - European Regional and Development Fund
 - EU Aid Volunteers Initiative
 - EU Farm Product Promotion
 - EU - Japan
 - EUREKA
 - Europe for Citizens
 - European Social Fund
 - European Statistical Programme
 - European youth Foundation
 - FISCALIS
 - Green Key
 - Health for Growth
 - HERCULE III
 - Horizon 2020
 - Human Rights Education Youth Programme
 - ICT for Manufacturing in SME's
 - Interoperability Solution for European Public Administration
 - Joint Assistance in Supporting Projects in European Regions
 - LIFE
 - Rights and Citizenship
9. Awards and Prizes
10. Research Funding
11. Who else can I contact?
 - LEPs
 - Your Local Councils
 - The European Commission in the UK
 - Local Government Association in Brussels
 - Other European Representations
 - UK Bodies

Foreword

Dear Reader

In our roles as MEPs we are regularly asked to assist, direct and inform constituents on how to unlock EU funding, in order to aid local projects and enterprises. It is important to us as one of the largest national contributors to the EU budget that we see real returns for the East Midlands and direct support for people in our communities.

Between us, as MEPs spanning four parliamentary committees, we come into contact with a whole host of funded projects, plans and initiatives to aid individuals in our region. Therefore, after extensive research we have compiled this booklet to aid individuals, institutions and groups like you, navigate the complexities of accessing EU funding and we hope you find it useful in putting together your application.

The levels of bureaucracy may seem immense, and this is something we regularly fight to minimise, but the value and yield from these funds can be really worthwhile. These funds can help those in small and medium sized enterprises to volunteer groups, from educational institutions to technology start-ups.

In this booklet you will find summarised information about funds available and an idea about the eligibility for these programmes. We encourage you to apply and seek out the necessary contacts as supplied at the back of this booklet.

Whilst we fight to maximise the East Midlands interests in Brussels, we need you to make sure that the East Midlands is reaching for these funding opportunities and if we can support your application we are happy to do so.

Yours sincerely,



Emma McClarkin & Andrew Lewer MBE
Conservative MEPs for the East Midlands





Background to EU Funding

The Commission awards money in the form of grants in order to implement projects or activities in relation to European Union policies. The grant beneficiaries are mainly private or public organisations, and occasionally a specific individual. Since grants cover a very diverse range of fields, the specific conditions that need to be fulfilled vary from one field to another. However, some basic principles apply in every case.

- Funding is always complementary. The EU does not finance projects for 100% of their cost.
- Funding a project can only be used in order for it to break even financially; it cannot lead to a profit for the beneficiary.
- Funding cannot be awarded retrospectively.
- Normally only one grant can be awarded for a single project.

Grants are subject to annual work programmes, which are published before 31 March each year by the Directorates in the European Commission who manage the funds. The work programme fixes the broad outlines of the grants that are envisaged over the year (area of activity, objectives, timetable, budget, etc...).

Subsequently, the Commission's Directorates publish calls for proposals on their internet sites; the calls for proposals invite candidates to present, within a given deadline, a proposal for action that corresponds to the objectives pursued and fulfils the required conditions.

All applications are examined and evaluated on the basis of criteria that have clearly been announced in the calls for proposals, while ensuring equal treatment; candidates are individually informed of the final decision concerning their proposal.

There are, however, some grants awarded directly and without calls for proposals, such as for humanitarian efforts or natural disasters, but these are few and far between.

By 30 June each year the beneficiaries of grants are published on the Departments' respective websites for those projects awarded during the previous twelve months, with the exception of scholarship grants which are informed on an individual basis.



EU Funding in Action in the East Midlands

Below are just a few of the many projects across the East Midlands which have benefited from EU funding during the last funding cycle.

1. The European Social Fund (ESF)

The European Social Fund contributed £203 million to the East Midlands from 2007-2013. In the East Midlands the ESF sought to improve regional competitiveness and employment prospects.

Case Study: NEET Programmes

The European Social Fund has been used extensively in funding training programmes for NEET individuals (Not in Education, Employment or Training). These individuals age from 16 to 24 and require training in order to re-enter the employment or education market. The funding is given to training centres, schools and further education institutions to improve the skill set of individuals, preparing them for the jobs market.

2. The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

The European Regional and Development Fund contributed £210 million to the East Midlands from 2007-2013. The aim of this fund is to correct regional economic and social imbalances.

Case Study: The Renewal Trust - St Anns, Nottingham

Following previous success of offering business advice using ERDF funding The Renewal Trust decided to apply again to the EU to seek funding. With a number of unemployed people looking to start up their own business there is a growing necessity business expertise. The ERDF combined with lottery funding pays for business professionals to share their knowledge and know-how in starting up a business, guiding individuals around the pitfalls that can become new businesses.

Following the economic downturn and government rebalancing, a daytime service caring for the older adults was set to close. However, the carers at the centre wished to carry on the service and began to form the Bloomers Group. This group continues to this day providing care for over-55s thanks in part due to the business guidance received as part of the Renewal Trust - St Anns.



Case Study: Lincoln Castle

Built in 1068 Lincoln Castle is a major tourist attraction for the East Midlands and sees countless visitors each year, whether it be exploring its history or watching a summer night's film. Lincoln Castle has therefore begun restoring the building, spending £22 million over the last four years. It is expected that this refurbishment could increase the value of



tourism in Lincoln by up to 55%, which based on current economic figures would equate to an increase of £68 million in terms of economic impact and up to an extra 1,100 jobs. The EU is contributing over £2 million to the fund. This has helped restore the building but also to develop a Heritage Skills Centre which provides hands on experience and training in heritage crafts through short courses, taster days and demonstrations.

European Agricultural Fund for Regional Development (EAFRD)

This European fund aims to support rural economies in ensuring they remain competitive.

Case Study: Rural Community and Broadband Fund - Tove Valley



Broadband, in particular high speed broadband, is vital in enabling business to grow. However, rural areas have found it particularly difficult to receive such coverage. The European Agricultural Fund for Regional Development co-finances the rolling out of broadband. Projects apply to the UK's Rural Community and Broadband Fund which is financed 50% by the EU. In rural Tove



Valley, Northamptonshire, Abthorpe Broadband Association Ltd has been providing internet to local villages for ten years and decided to improve the speed and coverage using the Rural Community and Broadband Fund. As of the start of 2015, 391 people had signed up with 364 properties already installed with superfast broadband, having only begun in August 2014. This is a great example of how individuals have been supported by EU funding in developing their community's capabilities.

INTERREG IVB Programme

The aim of this programme is to promote the economic, environmental, social and territorial future of the North-West Europe area. It funds activities based on the cooperation of partners from eight countries: Belgium, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Case Study: ZECO2S

ZECO₂S - Development and Introduction of the Communal Zero CO₂ Emission Certification System as a tool for sustainable communities aimed at standardizing the term of Zero CO_{2e} Emission and creating a transnational Award System for communities. The Energy and Carbon Management Team is running the project at Northamptonshire County Council. The project is targeting three County Council divisions. The selected communities are the divisions of Oundle, Braunston and Crick and Long Buckby. Within these three communities the Project Team is mainly focusing on schools in order to reduce their energy consumption and emissions. In particular there is a Champion School in each division which has been selected to pilot the project and become an example of good practice. These are Prince William School, Yelvertoft Primary and Brington Primary schools. The Council's budget under the project is €1.2 million, 50% of which is funded through INTERREG.



Where to start looking?

Companies and other SMEs:

The Enterprise Europe Network has over 600 partner organisations in 40 different countries so is an excellent place to start looking. It helps small and medium sized enterprises make the most of business opportunities, helping them expand and seek finance from across the EU:

The Enterprise Europe Network
Commerce Central Canal Wharf
Chesterfield
United Kingdom
Telephone: 00441159578746
www.een-midlands.org.uk

Other applicants:

For other non-business applicants then we would suggest talking to Europe Direct, who can be contacted via:

Europe Direct
Telephone: 0080067891011
europa.eu/eurodirect

Additional advice can be found at:

The EU Commission. The EU Commission has good sites offering a range of advice on grants and public contracts on their website.

ec.europa.eu/contracts_grants/index_en.htm

Regional Offices. A lot of EU funds can be accessed at both National and Regional level. At the back of this booklet we have a contact list for all East Midlands Councils as well as contact details for the European Commission UK Office and the East Midlands UK Brussels Office, all of which should be able to offer some advice and assistance. See contacts at the back of this booklet.

Professional Bodies and NGOs. Some of the EU funds are job specific so you may find that your professional organisation already has links that you are able to exploit.



Who can apply?

Farmers

Most farmers are eligible to receive direct payments for the major form of EU funding in agriculture. Money is to support farmers' incomes in return for adherence to various standards of environmental protection, animal welfare, and food safety.

Non-Governmental and Civil Society Organisations

NGOs are involved in many areas covered by EU policies on a non-profit basis, a pre-condition for receiving funding from EU coffers. Entities included in this are not for profit social enterprises.

Funding is available both under programmes run by national and local authorities via 'structural funds', as well as Commission programmes.

It is estimated that over €1 billion a year is allocated to NGO projects directly by the Commission.

An NGO may receive two types of funding either for a concrete proposal via an 'Action Grant', or by subsidising your organisation's activities via an 'Operating Grant.'

Public Bodies

Cohesion Policy is where most funding for local infrastructure projects or initiatives to boost employment comes from. This money is available through programmes under the structural funds. Structural funds relevant to the East Midlands include; European Regional Development Fund, European Social Fund, European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.

Funding from the European Social Fund will be available for national and local administrations to strengthen their institutions and activities.

The Europe for Citizens programme offers funding opportunities for town twinning initiatives, establishing town networks and civil society projects.



Projects aimed at increasing public security can be co-financed from EU funds. Public bodies dealing with law enforcement, crime prevention, and the protection of victims and witnesses may also find relevant funds.

Researchers

Horizon 2020 is the EU's main body for funding research. This harmonises the previous array of research grants into one block.

Horizon 2020 is based on co-financing. The standard reimbursement rate for research and technological development activities is 50% although some organisations can receive up to 75% funding. Certain activities may even be reimbursed up to 100% of the eligible costs. Universities and private-public educational collaborations can take advantage of Horizon 2020 funds as well as Erasmus+ and ERDF.

Small & Medium Sized Enterprises

If you are an SME, you may benefit from EU funding through grants, loans and guarantees. There are also several programmes and business support services that might be applicable.

SMEs can usually apply for the programmes if they present sustainable, value-added and trans-national projects.

Direct aid to SMEs is only possible in less economically developed regions, of which, fortunately, there are not so many in the East Midlands. In other regions, priority tends to be given to increasing leverage rather than direct aid.

Young People

There are numerous opportunities to young people to seek out funding not only as part of education institutions but also as volunteer groups and young entrepreneurs. With the arrival of Europe 2020 which puts a special emphasis on youth projects there is increased funding to help young people get access to training, work and education.

In 2014 Erasmus+ was introduced which seeks to improve the mobility and learning across borders. This project has been extremely successful in the past and it is great to see that it has been expanded to include sports projects from 2014 onwards.

Tips: How to make a successful application?

Here are some tips to bear in mind when applying for funding.

1. Read and check eligibility

Many funding opportunities are very specific in who and how projects can obtain funding. There is a large amount of literature and information on each project, make sure to read up before applying. Too often applications do not match the criteria and eligibility and therefore miss out on funding.

2. How does your project fit with wider EU priorities

Acknowledging where your project fits within current EU priorities, goals and processes shows an awareness of its relevance and is well received. This information is easily accessible on the EU institution websites. Make sure to read the Europe 2020 goals as it gives a broad overview of the EU's goals that most funding is linked to.

3. Long Term Monitoring

Make sure to develop an in-depth process of constant monitoring. The EU looks for both transparency and detailed oversight of funding and outcomes. The large sums of money require a large amount of diligence and oversight.

4. Think ahead

Proposals come out on a scheduled basis and therefore you need to work on meeting the criteria and having the documents and plans well ahead of time. Moreover, contact with the relevant bodies ahead of the application phase will highlight your project to them.

5. Reapplying

If you are reapplying for a grant or funding that you have previously received, know that the new funding cycle 2014-20 may have introduced new criteria and stipulations. Do not assume that it has remained the same, a lot has changed.

	Pg	Agriculture & Fisheries	Citizenship	Culture	Development	Education	Employment	Energy	Environment	Finance	Health	Human Rights	Immigration	Industry	Justice & Security	Media	Research & Technology	Services	SMEs	Social Affairs	Sport	Telecommunications	Trade	Training	Transport	Tourism	Youth
EFSA	22	x							x		x			x	x		x			x							
EIB	22	x				x		x	x	x				x								x	x		x		
EMFF	23	x																									
Erasmus+	24					x	x														x						x
ERDF	24				x	x	x	x	x					x			x	x	x						x	x	
EU Aid Volunteers Initiative	25		x		x	x																		x			x
EU Farm Product Promotion	25	x				x			x		x												x				
EU-Japan	26									x				x				x					x	x			
EUREKA	27							x	x		x			x			x								x		
Europe for Citizens	27		x			x										x											
European Social Fund	28							x	x																		
European Statistical Programme	28																x										
European Youth Foundation	28		x			x						x				x				x				x			x

	Pg	Agriculture & Fisheries	Citizenship	Culture	Development	Education	Employment	Energy	Environment	Finance	Health	Human Rights	Immigration	Industry	Justice & Security	Media	Research & Technology	Services	SMEs	Social Affairs	Sport	Telecommunications	Trade	Training	Transport	Tourism	Youth
FISCALIS	29					x				x													x	x			
Green Key	30								x																	x	
Health for Growth	30										x						x										
HERCULE III	30					x				x					x								x	x			
Horizon 2020	31	x						x	x					x			x		x								
Human Rights Education Youth Programme	31					x						x												x			x
I4MS	32																X		x				x				
ISA	32																	x	x				x				
LIFE	33								x									x									
Rights and Citizenship	33					x						x			x			x						x			



What programmes are available in the East Midlands?

Title of Programme

- Aim:** *What is the aim of the project and funding?*
- Sectors:** *What policy sectors does it cover?*
- Recipients:** *Who is eligible to apply?*
- Details:** *What actions and specific purposes does the funding cover?*
- Amount:** *How much of the project costs can be covered by funding. (All % are the maximum that can be covered, not all projects will receive this amount)*

Annual Grant Work

Aim: These annual grants concern specific projects that are announced each year. For example in 2014 the Enterprise & Industry Strand specialised in space and satellites. The specificity of these projects means it's an on-going process with short time frames.

Sectors:

Media	Employment	Tourism
Education	Industry	Health
Environment	Agriculture	Youth
SMEs	Trade	Social Affairs
Transport	Energy	

Recipients:

Corporations	SMEs	Local Authority
NGOs	Training Centres	



Details: These projects are specific and vary on year and therefore details of individual strands are best obtained from visiting the relevant Director Generals (DG).
Communication: DG Communication
Enterprise & Industry: DG Enterprise and Industry
Environment: DG Environment
Maritime & Fisheries: DG Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
Social Affairs & Inclusion: DG Employment
Mobility & Transport: DG Mobility and Transport

Amount: 80%

Further Information: ec.europa.eu/contracts_grants/grants_en.htm

Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

Aim: To contribute to better management of migration flows. Supporting monitoring and enhance solidarity and responsibility in dealing with unequal burden placed on some member states.

Sectors: Immigration Citizenship Justice
Human Rights

Recipients: NGOs Local Authority

Details: Common European Asylum System: To harmonise national responses in dealing with Asylum seekers and migration issues.
Return: Projects aimed at ensuring the return of migrants to home nations is sustainable, fair and effective.
Third Country Integration: Support legal migration from third countries into the EU which is in line with national economic and social needs.

Amount: 95%

Further Information: ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/financing/fundings/migration-asylum-borders/asylum-migration-integration-fund/index_en.htm



Conference Interpreting Support

Aim:	Cooperate with universities and training centres by offering funding to deliver professional training in conference interpreting.
Sectors:	Education Training
Recipients:	NPOs Training Centres Universities
Details:	Pedagogical Assistance - sending material and personnel to teach or lecture. Study visits to DG Interpretation with and bursaries for one year post graduate courses. It will also help foster international cooperation with other organisations offering conference interpreting support.
Amount:	75%
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/dgs/scic/cooperation-with-universities/index_en.htm

Connected Europe Facility

Aim:	To contribute to achieving a better connected Europe that will help develop smart and sustainable growth. Investing in these types of networks improves GDP and economic output.
Sectors:	Energy Telecommunications Transport
Recipients:	NGOs Corporations International Org. SMEs Research Institutes Local Authority
Details:	<u>Transport:</u> Focuses on the interoperability of transport and improving the fluid nature of traffic. <u>Energy:</u> Focuses on cross-border energy markets and networks, ensuring security of supply and a sustainable future. <u>Telecommunications:</u> Focuses on the rolling out of fast and superfast broadband networks. Increasing citizen engagement with national public bodies via digital services.
Amount:	75% (Energy), 100% (Telecommunications), 50% (Transport)
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/en/connecting-europe-facility



Consumer Programme

Aim:	Support projects which aim to protect the health, safety and economic interests of consumers. Improving consumer insight and knowledge in the internal market.		
Sectors:	Citizenship	Education	Health
Recipients:	NGOs	Federations	NPOs
Details:	<p><u>Enforcement:</u> Aiding the partnerships of public and non-profit bodies in establishing community networks to support consumers in their rights and dispute resolution.</p> <p><u>Information and Education:</u> projects aimed at improving the data and analysis on the functioning of the single market for consumers.</p> <p><u>Rights and Redress:</u> projects aimed at improving cross border consumer right protection.</p> <p><u>Security:</u> projects aimed at enforcing product safety legislation across the Single Market.</p>		
Amount:	50-95%		
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/chafea/consumers/index.html		

Competitiveness of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (COSME)

Aim:	This project aims to improve the competitiveness of enterprises and SMEs, at every stage of the business cycle.		
Sectors:	Industry	Trade	Research
Recipients:	Corporations SMEs	Federations	Local Authority
Details:	<p><u>Access to Finance:</u> The access of Small and Medium sized Enterprises in their access to finance in their start-up, growth or transfer phases.</p> <p><u>Access to Markets:</u> Actions that seek to inform businesses on navigating the single market or wider third country markets.</p> <p><u>Entrepreneurship:</u> Support member state efforts to improve entrepreneurial education and training. Improve mobility of entrepreneurs to help foster new knowledge and insight.</p> <p><u>Framework for Sustainability:</u> Efforts made to reduce administrative burdens and improve enterprise cycles from design, to implementation to evaluation.</p>		



Amount: Loan Guarantee Facility up to €150 000
Further Information: ec.europa.eu/enterprise/initiatives/cosme/index_en.htm

Creative Europe

Aim: To protect, promote and encourage European culture and linguistic diversity, improving the competitiveness of the creative sectors across Europe.

Sectors: Media Culture

Recipients: Corporations NGOs NPOs
SMEs Training Centres Local Authority

Details: Media Strand: Facilitate the circulation of audio-visual media across the world. Aiding in development and training in this field.
Culture Strand: Actions which promote the mobility of individuals working within culture, across Europe.
Cross Sectorial Strand: Actions which facilitate the discussion, policy and information exchange of cultural issues.

Amount: Up to €2 million - depends on the project

Further Information: ec.europa.eu/programmes/creative-europe/index_en.htm

Customs 2020

Aim: This project aims to strengthen the internal market, improving its efficiency and its effectiveness.

Sectors: Finance Employment Education
Justice Training Security

Recipients: Local Authorities

Details: Joint Actions: Seminars, Workshops and studies which seek to inform and promote the development of customs efficiency.
IT Development: Developing IT capabilities to contribute to tackle fraud and enhance competitiveness.
Training: Actions aimed at training and improving the skills of those involved in custom duties.



Amount:	Only known on individual basis
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/customs/cooperation_programmes/customs2020/index_en.htm

European Agriculture Fund for Regional Development (EAFRD)

Aim: This fund aims to improve the competitiveness of agriculture, the sustainability of natural resources and climate action, and the balance of territorial development in rural areas.

Sectors: Agriculture Environment

Recipients: Local Authorities

Details: Knowledge Transfer: Fostering the transfer of knowledge and innovation in the agricultural sector. e.g. Producer Groups
Competitiveness: Helping support business development in farms and agriculture.
Food Chain Organisation: Helping to identify and preserve food chains, with an awareness of the risks to certain chains.
Ecosystems: Investing in forestry, and agriculture to preserve the ecosystem that is reliant on it.
Efficiency and Carbon Reduction: Improving the efficiency of the agricultural sector, leading to a lower carbon output and a climate resilient economy.
Social Inclusion: Support for those struggling with the costs in the agricultural sector.

Amount: Only known on individual basis'

Further Information: ec.europa.eu/agriculture/index_en.htm

Employment and Social Innovation Fund (EaSI)

Aim: To reduce high level unemployment and guarantee adequate social protection, combating social exclusion and poverty, also improving working conditions.

Sectors: Finance Education Employment
 SMEs Social Affairs



Recipients: Corporations Unions Local Authority
NGOs Investment Funds NPOs
Universities Research
Centres

Details: Progress: Actions aimed at improving the cross border knowledge, awareness and data surrounding unemployment.
EURES: Cooperation network between unions, employer organisations and employment services to ensure the utmost in transparency when applying for jobs. This can include mobility schemes which seek to fill skill gaps in other EU nations.
Microfinance and Social Enterprise: Help in supporting microfinance networks to support the establishment of micro-enterprises for those who find themselves in difficulty in the Labour market.

Amount: Depends on the type of actions (Progress), 95% (EURES), 100% (Microfinance and Social Enterprise)

Further Information: ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1081

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

Aim: The European Bank aims to support financial institutions in offering loans to companies looking to start out, or grow their company.

Sectors: Economy Services Tourism
Trade

Recipients: SMEs Banks

Details: Municipal Finance Facility: Loans and grants for banks to pass on to municipal funding actions.
Small Business Support: Financial tools are available to SMEs as is non-financial assistance in the form of advisory services.
Trade Facilitation Programme: Short term loans provided to selected banks to pass on to local exporters, importers and distributors.

Amount: Varies on the particular type of project.

Further Information: www.ebrd.com/home



European Energy Efficiency Fund (EEEF)

Aim:	To support initiatives that aim to improve energy saving, energy efficiency, CO ₂ reduction and renewable energy projects.		
Sectors:	Energy	Environment	
Recipients:	Corporations SMEs	Local Authorities	NPOs
Details:	Variety of projects that can include the incorporation of IT to manage energy usage in public and private buildings. Investments in combing heat and power, micro generation and improving infrastructure.		
Amount:	€5 to 25million		
Further Information:	www.eeef.eu/		

European Food Safety Authority Grants (EFSA)

Aim:	To provide scientific advice and clear communication on food safety, nutrition, health and well-being of animals and plants.		
Sectors:	Agriculture Environment Social Affairs	Health Industry	Justice Research
Recipients:	Agencies	Universities	Training Centres
Details:	Data collection and other preparatory work including technical assistance that contributes to improving awareness of food chain risks and improving food safety.		
Amount:	90%		
Further Information:	www.efsa.europa.eu/en/calls.htm		

The European Investment Bank (EIB)

Aim:	The EIB seeks to support sustainable growth and job creation by supporting the development of SMEs, Regional Development and Innovation in various fields.
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Sectors:	Energy Agriculture Transport	Environment Finance Education	Telecommunications Trade Industry
Recipients:	NPOs SMEs	Local Authorities	Investment Funds
Details:	<p><u>ELENA:</u> The supply of technical assistance in the form of grants and funds to accelerate their investment in fields of energy and climate change in order to achieve the Europe 2020 targets.</p> <p><u>Individual Loans:</u> Loans for large and small scale investment projects contributing to EU policy objectives in all sectors of the economy.</p> <p><u>Intermediated Loans:</u> These are long term loans granted to banks or financial intermediaries for projects that cost less than 25 million euros.</p> <p><u>Structured Finance Facility:</u> Equity financing and guarantee operations in favour of large scale infrastructure projects.</p>		
Amount:	Varies dependent on the project.		
Further Information:	www.eib.org/index.htm		

European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)

Aim:	Improve employment and cohesion within the EU fishery industry. Implement the Common Fisheries Policy and maintain a sustainable source of fish.		
Sectors:	Agriculture SMEs	Environment	Trade
Recipients:	Agencies NPOs	Corporations SMEs	Local Authorities
Details:	Advisory services and partnerships between scientists and the fishery industry. Actions which help to diversify and create jobs in the sector. This can also include studies and the exchange of best practice.		
Amount:	Varies on the type of project.		
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/fisheries/cfp/emff/index_en.htm		



Erasmus+

Aim:	Grants for educational, vocational and sport projects which seek to improve knowledge, mobility and insight in their field. Grants are also given to young people to participate in volunteering and youth projects alike.		
Sectors:	Education Youth	Employment	Sport
Recipients:	Corporations NPOs Universities	Local Authorities Research Centres	Schools Training Centres
Details:	<p><u>Mobility:</u> Encouraging and facilitating the movement of educational students and staff, and also youth.</p> <p><u>Networks:</u> Facilitating the sharing of innovative practices which lead to high quality teaching, training, learning and youth worth, institutional modernisation and societal innovation</p> <p><u>Dialogue:</u> Actions which take the form of meetings, conferences, consultations and events between young people and decision makers.</p> <p><u>Jean Monnet:</u> Jean Monnet Actions aim at promoting excellence in teaching and research in the field of European Union Studies worldwide.</p> <p><u>Sport:</u> The introduction of sport to Erasmus is aimed at tackling cross-border threats to the integrity of sport. The initiatives are also aimed at achieving good governance and promoting voluntary activities across a wide variety of sports.</p>		
Amount:	80% (Varies on project)		
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/index_en.htm & erasmusplus.org.uk/		

European Regional and Development Fund (ERDF)

Aim:	The ERDF hopes to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the EU by correcting imbalances between its regions.		
Sectors:	Development Transport Energy SMEs	Environment Social Affairs Employment Education	Research Tourism Industry
Recipients:	Universities SMEs	Research Centres Local Authorities	Training Centres NPOs



Details: INTERREG V: Projects aimed at improving cooperation across the borders of Europe in the fields of labour, education and social inclusion.
ESPON: Provides grants to the research of territorial structures, trends, perspectives and policy impacts.
INTERACT III: Aims at improving coordination of regional policies, providing guidance on project management and policy cycles.
URBACT III: Supports cities in achieving integrated and sustainable urban development through promoting the exchange of experience and information between cities and regions.
ERDF: Grants for projects which aim to reassert economic, social and territorial cohesion by addressing regional social and economic imbalances.

Amount: 75%

Further Information: ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/thefunds/regional/index_en.cfm

EU Aid Volunteers Initiative

Aim: The EU volunteer's initiative aims to provide training for humanitarian volunteers and matches up volunteers with humanitarian organisations.

Sectors: Citizenship Training Development
 Youth Education

Recipients: NGOs NPOs Training Centres

Details: This initiative aims to find a common response and method in organising volunteer groups on humanitarian projects.

Amount: Amounts vary depending on the humanitarian response.

Further Information: ec.europa.eu/echo/en/what/humanitarian-aid/eu-aid-volunteers

EU Farm Product Promotion 2015

Aim: Help to promote and raise the profile of EU farm produce and products, including the advancement of production methods.

Sectors: Agriculture Education Environment
 Health Trade



Recipients: Agencies Unions Local Authorities
NPOs SMEs

Details: The fund is designed to support advertising campaigns in the press, online and on TV and Radio. This promotion also includes PR campaigns including exhibitions and fairs.

Amount: 60%

Further Information: ec.europa.eu/agriculture/promotion/index_en.htm

EU - Japan

Aim: To improve awareness of industrial practices and management in Japan. This aims to improve the ease to which business can occur between the EU and Japan.

Sectors: Industry Trade Training
SMEs Finance

Recipients: Corporations Training Centres Universities
SMEs

Details: Challenge: This gives training to executives from EU companies that are regularly involved in business with Japan who wish to gain greater insight into Japanese manufacturing methods.

H RTP Industry Insight: This gives training to managers from EU companies that are regularly involved in business with Japan who wish to gain greater insight into Japanese management methods.

VULCANUS: Grants for EU trainees to work in Japan or for Japanese trainees to work in the EU

All training occurs at the EU - Japan Centre in Japan.

Amount: Coverage varies, some of the projects will cover all including accommodation, travel and food, others projects will only cover part.

Further Information: www.eu-japan.eu/



EUREKA

Aim:	To raise Research and Development investment to 3% of GDP by 2020. Use research and development around a product, process or technology to increase company competitiveness.		
Sectors:	Energy	Health	Research
	Environment	Industry	Technology
	Transport		
Recipients:	Corporations	Research	SMEs
	Universities	Centres	
Details:	Help in finding relevant partners in industry and research. Also help in establishing the necessary contracts.		
Amount:	35% for research, 45% development phase		
Further Information:	www.eurekanetwork.org/		

Europe for Citizens

Aim:	To improve and enhance civic participation at the EU level. Through raising awareness of the Unions identity and history. Encouraging democratic engagement of all.		
Sectors:	Citizenship	Media	Education
Recipients:	Unions	NPOs	Research Centres
	Schools	Universities	
Details:	<u>European Remembrance:</u> Activities of mutual discovery and cooperation such as town-twinning and networks. <u>Democratic Engagement:</u> Studies on civic participation in the EU and the dissemination of information encouraging engagement.		
Amount:	Varies dependent on the project.		
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/citizenship/europe-for-citizens-programme/index_en.htm		



European Social Fund

Aim:	Projects to improve labour mobility, employment and social inclusion. This can be achieved through education, training and improvements in public administrative efficiency.		
Sectors:	Education Training	Employment Social Affairs	Youth Services
Recipients:	SMEs NGOs NPOs	Training Centres Universities	Schools Local Authorities
Details:	Actions that support the access to employment and the job market for those not currently active in it. In particular support is given to NEET individuals. Projects that look to reduce early school leaving can also seek funding from this instrument.		
Amount:	75%		
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/esf/home.jsp		

European Statistical Programme

Aim:	To improve the quality of data, reports and information used to form policy.		
Sectors:	Research		
Recipients:	Schools Universities NPOs	Research Centres Agencies	Local Authorities NGOs
Details:	<p><u>Collaborative:</u> Strengthening partnership with the EES and other statistical bodies in Europe.</p> <p><u>Functioning:</u> Ensuring consistency and new methods of production aimed at quality improvements.</p>		
Amount:	95% (Collaborative), 50% (Functioning)		
Further Information:	europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-11-1587_en.htm		

European Youth Foundation

Aim:	To promote and facilitate youth work across Europe, that supports peace, understanding and co-operation with Europeans.
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Sectors:	Citizenship Media Youth	Education Training	Human Rights Social Affairs
Recipients:	NGOs		
Details:	<u>International Activity:</u> Meetings, promotion and participation in shared learning. <u>Annual Work Plan:</u> NGO structured activities. <u>Structural:</u> 1-off or 2 Year projects that help to establish a network for youth work, or look to grow pre-existing networks. <u>Pilot Activity:</u> An interventional activity addressing societal needs.		
Amount:	Varies on the type of project, only 300 grants given each year.		
Further Information:	www.coe.int/en/web/european-youth-foundation/grants		

FISCALIS

Aim:	To strengthen the internal market through improving tax efficiency. Enhancing not only the implementation of tax law and administration but also improving the instruments used in fighting tax fraud, evasion and avoidance.		
Sectors:	Finance Trade	Education	Training
Recipients:	Local Authorities		
Details:	<u>Joint Actions:</u> Seminars, Workshops and studies which seek to inform and promote the development of fighting tax evasion, avoidance and fraud. <u>IT Development:</u> Developing IT capabilities to contribute to tackle fraud and reduce the administrative burdens involved in tax collection. <u>Training:</u> Actions aimed at training and improving the skills of those involved in tax administration.		
Amount:	On individual case basis		
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/taxation_customs/taxation/tax_cooperation/fiscalis_programme/fiscus/index_en.htm		



Green Key

Aim:	A voluntary label of accreditation for tourist accommodation and venues showing an awareness and consideration for the environmental surroundings.		
Sectors:	Environment	Tourism	
Recipients:	SMEs		
Details:	Accommodation must have demonstrated proactive initiatives to tackle environmental, water, waste and energy management in order to be accredited.		
Amount:	No funding but advertisement on greek-key.org and regional and national press is offered.		
Further Information:	www.green-key.org/		

Health for Growth

Aim:	Work with member states to encourage innovation in healthcare and improve the sustainability of healthcare systems. Ensuring that cross border coverage is both sustainable and efficient.		
Sectors:	Health	Research	
Recipients:	NGO	International Organisation	Local Authorities
Details:	Actions that contribute to innovative and sustainable healthcare provision. Projects should seek to increase access to higher quality and safer healthcare for citizens across the EU.		
Amount:	60-80%		
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/health/programme/policy/proposal2014_en.htm		

HERCULE III

Aim:	To protect the financial stability of the EU through improving its competitiveness.		
Sectors:	Finance Education	Training Justice	Trade



Recipients:	NGOs NPOs Universities	Local Authorities Schools	International Organisations Training Centres
Details:	Any project that seeks to tackle fraud and other illegal financial activities.		
Amount:	Up to 80%		
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/anti_fraud/about-us/funding/hercule-iii/index_en.htm		

Horizon 2020

Aim:	To finance and help develop research and innovation in various fields of study.		
Sectors:	Agriculture Technology Research	Energy Environment	Industry SMEs
Recipients:	SMEs Universities	Research Centres	Local Authorities
Details:	<u>Excellent Science:</u> Improve knowledge base in science. <u>Industrial Leadership:</u> A focus on technology research and development and innovation. <u>Societal Challenges:</u> Studies and research that looks to support the EU 2020 goals.		
Amount:	Varies greatly due to the project.		
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/programmes/horizon2020/		

Human Rights Education Youth Programme

Aim:	To raise awareness and provide a coherent structured response to violations of human rights. Through this develop the necessary education tools and resources to be used by practitioners in human rights education.		
Sectors:	Education Youth	Human Rights	Training
Recipients:	NGOs Unions	NPOs	Training Centres



Conservatives in the European Parliament

- Details:** Projects funded by this include actions related to educating young people about human rights or the training of young people to engage in human rights issues.
- Amount:** 80%
- Further Information:** www.coe.int/t/dg4/youth/training/training_courses/hre_youth_programme_EN.asp

ICT for Manufacturing in SMEs (I4MS)

- Aim:** Help high-tech SMEs become more competitive by reducing the risk of being an early adopter of innovative ICT and supporting them in developing innovative prototypes.
- Sectors:** Research Technology Telecommunications
- Recipients:** Corporations SMEs
- Details:** This will fund limited experiments into new and innovative technology.
- Amount:** 50%-75%
- Further Information:** i4ms.eu/

Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations (ISA)

- Aim:** To improve electronic cross-border cooperation between public administrations. Through dialogue and interaction it seeks to improve best practice in working together.
- Sectors:** Services Telecommunications Technology
- Recipients:** SMEs Corporations
- Details:** Funding is given to projects which establish and improve common frameworks which support interoperability, both across borders and policy fields.
- Amount:** Varies greatly due to the project.
- Further Information:** ec.europa.eu/isa/

LIFE

Aim:	Contribute to low carbon economies and improve governance and practice in the field of environment and climate change.		
Sectors:	Environment		
Recipients:	NGOs Agencies SMEs	Local Authorities NPOs	Research Centre Universities
Details:	<p><u>Environment:</u> Actions which seek to improve resource efficiency, biodiversity and the governance and communication of environmental issues.</p> <p><u>Climate Change:</u> Actions which seek to mitigate the effects of climate change adapt to the effects of climate change and improves the governance and communication around climate change.</p>		
Amount:	70%-80%		
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/environment/life/		

Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme

Aim:	To ensure non-discriminatory practices are effectively used by EU citizens equally and fully across Europe.		
Sectors:	Education Justice	Training Services	Human Rights
Recipients:	NGOs NPOs	SMEs Local Authorities	International Organisations
Details:	Analytical actions which include research and data on the rights of EU citizens. Training actions such as exchanges, workshops, seminars and modules.		
Amount:	57%		
Further Information:	ec.europa.eu/justice/grants1/programmes-2014-2020/rec/index_en.htm		



Awards and Prizes

EU Contest for Young Scientists

Awarded to young people to showcase of the best of European Scientific achievements. For those aged 14-21 years old. Prizes range from honorary acknowledgement to €7,000.

European EIB Prize

Awarded to recognise excellence in the economic and social research in European development and integration. Prizes include honours scholars.

EUROPAN Competition

Awarded for architecture and urbanism that aims to foster exchanges in these fields and aiding in raising architect's profile. Prizes range from €12,000 to an honorary prize.

Council of Europe Museum Prize

Awarded to European museums for showing cultural diversity. The prize includes a trophy awarded for one year, a diploma and €5,000.

EESC Prize Civil Society

Awarded for projects that engage civil society and improve its interaction with European cooperation. Three prizes awarded ranging from €5,000 to €20,000.

Europe Prize

The highest prize awarded to a European town or local authority. This is given to those towns, cities which utilise European activities including twinning, conferences and exchanges. The prize is awarded to 1 or 2 cities each of €7,600.

European Charlemagne Youth Prize

Awarded to young people who promote the shared identity of the European Union. For those aged 16-30 years old. Prizes range from €2,000 to €5,000.



European Prize for Literature

Awarded to projects which highlight the creative and diversity of Europe's current literature. Prizes of €5,000 are awarded to each winner.

Lux Award

Awarded to films which encourage the mobility of film across borders in Europe, breaking down linguistic and technical barriers. €3,200 per country/language is awarded.

Prix Europa

Awarded to an online/radio/TV presentation which amalgamates old and new media to inform their audience. Prizes of €6,000 are awarded.

Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought

Awarded to exceptional individuals or organisations fighting against oppression, intolerance and justice. Prize is €50,000 to the individual or organisation.

Europa Nostra Awards

Awarded to organisations that seek to promote, sustain, enhance or develop cultural heritage. Prize is €7,000

SUMP Award

Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans, awarded yearly in September with a different focus each year. This encourages the development and implementation of Sustainable Urban Mobility Plans (SUMP).



Research Funding

In addition to Horizon 2020 there are some more sector specific research funds available.

Research Programme for Coal and Steel

In order to maintain competitive and sustainable Coal and Steel industries the EU offers funding for research and pilot projects to advance the technology, techniques and efficiency in the industry. Moreover, the fund covers the dissemination and the relaying of information and progress.

Compagnia Di San Paolo Foundation

This is research into the five fields of Science; Economic and Judicial; Education; Art; Culture and Health. This is co-financed research funding and requires a European dimension. The research grants are supplied to non-profit organisations to foster and improve social, civic, cultural and economic development.

COST

Open to all researchers this fund aims to co-ordinate nationally funded research into science and technology on a European level. Through coordination it is hoped to reduce fragmentation and harmonise research to avoid overlap. The funds help to improve mobility, communication and networks between research institutes across Europe.



Who else can I contact?

Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs)

From 2014 LEPs began designing investment strategies for the European Structural Funds Investment in business growth, skills, inclusion and rural development.

LEPs are public-private authorities and play a key role in determining local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth and the creation of local jobs.

Their role and remit is continuing to expand to include social innovation to climate change and environmental issues, from youth unemployment to social inclusion.

There are 7 LEPs which cover areas in the East Midlands;

Derby and Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire (D2N2)

Area: Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire counties including the cities of Derby and Nottingham

Information: D2N2 is one of the largest LEPs in England covering an area with a population of over two million people and economic output of over £36billion.

Contact Person: Matthew Wheatley, Growth Plan Manager

Address: 8 Experian Way, Nottingham, NG2 1EP

Email: matthew.wheatley|@dncc.co.uk

Website: www.d2n2lep.org

Greater Lincolnshire (GLLEP)

Area: Lincolnshire county and North Lincolnshire district

Information: One of the first LEPs to be established in the UK, its aim is to improve infrastructure and the conditions for doing business. It works across a variety of industries from ports, logistics and farming to tourism and engineering.

Contact Person:

Address: City Hall, Beaumont Fee, Lincoln, LN1 1DD

Email:

Website: www.greaterlincolnshirelep.co.uk



Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership (LLEP)

Area: Leicestershire County and Leicester City

Information: The LLEP seeks to make Leicester and Leicestershire the destination of choice by promoting the area as a place to do business, work and live.

Contact Person: Mandip Rai, Head of LLEP Support Team

Address: A10, New Walk Centre, Welford Place, Leicester, LE1 6ZG

Email: mandip.rai@llep.org.uk

Website: www.llep.org.uk

South East Midlands (SEMLEP)

Area: Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire and boroughs and districts of Northampton, Kettering, Corby, South Northamptonshire and Daventry

Information: SEMLEP aims to promote the South East Midlands as a prime growth for business, investors and visitors.

Contact Person:

Address: Cranfield Innovation Centre, University Way, Cranfield, Bedfordshire, MK43 0BT

Email: info@semlep.com

Website: www.semlep.com

Northamptonshire (NEP)

Area: Northamptonshire County

Information: NEP aims to improve the quality of private sector jobs. It aims to increase the overall growth of the economy of 30% by 2021.

Contact Person:

Address: Enterprise House, 30 Billing Road, Northampton, NN1 5DQ

Email:

info@northamptonshireep.co.uk

Website:

www.northamptonshireep.co.uk

Greater Cambridge/Greater Peterborough

Area: Includes Rutland

Information: Focuses on sustainable economic growth in these areas, with local business, education providers, the combination of third sector and public sector.

Contact Person:

Address: Building 137, Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus, Alconbury Airfield, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire, PE28 4WX

Email:

info@yourlocalenterprisepartnership.co.uk

Website:

www.yourlocalenterprisepartnerhsip.co.uk



Sheffield City Region (SCR)

Area: Sheffield economic area including the districts of Bassetlaw in Nottinghamshire and Chesterfield, Bolsover, Derbyshire Dales and North East Derbyshire.

Information: SCR brings together business leaders and local politicians to make decisions that drive economic growth and create new jobs. It will be the best place to collaborate, to invest, to innovate and grow a business, and live, work, play and study.

Contact Person: Victoria Dearden

Address: AMP Technology Centre, Advanced Manufacturing Park, Brunel Way, Rotherham, S60 5WG

Email:

Victoria.dearden@sheffieldcityregion.org.uk

Website: www.sheffieldcityregion.org.uk

East Midlands Councils

East Midland Councils is a consultative forum for local government in the East Midlands and represents the interest of local councils to national government and other organisations. It enables local councils to work together on key issues of common concern and supports the improvement and development of local councils and their workforce.

First Floor Offices, South Annexe
Pera Business Park
Nottingham Road
Melton Mowbray
Leicestershire
LE13 0PB

Email: info@emcouncils.gov.uk

Phone: 015664 502620

Website: www.emcouncils.gov.uk



Derbyshire County Council

Derbyshire County Council
County Hall
Matlock
DE4 3AG
Email:
contact.centre@derbyshire.gov.uk
Phone: 01629533190
Website: www.derbyshire.gov.uk

Lincolnshire County Council

County Offices
Newland
Lincoln
Lincolnshire
LN1 1YL
Email:
customer_services@lincolnshire.gov.uk
Phone: 01522552222
Website: www.lincolnshire.gov.uk

Nottinghamshire County Council

County Hall
Loughborough Road
West Bridgford
Nottingham
Nottinghamshire
NG2 7QP
Email: enquiries@nottsc.gov.uk
Phone: 03005008080
Website:
www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk

Leicestershire County Council

County Hall,
Glenfield,
Leicester
LE3 8RA
Email: information@leics.gov.uk
Phone: 01162323232
Website: www.leics.gov.uk

Northamptonshire County Council

Northamptonshire County Council
John Dryden House
8-10 The Lakes
Northampton
NN4 7YD
Email:
customerservices@northamptonshire.gov.uk
Phone: 03001261000
Website: www.northamptonshire.gov.uk

Rutland County Council

Catmose
Oakham
Rutland
LE15 6HP
Email: enquiries@rutland.gov.uk
Phone: 01572722577
Website: www.rutland.gov.uk



The European Commission in the UK

The European Commission Representation in the UK has all the information on EU funding available to UK citizens, companies and councils.

ec.europa.eu/contracts_grants/?index_en.htm

Most advice here is a repetition of what many of the local authorities offer; however the website does publish the current 'calls for proposals' on the various funding streams available which can be found at:

ec.europa.eu/unitedkingdom/work_with_eu/tenders/index_en.htm

Head of Representation Jackie Minor
Europe House
32 Smith Square
London ,
SW1P 3EU
Email: Jacqueline.minor@ec.europa.eu
Phone: 020 7973 1992
Website: ec.europa.eu/unitedkingdom

Local Government Association in Brussels (LGA)

The Local Government Association in Brussels represents the county councils of England and Wales on the international stage. Due to the sum of legislation created at the EU level it has become increasingly important for Local Government to represent at the EU level. The LGA tracks EU funding potential (www.local.gov.uk/eu-funding-tracker) and supports British representatives at the Committee of Regions (COR), Congress of the Council of Europe, Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), and United Cities and Local Government (UCLG).

Chief Executive Carolyn Downs
Local Government House
Smith Square
London,
SW1P 3HZ
Email: info@local.gov.uk
Phone: 020 7664 3000
Website: www.local.gov.uk



Other European Representations

There are a number of representations for the East Midlands on the EU level. Whilst they do not offer funding they can be good points of contact for further information on the involvement with the EU.

Committee of the Regions (COR)

This body represents the interests of regions to the EU Commission and other institutions. It provides information and a direct voice from sub-national authorities to the EU institutions.

Head of UK Delegation Gordon Keymer
Committee of the Regions
Baitment jacques Delors
Rue Belliard 99-101
1040, Brussels
Belgium

Email: ian.hughes@lga.gov.uk

Phone: 020 7664 3101

Website: cor.europa.eu/en/about/nationaldelegations/Pages/United-Kingdom.aspx

UK Bodies

The British Council

The British Council can aid in applications and information needed for funding programmes with regards to youth and education programmes.

Chief Executive Ciarán Devane
British Council Customer Service UK
Bridgewater House
58 Whitworth Street
Manchester
M1 6BB

Email: general.enquiries@britishcouncil.org

Phone: 0161 957 7755

Website: www.britishcouncil.org



EU Funding in the East Midlands Snapshot

European Regional Development Fund (2007-2013):



**€268.5
Million**

Awarded to the
East Midlands



**5,130
Jobs**

Created in the
East Midlands



**£830,000
Average**

Amount awarded to each
project in the East Midlands



*More information can be found on www.gov.uk/applying-for-erdf-funding

European Social Fund (2014):

63%

ESF recipients gained employment or are now in education or training as a result of funding

105

Grants awarded across the East Midlands

46%

Increase in the number of people receiving funds

*More information can be found on www.enable.uk.net/



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Website: www.andrewlewer MEP.co.uk



Conservatives
in the European Parliament



European
Conservatives
and Reformists
Group