

3rd December 2009

Your ref: Email dated 5th November 2009
Our ref: R00179

Freedom of Information Request – Business Support Schemes

Thank you for your Freedom of Information Request, dated 5th November 2009, concerning Business Support Schemes.

Your request to SEEDA is summarised below:

“How much was spent in (a) 2007-08 and (b) 2008-09 and how many businesses received assistance from in each of these years on the following Business Support Schemes:

- *Rural Development Programme*
- *Small Loans for Business Scheme*
- *Finance for Business Scheme*
- *Grant for Research and Development Scheme*
- *Business Premises Scheme*
- *Coaching for High Growth Scheme*
- *Improving Your Resource Efficiency Scheme*
- *Export Credit Insurance Scheme*
- *Enterprise Coaching Scheme*
- *Innovation Advice and Guidance Scheme*
- *Understanding Finance for Business Scheme*
- *Improving Your Resource Efficiency Scheme*
- *Collaborative Research and Development Scheme*
- *Networking for Innovation Scheme*
- *Knowledge Transfer Partnerships Scheme*
- *Innovation Vouchers Scheme*
- *Low Carbon Energy Demonstration Scheme*
- *Developing Your International Trade Potential Scheme*
- *Grant for Business and Investment Scheme*
- *Accessing International Markets Scheme*
- *Business Collaboration Networks Scheme*
- *Business Growth: Specialist Facilities and Environments Scheme*
- *Starting a Business Scheme*
- *Intensive Start-up Support Scheme*

- *Starting a High Growth Business Scheme*
- *Manufacturing Advisory Service Scheme*
- *Designing Demand Scheme*
- *Maximising Foreign Direct Investment Scheme.*”

Information Held

Please note the Solutions for Business (SfB) products identified above were not launched until October 2008 and started to become available from April 2009.

The attached spreadsheet contains details of Single Pot spending for services funded and managed during 2007-8 and 2008-09 by SEEDA, which we believe align with the now defined 28 (SfB) products.

Not every product is available within the SEEDA region and some SfB products are funded and managed by central government departments or their agencies (e.g. Train to Gain, etc). We understand that the Rural Development Programme for England, launched in January 2008, is being reported separately by DEFRA.

In some cases RDA funding is supplementary to national funding via central programmes (e.g. SEEDA's support for the UKTI product Developing your International Trade Potential) and therefore the total product spend on some national products might be significantly higher than the SEEDA Single Pot contribution reported here. Apart from the Start a Business product (which is delivered by Business Link), Business Link spend and outputs are not included in this return.

Individual companies can benefit from multiple products and therefore the number of unique Businesses Assisted will be lower than the absolute number of reported businesses assisted. Not all services have historically collected data on the number of businesses assisted (e.g. SEEDA's Business Premises programme) and in some cases the measure is not appropriate (e.g. Enterprise Coaching is pre-start up offer).