

SME Competitiveness Project - Overview

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The ERDF SME Competitiveness project was delivered by SWLEP, in partnership with YTKO, University of Bath SETsquared, Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council.

The original model consisted of the Growth Hub delivering into three distinct strands of support



Pre-start, start-up and early stage support:

Delivered with YTKO



Scale up support:
Delivered with
SETsquared



Support for ex-Honda employees: Delivered by YTKO Design and Implementation

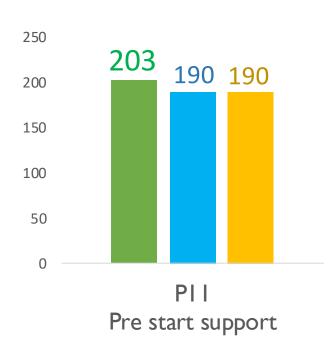


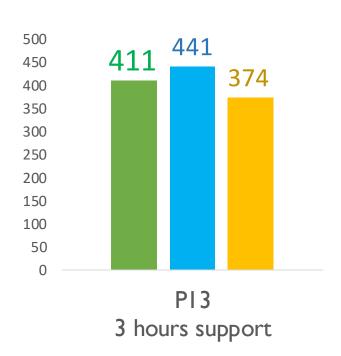


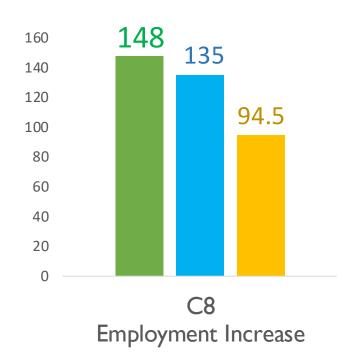
SME Comp Outputs

1215

TotalOriginal TargetRevised Target



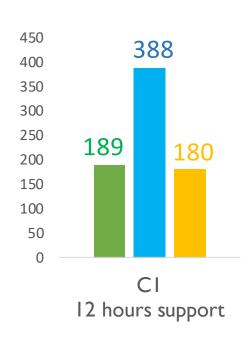


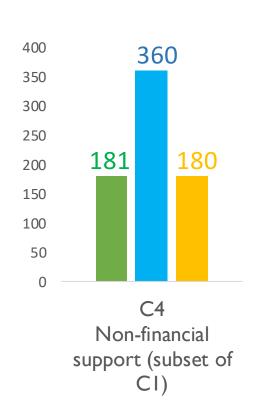


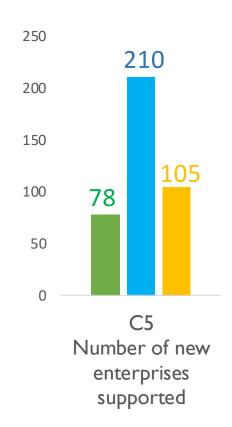


SME Comp Outputs - continued













Funding & value for money

The project secured £1.2m of ERDF funding, this was matched with funding from the various delivery partners as set out within the table below with the match funding provided by each partner.

Funding contributions	Total	
ERDF	£1,190,38	
Public sector match funding		
SWLEP	£751,847	
Wiltshire Council	£90,000	
Set Squared	£158,153	
Swindon Borough Council	£190,383	
Total Public sector match	£1,190,383	
Total Funding Agreement	£2,380,776	

	Total	% of Agreement
Projected total at Project Closure	£2,229,166.00	94%





Delivery and Management

Service delivery did adapt to changing circumstances and many of these were highly effective.

Establishment of a series of virtual workshops through the Growth Hub

Creation of the
Foundry in
Swindon to
deliver in-person
Outset provision
by YTKO

Rebranding of services away from innovation by SETsquared to better reflect the perceived needs of eligible businesses.





Lessons Learned

Frequency of operations steering group meetings

Challenges at project commencement

The fair distribution of marketing budget to each delivery partner

Work closely with local authorities over the coming months to ensure engagement with businesses is not lost







