

EXPANSION EAST KENT: THE REGIONAL GROWTH FUND IN ACTION

If you run a business in East Kent and are looking to take on more staff – or if you are currently based elsewhere but see the area as the perfect place to grow – you could be eligible for a 0% unsecured loan from Kent County Council's Expansion East Kent scheme.

Designed to give a leg-up to those businesses with the potential to create jobs but without the necessary capital, the scheme has £35m of loans to distribute courtesy of the Government's Regional Growth Fund (RGF).

A £2.6 billion fund operating across England from 2011 to 2016, the RGF supports projects and programmes that lever private sector investment to create economic growth and sustainable employment – and East Kent is one of the scheme's flagship areas.

To qualify for a 0% unsecured loan from Expansion East Kent, you must:

- Be a sole trader, partnership, limited company or a not for profit business
- Provide employment – either creating or safeguarding jobs in the East Kent area
- Be able to provide an element of private sector investment with your business proposal – the Expansion East Kent scheme does not provide 100% funding. Private sector investment could take the form of your own resources, commercial loans or other types of investment
- Demonstrate the need for financial support
- Show that your business has good growth potential and can be self-sustaining by the completion of the investment
- Prove that you are able to access other funding sources

0%

THE AMOUNT OF
INTEREST PAYABLE
ON LOANS FROM
EXPANSION EAST
KENT



For ambitious businesses setting their sights on success, the offer of interest-free loans could be truly transformational.

But don't take it from us.
Why not hear from those who've benefited from the scheme...

£35 MILLION

THE AMOUNT
AVAILABLE IN
INTEREST-FREE
LOANS TO GROWING
BUSINESSES

KARL DODD HV WOODING

THE CHALLENGE IN TODAY'S MARKET IS THAT WE NEED TO GROW TO COMPETE, AND IT'S VERY DIFFICULT TO DO THAT WITHOUT FUNDING. THE FUNDING THAT WE'RE GETTING FROM EXPANSION EAST KENT IS HELPING US TO ACCELERATE THAT GROWTH. WE ARE BUYING IN NEW PROCESSES AND AUTOMATING OLDER ONES THANKS TO THE EXTRA CAPACITY THE LOAN IS ALLOWING.

£1.1 MILLION RECEIVED FROM EXPANSION EAST KENT

THOMAS GAMGEE CHALK HILL

IT GAVE US AN OPPORTUNITY TO START A BUSINESS IN A TIME WHEN WE WERE STRUGGLING TO SECURE FUNDING FROM THE BANKS. WE HOPE THAT IT HAS ENABLED US TO OFFER AN AFFORDABLE AND OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE LOCAL COMMUNITY.

£30,000 RECEIVED FROM EXPANSION EAST KENT

ESME CHILTON CREATIVE MINDS

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ENTREPRENEURS ARE SUPPORTED, BUT NOT JUST GIVEN HANDOUTS, THEREFORE THE IDEA OF A LOAN RATHER THAN A GRANT IS MORE APPEALING. EAST KENT IS A FABULOUS PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND DO BUSINESS. HAVING RELOCATED HERE FROM THE CAPITAL OVER 25 YEARS AGO I STILL STRONGLY BELIEVE THE AREA IS THRIVING WITH CREATIVE PEOPLE.

£100,000 RECEIVED FROM EXPANSION EAST KENT

PAUL BISHOP UK MOBILE BARS

SINCE RECEIVING THE LOAN WE HAVE SEEN A VERY LARGE GROWTH IN OUR CLIENT PORTFOLIO. THROUGH THE LOAN WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SECURE OFFICE SPACE TO SHOWCASE OUR SERVICES, WHICH HAS LED TO US WORKING WITH SOME REALLY EXCITING CLIENTS, INCLUDING SOUTHERN COMFORT AND VOLVIC.

£32,500 RECEIVED FROM EXPANSION EAST KENT