



European Union

European Regional
Development Fund



West of England Green Business Grants Stage 1 Eligibility Criteria

An applicant is eligible if they are:

- based in the West of England
- a small & medium sized enterprise
- a legal entity
- VAT registered.

An applicant is ineligible if they are:

- a sole trader or cash business
- a non-economic undertaking such as a community group, sports club, village hall or similar entity; and GP practices, care homes, schools and colleges etc
- a charity (unless applying through a trading arm)
- included in an ineligible sector i.e. fishery, aquaculture, banking & insurance
- an undertaking in difficulty.

An undertaking in difficulty is defined below.

If the business is over 3 years old:

(a) In the case of a limited liability company, where more than half of its subscribed share capital (including share premium) has disappeared as a result of accumulated losses over 2 consecutive years. This is the case when deduction of accumulated losses from reserves (and all other elements generally considered as part of the own funds of the company) leads to a negative cumulative amount that exceeds half of the subscribed share capital; or

(b) In the case of a company where at least some members have unlimited liability for the debt of the company where more than half of its capital as shown in the company accounts has disappeared as a result of accumulated losses over 2 consecutive years; or

(c) Where the undertaking is subject to collective insolvency proceedings or fulfils the criteria under its domestic law for being placed in collective insolvency proceedings at the request of its creditors.

(d) Where the undertaking has received rescue aid and has not yet reimbursed the loan or terminated the guarantee, or has received restructuring aid and is still subject to a restructuring plan.

If the business is under 3 years:

As a) & b) above, but over 3 consecutive years; and as c) and d) above.

Due diligence

WECA will also make an assessment of each applicant's overall financial and legal situation. An applicant may be ineligible if they:

- have a County Court Judgement
- have a Director who is disqualified
- have a poor grant performance record with WECA and the LEP
- have been requested to repay a grant under any Government scheme
- do not have valid and adequate insurance policies in place
- have current or pending legal proceedings.

These responses will be risk assessed against their relevance and significance.