



OFFICER DECISION RECORD

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| Decision Title: Create Growth Programme Mentoring Grants |
| Decision reference number: ODN23_0009 |
| Decision date: 23/08/2023 |
| <p>Background / reason for decision: CEOs asked to approve grant funding for 30 successful applicants on Cohort 1 of the Create Growth Programme for the West of England. Each business would receive £2,500 grant for mentoring, at a total cost of £75,000. Approval of the businesses selected to join the programme was made in April 2023. This decision is recommending that businesses on the programme are grant funded as outlined in the report.</p> <p>The West of England & Cornwall and Isles of Scilly are one of 6 successful Local Area Partnerships that have been awarded £1.275m from DCMS to support local creative businesses to unlock economic growth. The Create Growth Programme will build on the success of the Creative Scale Up Pilot (2019-2022) and aims to support high-growth creative businesses to scale and become investment ready through a targeted business support package.</p> <p>The programme will support 60 business over 2 cohorts, the first cohort started in May 2023. The support offer for businesses is 12 months of sector specific training, workshops, facilitated peer to peer support, mentoring (grant subject to further application process), founder talks and networking opportunities.</p> |
| <p>Options considered: N/A</p> |
| <p>Decision: Chief Executives to approve grant funding for 30 the successful applicants on Cohort 1 of the Create Growth Programme.</p> |
| <p>Consultation: Officers informed the relevant colleagues in the Unitary Authorities of the businesses that were successful both coming onto the programme and in being recommended for a mentoring grant.</p> |
| <p>Officer making decision: <i>Richard Ennis</i> </p> |
| <p>Position: <i>Interim Chief Executive, West of England Combined Authority</i></p> |
| <p>Report / appendices / background documents: </p> |