



Capital Growth Grant Assessment Process

The assessment process set out in this document will be used by the South Midlands Growth Hub to assess all Capital Growth grant applications.

Stage 1: Gateway

Criteria	Assessment
Applying enterprise is eligible • An SME • A registered enterprise • Not in liquidation, dissolved, struck off or subject to a striking-off notice • Is not an undertaking in difficulty • Registered in the UK • Has a base in the South Midlands area • Plans to realise a project in the area • Passes credit check	Pass/Fail Projects must pass all of these gateway criteria to be considered for selection. Failure to adequately demonstrate one or more of these criteria will result in project rejection.
Application is complete • Application form completed including the Subsidy Control section • Proof of company registration/UTR/Partnership/charity number • Accounts - A copy of the company's most recent filed accounts or draft accounts if appropriate (and/or more recent draft accounts if beyond mid-year) or projected forecast	

Stage 2: Scoring

Criteria	Example evidence of meeting the criteria	Assessment
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	This is non-exhaustive and other evidence may be provided and considered as part of the assessment	
1. The extent to which the grant project will lead to growth	This grant scheme is designed to aid growth. Applications are likely to be scored higher where additional growth resulting from the grant project is detailed.	6 points
2. The extent to which the grant project will lead to innovation	The grant funding must help the funded enterprise to become more innovative. Applications will score higher where they have set out well developed and credible plans that detail: • The new product being brought to the business • The new product being brought to the market • The new service being brought to the business • The new service being brought to the market Applications may also detail a new process being brought to the business.	6 points
3. The extent to which the project will lead to decarbonisation	The grant scheme is designed to aid decarbonisation. • Does the project contribute to the business reducing costs • Does the project support working towards net zero emissions	6 points
4. Does the application show how the project supports the Local Council priorities	• Does the application show clearly how the project is directly linked to the Council's priorities? • Does the project contribute measurable or meaningful outcomes that support the delivery of the Council's priorities?	5 points
5. Does the application make the case for investment and why the	• Is there a robust rationale for public funding and why the funding can't be sourced elsewhere? • Is there evidence of what additionality will be brought about by the public funding – for example – that the project could be realised more quickly or bring about additional outputs?	4 points



grant is required?		4 points
6. Can the business fund the purchase and is the business low risk?	• Clear explanation about the source of match funding and that this has been confirmed • Company accounts are clear and credit rating is appropriate	
7. Has the project demonstrated that it is deliverable?	• It is clear that the project can be delivered in the timescale. • Appropriate risks for the project have been identified	4 points Projects must score a minimum of 75% overall to be shortlisted.

Stage 3: Selection

- Projects will be provided with a combined overall score in accordance with the methodology above.
- Projects which score over the minimum threshold of 75% will be presented to the grant panel for a final decision
- Projects which then are approved by panel will be awarded in order of score until the funds allocated have been fully allocated.