

North West Manufacturing Growth Service

GMBS Ltd

What does it do?

We provide impartial advice to help you assess your opportunities and barriers to growth, and we offer a grant towards the cost of bringing in specialist expertise for eligible projects. The objectives of the fund are to drive job creation, the introduction and launch of new products and to improve productivity.

Our advisors know the manufacturing and engineering sector; they'll work with you to understand your growth ambitions, walk your site and get to grips with any challenges you face. They'll help to scope out a project where input from a specialist consultant could unlock your growth ambitions, and they'll help you find the right provider to work with.

For eligible projects, we'll provide a grant for 30% of the costs. We're looking to support relatively significant projects with a value of around £10k which would attract a grant of £3k. Eligible projects include those that lead to job creation, help to develop new products or services and bring them to market, plus drive up productivity.

What will the benefits be?

The project will support you by providing a specialist Manufacturing Advisor to carry out an on-site review of your key barriers and opportunities for growth, setting out recommendations and identifying particular actions that will unlock growth and help achieve improvements in productivity and competitiveness. A grant is then available towards the cost of bringing further specialist advice into the business; typically projects are £10K in value and will attract a £3K grant. The scope of projects eligible for grant support covers: innovation, sales strategies, business systems, operational efficiency and excellence. Projects must drive job creation, introduce new processes internally or new products to market, and drive up productivity. Where actions are suitable for a grant, the project will support you to create a detailed specification of work and to identify potential providers.

How do I access the service?

To apply for funding, you'll need to speak to one of our specialist advisors. First they'll check you're eligible to receive support from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), then they'll visit you on-site to understand more about your growth ambitions and the steps you want to take to deliver those ambitions.

They'll act as an impartial set of eyes in your business, helping to identify and define a consultancy project that will unlock your potential and could be suitable for grant support. They'll also help you search the marketplace, securing three quotes and selecting the most suitable expert for your business.

From there, you'll complete a grant application form, setting out the scope, timeline, cost and intended results of your project. Successful applications will be those that help to create jobs, introduce new products or services to your customers, reach new markets or drive up productivity.