

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
GEARING UP FOR GROWTH GRANTS PANEL
HELD ON 31ST JULY, 2019
AT NELSON TOWN HALL**

PRESENT –

Councillor M. Iqbal – Chairman (In the Chair)

Panel Members

Councillor D. Clegg

Councillor S. Cockburn-Price

Neil Watson

Planning, Economic Development and Regulatory Services Manager

Kevin Clark

Orvia

Officers in attendance

Paul Collins

Business Support Team Leader (PBC)

Hassan Ditta

Employer Engagement Officer (PBC)

Deborah McCarthy

Assistant Economic Development Officer (PBC)

Lynne Rowland

Committee Administrator



9. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Councillors were reminded of the legal requirements concerning the declaration of interests. Other members of the Panel were also asked to declare any interest as appropriate.

10. MINUTES

AGREED

That the Minutes of this Panel, at a meeting held on 20th June, 2019 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

11. BUDGET UPDATE

The Panel was advised that there was a balance of £12,520 remaining in the Gearing up for Growth Budget.

The applications for consideration at this meeting exceeded this amount, therefore the Panel agreed to discuss each application in full prior to making a decision.

12. APPLICATIONS FOR START-UP GRANTS

The Panel was provided with a project summary and an overview of the business with regard to the following applications for a start-up grant. In reaching their decision, the members of the Panel considered the business plan and received information on what the requested grant was to be spent on.

(a) Appraisal 1 – CR – T/A LSC, Colne

Orvia had provided the applicant with business support.

AGREED

That a start-up grant of £1,825.00 be awarded to CR- T/A LSC.

REASON

The business appears sustainable and will contribute to the Council's priorities of creating jobs and sustaining strong economic growth.

(b) Appraisal 2 – JD – T/A JDRP, Nelson

Orvia had provided the applicant with business support.

AGREED

That a start-up grant of £1,997.00 be awarded to JD – T/A JDRP.

REASON

The business appears sustainable and will contribute to the Council's priorities of creating jobs and sustaining strong economic growth.

13. APPLICATIONS FOR GRANTS FOR GROWTH

The Panel was provided with a project summary, including information on the background of the company, and a breakdown of investment costs, with regard to the following application –

(a) Appraisal 1 – TMM, Colne

TMM had stated that 40 full time equivalent jobs would be created over the next two years, but most of these would be outside of Pendle.

AGREED

That the application for a growth grant be refused.

REASON

- (1) *The business model is not sustainable.***
- (2) *The majority of the jobs will not be retained in Pendle.***

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Business Support Team Leader reported that the Policy and Resources Committee had recently agreed funding for the delivery of the Pendle Business Awards 2020, which would be outsourced to a suitable delivery partner, as with the 2018 event.

Gearing up for Growth Grants Panel (31.07.2019)

The tendering process was due to begin shortly. The outcome would be reported to a future meeting of the Panel.

He also reported that the possibility of developing Business Improvement Districts in Barnoldswick and Nelson was being explored. Work would commence on the Barnoldswick proposal shortly. However, it had been agreed to wait until the production of the Nelson Town Centre Masterplan before working on the Nelson proposal.

CHAIRMAN _____