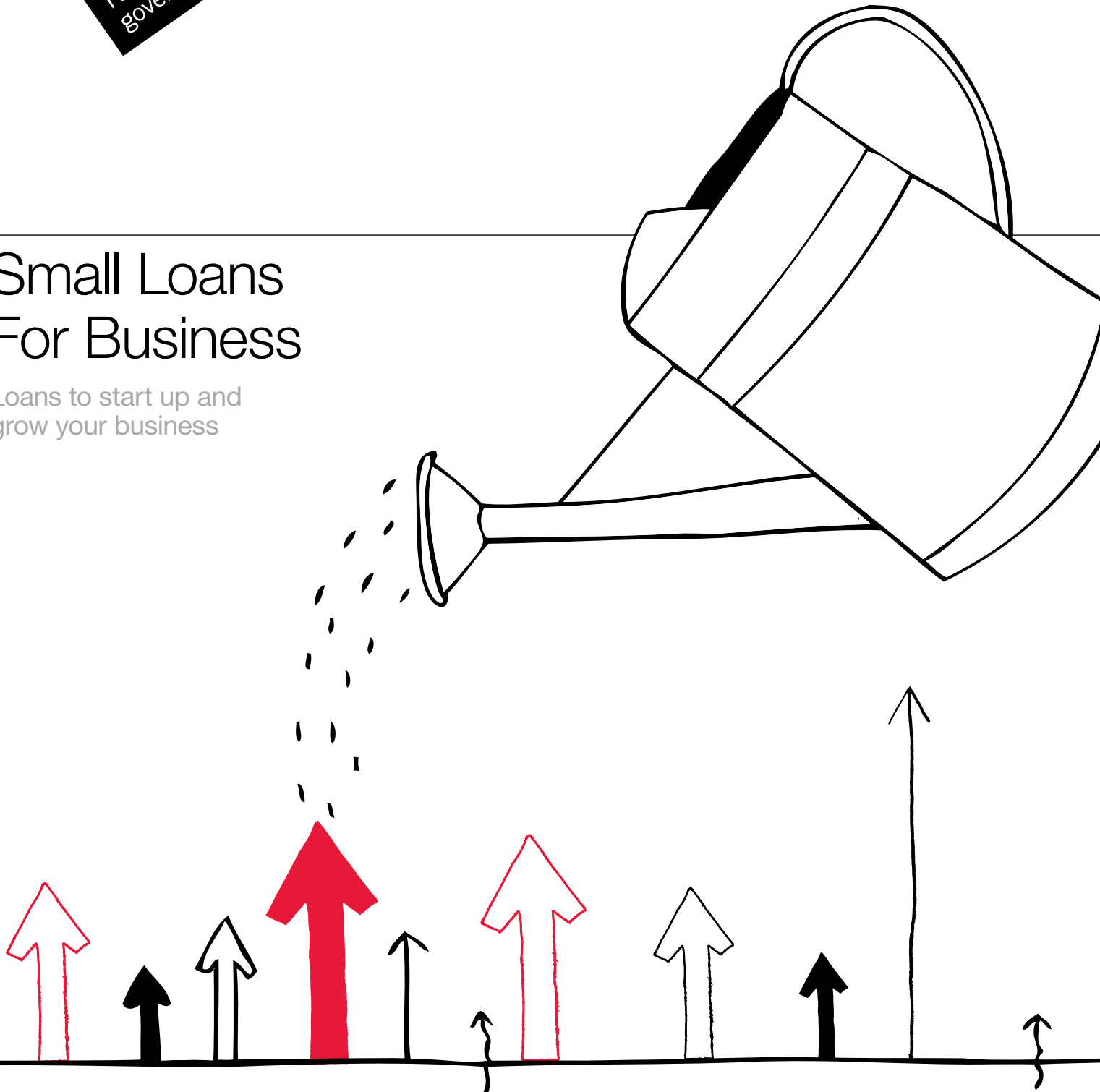


Solutions for Business

Funded by
government

Small Loans For Business

Loans to start up and
grow your business



Funded by

For more information about
Small Loans for Business,
visit www.nwda.co.uk/finance
or call **0871 384 1021**

Solutions for Business

Our Purpose

Solutions for Business is a suite of highly targeted, publicly funded products and services offering solutions to real business needs and tackling market failure.

Designed to drive qualifying businesses forward, it helps them to grow and succeed by providing help in a number of areas. These include starting up, understanding finance, developing people, environment and efficiency, exploiting ideas, international sales and marketing and growing your business.

Our Promise

Solutions for Business helps you make the most of business opportunities and challenges. By targeting public money at real business needs, it helps businesses create sustainable success.

Funded by



Small Loans for Business are funded by the Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA), the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and administered locally by five community development finance institutions on our behalf. The NWDA leads the economic development and regeneration of England's Northwest.



To apply for a Small Loan for Business, visit our Finance for Business website www.nwda.co.uk/finance or call **0871 384 1021**

For further information on the NWDA visit our corporate website www.nwda.co.uk

Further support



If you wish to discuss wider business support contact Business Link Northwest:
visit www.businesslink.gov.uk/northwest
or call **0845 00 66 888**

Small Loans for Business

What are Small Loans for Business?

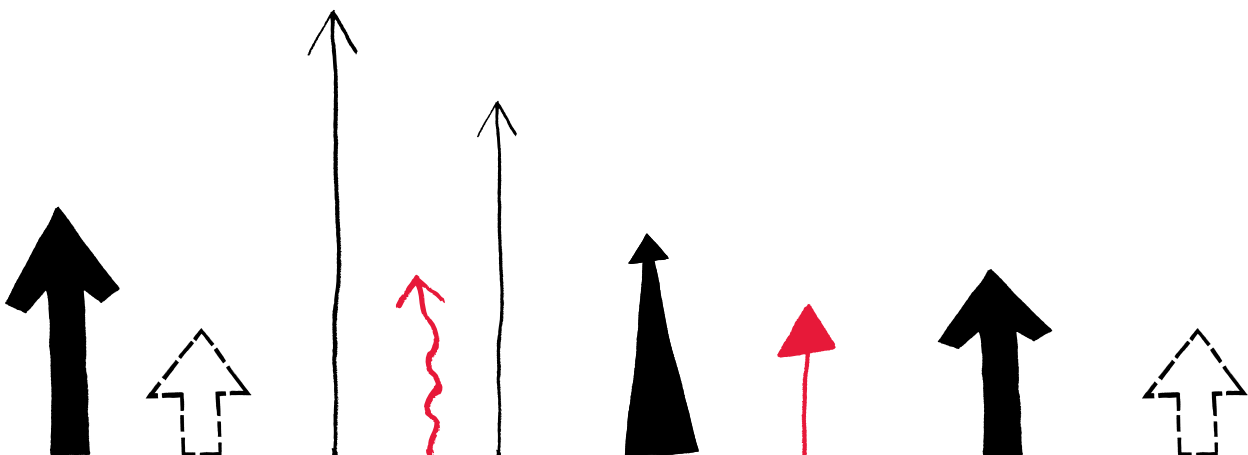
Small Loans for Business provide small loans of between £3,000 and £50,000 to new and growing businesses and social enterprises in the Northwest.

It was set up by the Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA) to encourage and make it easier for more people to start up and grow their own enterprises, creating jobs and contributing to the success of the Northwest economy.

The key benefits of small loans for business are:

- Finance for your business, usually unsecured
- Loan repayments to suit your needs including payment holidays
- Validation of your business plan
- Ongoing support to help you establish a track record

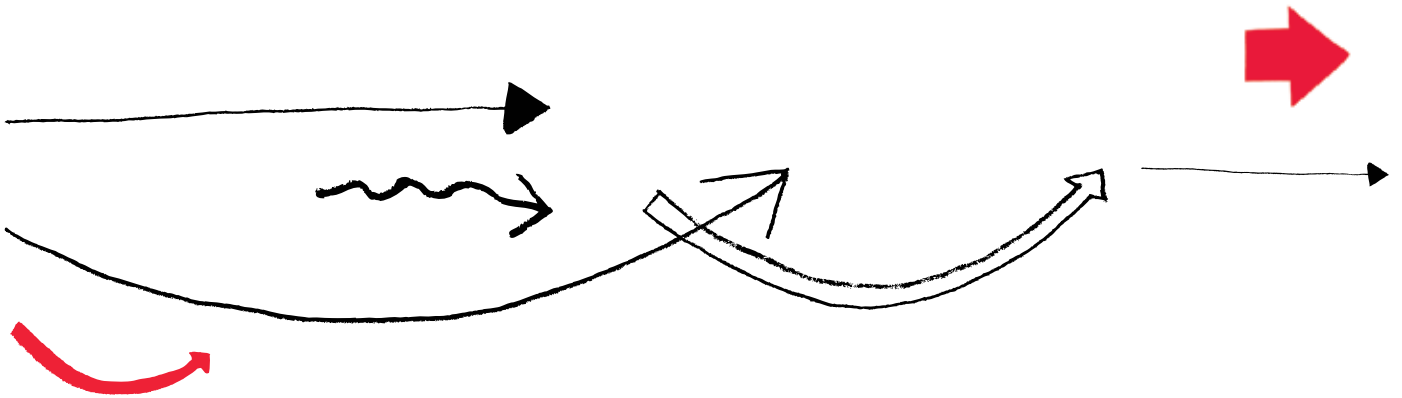
The scheme is funded by the NWDA, ERDF and private sector partners, so you can be assured that it's a credible and stable way to fund your organisation's growth.





Since receiving the loan we have been able to action a number of projects, building new tunnels enabling us to grow from seedlings for the wholesale plants market, and also to fund our new Coffee Shop. Things are going really well for us, despite the current economic conditions and without the funding we would certainly have not survived.

**David Hodkinson - Director
Acton Bridge Nursery and Shrub Centre**



Who is it aimed at?

The Small Loans for Business scheme is aimed at people already running or looking to start one of the following ventures:

- New or small business
- Social enterprise
- Not-for-profit organisation

The main criteria is that you have evidence that you have tried to obtain funding from traditional sources, such as a bank or a building society, but have been rejected.

As long as you've got a workable business plan, with the potential to turn your ideas into reality and create new jobs – even if it's just one or two – you could apply for a Small Loan for Business.

How does it work?

You can apply for any size of loan between £3,000 and £50,000. To do so, you'll need to complete an application form and return it to us, along with your business plan detailing what you need the loan for, so that we can evaluate your plans.

We'll judge your application solely on its business merits, the chances of success, growth potential and any jobs likely to be created.

If your application is successful, we will lend you the money for an agreed period of time, usually between three and five years. You can then use the money to help put your plans into action. The loan scheme is managed by our network of regional partner organisations. You'll automatically be assigned to the appropriate regional partner for your area. Or if your organisation is a social enterprise, to the specific partner that deals with your sector.

As with any loan, you'll be charged interest on the amount you borrow. You'll need to ensure that you have enough money to make the monthly repayments on your loan.

Am I eligible?

The Small Loans for Business scheme is open to anyone in the Northwest which covers Cheshire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Cumbria.

You'll need to prove that you've tried to obtain funding from elsewhere and been rejected, either fully or partially, perhaps due to a poor credit score, lack of security, insufficient track record or plans that traditional lenders consider to be too risky. If you can do that, then you can apply for a Small Loan for Business. Our decision on whether to offer you a loan is based on the viability of your current business plan and your ability to repay the loan, not on your past history.

The scheme is open to everyone, and we particularly welcome applications from women, minority groups and businesses in deprived areas.



How do I find out more?

To find out more, you can visit our website at www.nwda.co.uk/finance, where you can find more information on the scheme and complete an enquiry form online.

Alternatively, telephone us and we'll be happy to give you more information. Simply call **0871 384 1021** to speak to one of our advisors in your area. You could be just a phone call away from putting your business plans into action.

The offer of a loan is subject to acceptance. Terms and conditions reflect the circumstances of each individual business.

It was really straightforward to apply for a small loan for business. My contact was very helpful and easy to communicate with, and the whole process went very smoothly. The loan has helped us to invest in expanding the company. We've got big plans over the next few years and the loan will definitely help us to achieve them.

Nicki Bates
Nicki B children's clothing



For further information or to apply for
a Small Loan for Business contact:

0871 384 1021

www.nwda.co.uk/finance



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0845 00 66 888

www.businesslink.gov.uk/northwest



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