



Department  
for Business  
Innovation & Skills

Department for Business,  
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BIS reference: **13/0463**

Date: 18 April 2013

Dear Mr Smith

Thank you for your email of 8 April 2013 where you requested information about the Start-Up Loans scheme. Your request has been handled in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Information within scope of your request which is held by the Department for Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) or accessible to you by other means is provided at Annex A to this letter. Some of the information you requested is not held by the Department. As a private limited company acting on a commercial basis, the Start-Up Loans Company is not bound by the Freedom of Information Act.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to: [foi.requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foi.requests@bis.gsi.gov.uk).

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely

**Robert Freeman**

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills

## Annex A – FOI Request Response

### Partners

A full list of Delivery Partners is publicly available on the Start-Up Loans website and can be found here: <http://www.startuploans.co.uk/where-can-you-get-a-loan/>

As at the 8 April, the latest data we hold on loan delivery is from 1 March 2013:

- Total number of loans per Delivery Partner:
  - Biz Britain – 4
  - Bright Ideas Trust – 7
  - Brightside Trust – 2
  - Business Finance Solutions – 93
  - Business Support and Development – 15
  - Cloudspeed – 17
  - Community Development Finance Association – 10
  - Dreamstake Ltd – 1
  - East London SBC – 17
  - Elevation Networks – 27
  - Enterprise Loans East Midlands – 13
  - Fashion Angel – 2
  - Foundation East – 11
  - GLE One London – 16
  - Hull Business Development Fund – 18
  - Kaleioscope – 1
  - Lets Do Business Group – 35
  - Norfolk and Waveney Enterprise Services – 9
  - North London Community Finance – 50
  - Original Upstarts – 1
  - Project North East – 29
  - Riverside Credit Union – 5
  - Rockstar Youth – 102
  - School for Start Ups – 52
  - Sheffield – 1
  - South West Investment Group – 26
  - Start Up Direct – 49
  - The Prince's Trust – 160
  - University of the Arts – 1
  - WSX Enterprise – 2
  - Yorkshire Coast Enterprise – 5
  - Young Britain – 33

## Loans

- Regional split of loans (as of 1 March 2013):
  - London 27%
  - West Midlands – 15%
  - North West 12%
  - Yorkshire – 9%
  - South West – 8%
  - North East – 8%
  - East of England – 8%
  - South East – 7%
  - East Midlands – 6%

## Evaluation

- BIS requires all Delivery Partners to be assessed by a Delivery Partner Panel, as specified in the Grant Offer Letter, and for due diligence to be undertaken. Beyond this, appointment of partners is a matter for the Company.
- Responsibility for quality control also rests with the Company, across business support, credit management and mentoring. BIS expects all loan recipients to receive a high quality of mentoring, but does not require any particular method or approach to be employed.
- BIS requires an end of year report from the Company, which was not yet available as at the date of your request. The report is required to reflect on performance and spend. However, BIS does not require individual reports from delivery partners, which is a matter for the Company.
- The Government has commissioned a scoping study for evaluation of the scheme as a whole, including the pilot period. This will result in a more formal evaluation process, year on year, commencing 12 months on from the first approved loan made under the scheme (September 2012).

**All the other information you have requested is not held by BIS. The Start-Up Loans Company is a private, commercial organisation not under the control or direction of the Department, except as required under the grant offer letter for evidencing the proper use of State Funds in delivery of the programme.**

