

Swindon Enterprise Group

Mapping of Current Partner Activities

March 2007

Priority 1

Need to create an Enterprise Culture in Swindon via initiatives targeted at particular groups and locations.

Partner	Activity	Sub-Group
Young Enterprise	Enterprise training & awareness for school students <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Joseph's School (Business & Enterprise School) 	Youth
Young Enterprise	Swindon Community Enterprise Development Project, 2006-2009	
GWE	Innovation training and Development programme (rural Swindon only)	Rural
GWE	Business mentoring (rural Swindon only)	
South West RDA	Smart Business programme (rural Swindon only)	
Business Link	Women into Rural Business (Rural Swindon only)	Women
UBiS	Women into Enterprise programme as part of Small Business Hub.	
South West RDA	Women's Fund	
New College	Trade Union Learning reps, company based Direct Learning activities	Training
Young Enterprise	Swindon Community Enterprise Development Project, 2006-2009	Economic Inclusion
South West RDA/ Swindon BC	Developing economic inclusion project	
South West RDA/local learning providers	Provision of NVQ Level II in Neighbourhood Renewal Areas.	

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Priority 2

Need for provision of skills required by businesses.

Partner	Activity
New College	Courses for start up businesses
New College	Courses on ICT for business, Creative & Media, Sport & Leisure, and Science
New College	ICT COVE
Thames Valley Chamber	Training and seminars for business members
Business Link	Training for Start ups
LSC	Funding provision of business skills
Swindon College	Updating skills and knowledge of the local workforce
South West RDA/local learning providers	Provision of NVQ Level II in Neighbourhood Renewal Areas.
Cooperative Futures	Training for Social Enterprises

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Priority 3

Simplifying the range of business support on offer.

Partner	Activity
Business Link	Delivery of brokerage and diagnostic services to businesses.
South West RDA/ Government Office SW	Coordination of Business Support Simplification Programme in South West

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Priority 4

Creating business networks, sectors, and improving the interface between support agencies.

Partner	Activity	Sub-Group
Swindon BC / South West RDA & others	Secretariat of Swindon Strategic Economic Partnership and corresponding sub groups, incl. Swindon Enterprise Group	General Business Networks
Swindon BC	Database of senior contacts in major businesses, and arranging / supporting civic events for businesses.	
Thames Valley Chamber	Delivery of a range of services and events to support members	
Basepoint Business Centre and others	Provision of networking facilities and meeting rooms for hire	
Federation of Small Businesses	Delivery of a range of services and events to support members	
Business networking organisations	Business breakfasts and member lunches	
GWE	Wired West	Sectoral Networks & Support
GWE	ICT network	
Swindon BC	Analysis of the main sectors in the Swindon economy, and engagement with businesses to create clusters.	
Swindon BC	Financial support for sector based business networks	
Swindon BC, Business Link, SWERDA and others	W&S Destination Management Partnership for tourism businesses	
GWE	Bio-Approaches South West, providing support to bio tech sector	
Cooperative Futures	Sectoral expertise and support in; transport; community buildings; community retail; child care & social care; sustainability & the environment	
Swindon BC	Swindon Hoteliers Network & Attractions group	
Swindon BC & others	Swindon Cultural Partnership	
New College	ICT COVE	

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Priority 5

The availability of finance and support for start ups.

Partner	Activity
South West RDA	Fund South West Angels Investor Network (SWAIN)
South West RDA	Fund South West Ventures
GWE	Innovation training and Development programme (rural Swindon only)
Swindon BC / Business Link / GWE	Swindon New Business Competition
Workspace providers	Provision of managed workspace on easy-in & out terms
Business Link	Provide advice on accessing finance
Business Link	On-line enterprise information and guidance/tools
Business Link	Business Start up service, including training
GWE	New Entrepreneur Scholarship
GWE	Barclays 'Lets talk business' programme
New College	Courses for start ups
Cooperative Futures	Finance advice for start up Social Enterprises
Cooperative Futures	Pre-start information and advice for Social Enterprises

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Priority 6

Encouraging sustainable and growing businesses.

Partner	Activity	Sub-Group
Basepoint Business Centre, GWE and others	Provision of managed workspace space and virtual office space, including growth space	Business Support & Advice
GWE	Business mentoring (rural Swindon only)	
Business Link	IDB (Information, Diagnostics and Brokerage)	
Business Link	Growth advice service	
Business Link / South West RDA	Investment Ready service	
South West RDA	South West Manufacturing Advisory Service	
South West RDA	PhD Studentships (via GWR)	
Thames Valley Chamber	Training, seminars and legal advice for members	
South West RDA	Selective Finance Initiative for most sectors	
New College	Courses on saving energy	
Swindon BC	Encouraging local procurement	
Cooperative Futures	Business health checks for Social Enterprises	Best Practice
Thames Valley Chamber	Promoting and sharing best practice amongst businesses through events and through TVCC media	
Swindon BC / South West RDA	Assist businesses to export to China, particularly via Shenzhen twinning	Inward Investment and Exporting
South West RDA	Overseas Offices to enhance business links	
UKTI	Passport to Export	
Swindon BC / South West RDA	Assist inward investors – property and other advice	
Thames Valley Chamber	Arrange inward missions, and provide international trade and advice services (eg US and India).	
Thames Valley Chamber	Support for exporters	

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Priority 7

Supporting innovative businesses.

Partner	Activity
UbiS / South West RDA	Innovation Centre for ICT start ups
Basepoint Business Centre, GWE and others	Provision of managed workspace space and virtual office space
Business Link & others	SMART SME ICT programme (Rural Swindon only)
New College	ICT COVE

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Priority 8

Improving Swindon's image and reputation.

Partner	Activity
Swindon BC	Destination Swindon partnership – to improve Swindon's external image to investors, visitors, conferencing
Swindon BC	'Make the Connection' campaign to attract inward investment to Swindon
South West RDA	International marketing of the South West, incl referrals to Swindon
New Swindon Company	Attracting investment to the town centre

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Priority 9

Advice and Support for Social Enterprises and community based enterprise.

Partner	Activity
Cooperative Futures	Support for Social Enterprises (06/07 only)
Young Enterprise	Swindon Community Enterprise Development Project, 2006-2009
South West RDA/local learning providers	Provision of NVQ Level II in Neighbourhood Renewal Areas.
South West RDA/RISE	Funding support for RISE
Cooperative Futures	Legal Structure expertise for Social Enterprises
Cooperative Futures	Support to Swindon's two Credit Unions
Cooperative Futures	Improved access to funding for cooperatives
Cooperative Futures	Support to Swindon's two Credit Unions

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Economic and Labour Market Research

Partner	Activity
GWE	Social, Economic and Labour Market Research
Swindon BC	Analysis of key sectors Annual economic reports Annual property market evaluation
Swindon Intelligence Network	Collation of intelligence on Swindon, including economy.
UbiS M4 Bus. Resource	Company searches and library of business data and intelligence