

Strand 4: Enterprise Infrastructure

Name	Enterprise Infrastructure
Rationale	<p>One of the barriers to enterprise in Plymouth's deprived communities is the lack of available and appropriate workspace. Initiatives elsewhere in the region (such as Vantage Court in Torbay) have been successful in offering a range of services suitable for small scale entrepreneurs to enable them to "get out of the back bedroom".</p> <p>The survey of 125 local companies undertaken to inform the LEGI bid found that 'insufficient affordable business accommodation, including grow-on space' was ranked fourth in a list of barriers hindering growth potential.</p> <p>Consultation identified many communities that are geographically isolated from employment and business start-up opportunities. The group felt that that whilst some people are prepared to travel to access sites and premises, this presents a further barrier to engagement for the most hard to reach</p>
Objectives	To provide small scale workspace/support hub to support business start-ups and growth.
Key activities	<p>Development of infrastructure facilities based within, or easily accessible to, communities to support business start-up and growth.</p> <p>Potential services on offer could be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hot desks • Virtual tenancy • Desk tenancy • Office tenancy <p>It is essential that this provision is fully integrated with other strands of the SIF, and particularly used as a hub for the delivery of the enterprise support strand.</p>
Outputs	<p>350m2 new or upgraded floorspace - non specialist</p> <p>350m2 new or upgraded floorspace - specialist</p> <p>40 businesses assisted to improve their performance</p> <p>4 social enterprises assisted</p>
Outcomes	In overcoming one of the key barriers to business growth, the outcomes of this intervention would be increased GVA and jobs created.
Linkages	<p>There are significant opportunities to form strong linkages both within and outside the programme. Outwith the programme, there are opportunities to form linkages with both the Plymouth Works Plus' neighbourhood action teams and Business Links' outreach centres.</p> <p>Within the programme, it is vital that these centres offer a fully integrated service with client referral to other relevant SIF provision.</p>