

## Appendix 4: Business Support Grant

### Summary of scheme:

The scheme provides funding for small and medium sized businesses in areas directly or indirectly affected by flooding in Winter 2013/14 and that suffered a significant loss of trade as a result. It is designed to support business recovery plans, and will be delivered in accordance with Government Guidance Note *Flood Support Schemes*. It applies to all types of non-domestic hereditaments (properties) other than those occupied by Winchester City Council, Hampshire County Council, Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, Hampshire Police and Crime Commissioner, and Parish Councils

### Definitions

**Direct impacts:** the business has suffered direct damage and loss to premises, equipment and /or stock and has been unable to trade normally, as a result of flooding.

**Indirect impacts:** the business has had no or highly limited access to premises, equipment and/or stock as a result of flooding, restricted access to customers and suppliers, and suffered significant loss of trade.

### Eligibility:

- The business must have suffered hardship or significant loss of trade as a result of the adverse weather conditions between 1 December 2013 and 31 March 2014.
- The business may have been directly *or* indirectly affected by the flooding.
- The business must employ fewer than 250 people in total.
- The premises which are the subject of the grant application must be located in the Winchester District.
- The application must be made by the business owner or a senior manager where appropriate.
- The application must relate to measures which support the development and implementation of business recovery plans.
- Eligible costs include immediate clean-up costs, materials, exceptional business costs (such as hire of drying equipment), non-recoverable insurance excesses for repair and replacement of buildings, equipment, stock, removal of debris, extra staff costs, structural surveys, security measures, exceptional costs to improve access to/for suppliers and customers, and temporary accommodation to enable the business to continue trading. Business continuity planning and marketing costs may also be covered.
- Only one application may be submitted by each affected business, but grants will be scaled to reflect the number of operational premises affected by the flooding.
- The premises that have been flooded must be within the Winchester District;

### Exclusions:

- The adverse impacts will be considered in the full context of all business activities undertaken at the property: very small or insignificant impacts will be ignored.

- Costs covered by insurance or other funding sources will not be met from this scheme.
- Routine business costs will not be met from this scheme.
- The scheme is not to be used for rewarding poor business practice (eg if the business has not put any insurance arrangements in place).
- Hardship arising from a cause other than the recent adverse weather conditions is not covered by this scheme.
- The scheme does not cover loss of trade suffered by business outside the areas directly affected by flooding.
- Properties that were empty at the time of flooding will not be considered.

#### Application Process:

- The scheme will be administered through Winchester City Council.
- Businesses should apply using the short form provided on the Council's website, including their NNDR account reference number and providing clear evidence of flooding or flood-related impacts at the premises, including photographs.
- The Council reserves the right to verify the evidence through a personal visit, through discussion with a Council Ward member or Parish Council official, or any other reasonable means.
- Decisions will be made on a case by case basis.
- Awards will be scaled according to the total grant funding available from Government.

#### Responsible Officer:

Assistant Director (Economy and Communities)