



Business Support In Perth & Kinross

Business Support Overview

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Key Partners

PKC Business Growth Team
PKC Skills and Employment Initiatives Team
Business Gateway
GrowBiz
Scottish Enterprise
Famous Grouse Ideas Centre

Membership Organisations

Perthshire Chamber of Commerce
Federation of Small Businesses

Advice & Support Offered

BUSINESS OPERATIONS

- Securing Commercial Premises and / or Land
- HR, Recruiting and Retaining Staff
- Risk Management and Business Continuity
- Supply Chain
- Cash Flow and Managing Finances
- Legal Advice

STRATEGY AND PLANNING

- Start-Up Advice
- Business Funding Advice
- Marketing Expertise
- Digital Skills Building

SECTOR ASSISTANCE

- Rural Business Support
- Independent Retailers & Restaurants
- Food & Drink Sector
- Tourism Sector
- Buying a Franchise

BUSINESS GROWTH

- Exporting
- Preparing for Expansion
- Relocation Within Perth & Kinross
- Franchising Your Business
- Angel Investing

Business Support in Perth & Kinross

In today’s ever-changing economic and social landscape finding the support and advice that is right for your company is crucial for business resilience and continued, long-term growth.

Perth & Kinross Council offers several business support functions for companies of all sizes and at all stages, as well as administering funding opportunities targeted at stimulating economic growth.

Services include dedicated support on improving local employability, sector specific advice for tourism, food & drink and retail, and advice around attracting inward investment.

This is achieved through a number of long-standing, successful partnerships with local business support providers and membership organisations.

Should you have any other business support requirements, please contact businessdevelopment@pkc.gov.uk

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National Funds

£150 million Investment Fund for Scotland

The Investment Fund for Scotland aims to drive sustainable economic growth by supporting innovation and creating local opportunity for new and growing businesses across Scotland.

The Investment Fund for Scotland offers a range of commercial finance options with smaller loans and debt finance from £25,000 to £2 million and equity investment up to £5 million. The fund covers the whole of Scotland, including rural, coastal and urban areas.

british-business-bank.co.uk

Scottish Venture Capital Fund

The Scottish Venture Fund invests in high growth potential, early-stage companies from start-up/spin-out, seeking funding to develop innovative products/services/business models and/or create or develop new markets.

Scottish Enterprise is a 'gap' funder, so businesses should seek to to maximise private sector investment before making an approach. Scottish Enterprise typically provides from £100,000 up to £2 million, as part of a total deal size typically ranging from £200,000 to £10 million.

scottish-enterprise.com

Regional Selective Assistance Funding

The Regional Selective Assistance Fund is a form of discretionary grant designed to encourage capital investment and job creation in assisted areas of Scotland, classified as Tier 2 and 3. Perth and Kinross is categorised as a Tier 3 area. RSAF can typically support up to 35% of the eligible costs for a small/medium sized enterprise (SME) and 15% of the eligible costs for a large enterprise.

Projects must last between 6 and 36 months, and the minimum grant considered is £100,000.

scottish-enterprise.com

Local Authority Delivered Funds

Green Capital Development Grant

The Green Capital Development Grant can offer up to £25,000 covering up to 50% of eligible costs. Project must be of minimum £10,000 (this equates to a minimum £5,000 match from the business) except for EV charging point applications.

This fund is available for capital expenditures (CapEx). These are funds used to acquire, upgrade, and maintain physical assets such as property, plants, buildings, technology, or equipment (excluding vehicles).

Contact **businessdevelopment@pkc.gov.uk** for further details.



“The Green Capital grant award made buying a canning line an immediate option, allowing us to increase our packaging efficiency by more than 400%, whilst also packaging into a more environmentally responsible format that itself generated a 40% increase in the sales rate and enabled us to fulfil large export deals.”

Jack Low & Conall Low
Wasted Degrees Brewing



PKC Business Growth Team

The PKC Business Growth Team is responsible for business development, the growth of the local economy, and inward investment through the Invest in Perth brand.

The team's key priority is to promote the area as a first-choice destination for business start-ups, head office relocations, and business expansion.

Offering targeted guidance for businesses seeking to operate or expand in the area, the team can assist you in securing a commercial property, navigating funding and incentive schemes, and in accessing new markets in the UK and overseas.

The team also works closely with partner organisations at a local, national and international level and can offer the introductions you require to grow your business.

investinperth.co.uk
businessdevelopment@pkc.gov.uk



Supporting
Business
Growth

Angel's Share

The Angel's Share is a business-to-business facilitation programme that partners growth-ready businesses with experienced business investors.

Focused on nurturing an area-wide culture of ambition and entrepreneurship, the programme considers factors such as industry experience, business personality, needs outwith funding and time available to invest. In doing this, we aim to maximise both the capital investment and the long-term business potential.

email: businessdevelopment@pkc.gov.uk



Supporting
Business
Growth

Perth City & Towns

Overseeing the marketing of Perth City and the surrounding towns, large events and football drivers, as well as tourism initiatives for the area as a whole, Perth City & Towns is the promotional arm of Perth & Kinross Council in terms of residents and visitors.

Offering promotional opportunities for retail and hospitality businesses, and visitor attractions via a multi-platform marketing strategy and vibrant, varied programme of events, the team is the first point of contact within PKC for this important sector.

The team manages the Perth City & Towns channels, perthcity.co.uk and represents the area on the Tay Countries Tourism Partnership.

perthcity.co.uk
placedevelopment@pkc.gov.uk



For Retail,
Hospitality and
Tourism

Perthshire Tourism Partnership (PTP)

The PTP was established to bring together public sector organisations and tourism groups based in Perthshire to discuss strategic themes relating to tourism.

The group is made up of local tourism associations, collaborative groups, public sector agencies including VisitScotland, Historic Environment Scotland, National Trust for Scotland, and Perth & Kinross Council, who are the main point of contact for the group's activities.

The group offers significant industry support including:

- Delivery of the Perthshire Tourism Action Plan 2021–2025
- Programming of the Perthshire Talks Tourism industry events and monthly member meetings.
- Managing the private Perthshire Facebook group, which has over 500 members.
- Links to Industry Relationship Managers at VisitScotland and other third party agencies.

Contact Suzanne Cumiskey

Email: SCumiskey@pkc.gov.uk



PKC Skills and Employment Initiatives Team

The Skills and Employment Initiatives Team provides an all-purpose, employability service to support business growth, through improved human capital and a wider skills agenda.

By offering a turnkey service that supports both business and job seeking clients, the team here can effectively and efficiently assist with job creation, recruiting and retaining staff, as well as providing advice on training, funding and employment schemes.

The team can also help create adverts for local vacancies and will share these via social media as well as sending to employability partners. Working in partnership with local employers, they offer Employer Recruitment Incentives providing funding for businesses looking to create new job opportunities for the people of Perth & Kinross.

pkc.gov.uk/article/15218/Skills-and-employment-initiatives

Contact the team by emailing:

skillsandemployment@pkc.gov.uk





“Having the support of PKC has helped us immensely. From our initial move to the Food & Drink Park to our most recent pitch via The Angel’s Share programme they have supported our vision and championed our efforts.”

Praveen & Swarna Kumar
Praveen Kumar Indian Ready Meals

Business Support Partners

Organisations offering local advice to businesses in Perth and Kinross.

Business Gateway, Perth and Kinross Team

Business Gateway offers support and advice to businesses of all sizes, and at all stages, through various means including one-on-one advisor support, digital boost training, and access to consultants and leading experts from across industry. The Perth team, based at the Creative Exchange in Perth City Centre, supports local companies at all stages of their business journey including:

- Start-Up – From an idea through to the end of the first year of trading.
- Early-Stage Growth – Businesses looking to employ staff within the first 18 months of trading and/or taking on premises.
- Business Boost – Businesses requiring support as they prepare and plan for future growth.
- Growth Advisory Service – Businesses on a growth projectile which includes expansion or exporting outside Scotland.

bgateway.com/local-offices/perth-and-kinross

Telephone: 01738 448310

Email: perthandkinross@bgateway.com



GrowBiz

GrowBiz provides a range of information and enterprise support services for small and micro-businesses in rural Perth and Kinross. It is recognised that rural businesses have a unique set of challenges on an ongoing basis, and this community-based, enterprise support service aims to deliver specific expertise in overcoming these barriers.

- 1 to 1 sessions and mentoring.
- Access to peer learning and events.
- Online and physical networking events.
- Advice on funding support.

growbiz.co.uk



Scottish Enterprise

As the national economic development agency, and non-departmental public body of the Scottish Government, Scottish Enterprise supports businesses of all sizes and from start-up to established.

- Account Management – tailored specialist support for product/services, process and workplace innovation, digital, sustainability, and international trade.
- SME Growth Service – Specialist support for companies with projects to achieve more quality jobs, increased innovation, productivity, investment, and exports.
- Tailored funding packages, grants and loans to facilitate growth depending on the size of the business.

scottish-enterprise.com



The Famous Grouse Ideas Centre

The Famous Grouse Ideas Centre (FGIC) within Perth's Creative Exchange presents a wealth of opportunities and support for individuals and SMEs working in the creative, digital, and technical sectors.

Offering a range of technical and digital equipment to conceive and test ideas, and to find solutions to commercial and civic challenges, this purpose-built space has been designed to support creative thinking, and to inspire entrepreneurship and business growth.

In addition to this, the FGIC also provides a flexible space for seminars, meetings and workshops centred around innovation, skills development, and economic, social, and cultural growth.

Support is free of charge but must be booked in advance.

- Cutting-edge technology
- Creative software
- Flexible meeting and event space
- Ongoing education and skills development programmes

If you are in the creative industries, or are an SME developing an idea, project, business or product and would like to find out more, please email:

fgic@pkc.gov.uk



Membership Organisations

Connect with the wider business community.

Perthshire Chamber of Commerce

Perthshire Chamber of Commerce (PCC) is an independent, non-profit making, non-political business membership organisation. Its focus is on championing the issues that matter to its members, helping promote and protect the interests of local businesses, and ensuring the economic future for the communities of Perthshire.

Perthshire Chamber caters for all sizes, from sole traders up to some of the area's largest international employers, for all sectors, and from start-ups to those already well established including both rural and urban. Perthshire Chamber is the local part of Scottish Chambers of Commerce, Scotland's largest and most influential business-to-business network.

perthshirechamber.co.uk
info@perthshirechamber.co.uk



Federation of Small Businesses

FSB is the UK's largest grassroots business campaigning group, which ensures the voice of small business is heard at the highest level across the UK. It provides multiple business services and products to its members including a legal protection scheme, PR and crisis management, cyber protection, debt recovery and health and safety advice.

fsb.org.uk
mike.duncan@fsb.org.uk



Should you have any business support requirements that you feel have not been addressed in this document, please contact businessdevelopment@pkc.gov.uk and a member of the team will be in touch.



InvestⁱⁿPerth

As the inward investment arm of Perth & Kinross Council, Invest in Perth is committed to driving economic growth through continuous business support.

investinperth.co.uk