

## **SMART Partnerships**

## How does the SMART Partnerships scheme work?

SMART Partnerships provide financial support to collaborative and innovative projects that are in need of a range of expertise to support business growth, improve productivity and increase competitiveness.

The scheme has a clear focus on increasing the capacity and capabilities of Welsh businesses to develop R&D activities by linking them with research organisations and an associate to help work on a project which develops new services, products and processes.

The funding for these projects is part-funded by the Welsh Government. Funding will support 50% of the total eligible project costs. The business partner shall provide the remaining balance of the total eligible projects costs. The funding will be awarded to the research organisation. Duration of projects can last between 6-12 months.

The objective of SMART Partnerships is to support collaborative projects by facilitating the transfer of knowledge and technology regarding R&D as well the spread of technical and business skills. Additionally, SMART Partnerships has the objective of stimulating and enhancing business relevant R&D and training. Collaborative R&D allows businesses and researchers to work together to allow new innovations to emerge in important areas of science, technology and engineering.

## Is it for you?

Your ambition is to produce successful new products, processes and services that will contribute to business and economic growth. You have a collaborative project that requires expertise to grow your business, improve your productivity and increase your competitiveness. The project is business driven with a Welsh SME that can clearly demonstrate the capacity and resource to exploit the outcomes of the project.

## Who can take part?

Collaborative parties consisting of a Welsh SME business and a Welsh Research organisation. The project must be able to demonstrate that public sector funding is required.

To find out if you are eligible, read more about SMART Partnerships at https://businesswales.gov.wales/ expertisewales/smartpartnerships

To find out more about SMART Partnerships | 03000 6 03000 innovation@gov.wales | business.wales.gov.uk/expertisewales





