

## Creative Enterprise Hub

Managed in England by the Department for Communities and Local Government, European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) focuses on reducing economic disparities within and between EU member states by supporting economic regeneration and safeguarding jobs. The fund has helped a wide variety of projects from large scale public works to small local initiatives, with over €8billion to be invested in England alone by 2013.

### Project overview

Managed by Leicester City Council as part of the LCB Depot, the Creative Enterprise Hub project provides a range of business support to the creative industries through Leicester.

The project, which was funded from July 2010 to March 2012 (this end date is under review), provided packages of support to help people start their own creative businesses or assist their existing creative businesses to grow.

This support included access to six months of shared workspaces and IT facilities, and access to other support including advice, coaching, tailored workshops, a business postal address and networking opportunities.

### Project funding

The total reassessed project value of the Creative Enterprise Hub was £312,371. Match funding for the ERDF investment came from Leicester City Council's Working Neighbourhoods Fund with an ERDF intervention rate of 62.72%.

### Learning points

The most important lessons the Creative Enterprise Hub learned through their experience of ERDF funding was that it is useful to have suitably qualified and

experienced people to support the project in order to deliver the best results and provide the best support for the project's beneficiaries. It is also important to give yourself as much time as possible to complete the project's paperwork.

### For further information on the Creative Enterprise Hub visit

[www.lcbdepot.co.uk/creative-enterprise-hub](http://www.lcbdepot.co.uk/creative-enterprise-hub).

### For further information on One East Midlands visit

[www.oneeastmidlands.org.uk](http://www.oneeastmidlands.org.uk). For further information on EMFAN visit [www.emfan.org.uk](http://www.emfan.org.uk).

### For further information on ERDF visit

[www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/regenerationfunding/europeanregionalevelopment](http://www.communities.gov.uk/regeneration/regenerationfunding/europeanregionalevelopment).