

Partnership Name: Enterprise Agency

Lead Member: Cllr J Fergus

Lead Officer: Paul Wilding/Sue Berresford

Corporate Plan Priority: To Grow the Economy

Dates covered by the report: June 2008

Progress Report

About the Agency

Response to Credit Crunch: The Enterprise Agency is hosting a special seminar for businesses in Teesdale and Wear Valley at Auckland Castle on the 28th November 2008 "The Financial Crash: Business Difficulties and Opportunities" – this will lead to specialist advice on how to survive the economic downturn. One-to-one business support continues for any business requesting assistance-.

The Enterprise Agency exists to encourage and support the development of a stable and diverse local economy.

The Agency is a not for profit organisation offering a range of support services, business counselling, advice, training and consultancy. They deliver models of best practice and skills development to start and improve enterprises.

The Agency has delivered a broad range of publicly funded business support projects. TEA has a reputation for quality, innovation and continuous improvement within the field of business support. The Agency has experience of fund management & has helped clients access over £1.5 million of grant funding in the last 3 years.

The Agency is currently involved in developing and delivering a broad range a business support projects, as follows:

- Workshops for start-up businesses
- Business mentoring
- Website support and creation
- Working with retailers to deliver the Retail Distinctiveness Action Plan
- Enterprise Coaching
- Enterprise Essentials Workshops

Organisation

The Agency is headed up by a Chief Executive, reporting to a Board of Directors made up of key people from the regional community and businesses. The Agency has 26 members of staff include a team of Business Advisors, Specialists, Managers and Administrators.

The Agency is also closely involved with a number of stakeholders including:

Local - Clients

Wear Valley District Council
Teesdale District Council
BA College
2D
UTASS
Teesdale Marketing
Learning Partnership
Teesdale LSP (Economic Theme Group)
Wear Valley LSP (Forum for Business)
MTI Wear Valley

Sub regional

CDEP
Co. Durham Development Co.
Co. Durham Enterprise Agencies
Learning & Skills Council
Acumen Trust
a4e Consulting

Regional & National

NFEA
ONE NorthEast
Government Office North East
BLNE
NEABDA
Pathfinder

