

<https://www.blackcountrylep.co.uk/funding/growth-deal-fund/>

Growth Deals provided funds to local enterprise partnerships for projects that benefit the local area and economy, the Local (Black Country) Growth Deal closed on the 31 of March 2021, and now is in outputs delivery and monitoring stage.

The Local Growth Deal published on 7 July 2014 announced the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership was successful in securing £103,400,000 from Central Government's Local Growth Fund (being the funding stream from Central Government which provides Growth Deal funding) to support economic growth in the Black County up to 2021, including a number of capital projects that would unlock growth for the area, with £25,800,000 of new funding confirmed for 2015/16 and £77,600,000 for 2016/17. With the Growth Deal Expansion and the pre-committed Local Transport Board Funding, there was a total investment of £162m of Growth Deal Funding between 2015 and 2021. This substantial investment from Central Government is anticipated to bring forward at least £312 million of additional investment from local partners and the private sector, to create a combined total new investment package of £451 million for the BCLEP.

By 2025, the Growth Deal is anticipated to create:

- 5,000 new jobs;
- Over 1400 new homes;
- 3,200 additional businesses helped to grow;
- 7,000 additional learners supported to develop skills needed by businesses.

Local Growth Fund investment aim is to drive business growth, give people new skills, test new innovations, invest in transport infrastructure and the regeneration of key sites for housing and employment in the Black Country. The focus is on maximising the economic impact of growth opportunities from the automotive, aerospace and construction sectors, capitalising on the Black Country's key strengths in advanced manufacturing.

The Growth Deal will bring together local, national and private funding as well as new freedoms and flexibilities to focus on four key priority areas as identified in the LEP's Strategic Economic Plan:

- Raising Employability, Education and Skills
- Improving Black Country Business Competitiveness
- Transforming the Black Country Infrastructure and Environment
- Improving Transport Infrastructure

State Aid

From 01 July 2016 to 31 December 2020, under mandatory State aid transparency rules, information on aid awards is publicly accessible via European Commission's Transparency Aid Module (TAM) - <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/competition/transparency/>.

Subsidy Control

To the extent that the provision of funding referred to above constitutes a subsidy as defined by the UK-EU Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) the scheme outlined above is designed with the

objective of complying with the TCA and the UK Government's guidance on the UK's international obligations on subsidy control. In all cases prior to the providing funding an assessment will be conducted to ensure where a subsidy is provided this is in accordance with the principles set out at Article 366 of the TCA .