

## Innovation and Resilience Fund Round 3 Successful Applicants

In Round 3 of the Innovation and Resilience Fund – funded through the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF)– applicants could apply for up to £30,000 for projects to improve their productivity and/or create high value employment. The list below provides details of the eighteen applicants who were successful in securing funding, including their grant award.

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Grant Award</b>
<b>Axminster Tool Centre</b>	<b>£30,000</b>
Axminster Tool Centre's project is to manufacture and secure the supply chain of their own wooden and composite components which are currently purchased from around the world. To operate the machine to be purchased via match funding, the business requires the fit out of a new workshop, for which they have received funding.	
<b>Beer Water</b>	<b>£13,748</b>
Beer Water received funding to improve their production system by purchasing equipment to increase their production capacity by 1200%. With this increased capacity, they are planning to serve larger clientele.	
<b>Care with Kindness</b>	<b>£12,736</b>
Care With Kindness received funding to create a training centre for new entrants and existing staff within the health and social care sector, enabling them to access the required qualifications (up to Level 7) to progress. It will be a fully functioning and realistic training space, modelled on a domestic setting, equipped with a hospital bed, hoists, showering and toileting equipment, and a comprehensive range of first aid equipment.	
<b>Chunk of Devon</b>	<b>£12,000</b>
Chunk of Devon's project involves the purchase of superior cooking equipment that will enable them to create new products. The new cooking station will allow them to utilise new cooking processes, such as Sous-Vide, to deliver limited edition ranges at a higher quality than the current output. They will also have the option of running larger batches, resulting in increased supply for limited run products.	
<b>Colmer Ecology</b>	<b>£8,839</b>
Colmer Ecology provides ecological services, including bat surveys. They obtained funding to purchase thermal cameras and associated equipment to review the videos, including additional higher end computers and software packages. This equipment will improve the quality of the video recorded and reduce the time taken to review and analyse the videos by 50%.	
<b>Cuckoo Down Childcare</b>	<b>£30,000</b>
Cuckoo Down Childcare Ltd offers farm-based daycare for children aged nine months to five years. They received funding to convert a nearby agricultural building into additional nursery space. This will enable them to become a full nursery and take on additional staff.	
<b>Cupine Embroidery</b>	<b>£5,480</b>
Cupine Embroidery is a small home-based creative business. Their project is designed to improve business resilience and production by investing in a second industrial embroidery machine to work alongside the first. The investment in a second machine will effectively double the current output, increasing production significantly, whilst also improving competitiveness.	
<b>East Devon Land Management</b>	<b>£7,162</b>
East Devon Land Management received funding for a towable wood milling bandsaw to process trees into planked timber. They will be able to convert the fallen trees they remove as part of their standard operations into useable timber. The business plans to sell the crafted timber, reducing the costs of acquiring items such as gateposts for projects, and attracting new clientele.	

<b>Fortis Clothing</b>	<b>£13,836</b>
Fortis Clothing have received funding for manufacturing equipment to ramp up production in their cutting and heat-sealing processes. These upgrades will create two new positions as they will be able to fulfil more wholesale orders. The acquisition of a new heat-sealing machine will nearly double the number of linings they can seal daily, and an advanced cutting table will streamline fabric handling, making it safer and faster to operate.	
<b>G Trott Tree Consultancy</b>	<b>£5,450</b>
G Trott Tree Consultancy's project involves the acquisition of advanced decay detection equipment to enhance their arboricultural consultancy services. The project activities include the purchase of the equipment, training on its use, and integration into current services.	
<b>Gathered and Grown</b>	<b>£13,528</b>
Gathered and Grown is a small, rural business based that produces regenerative, chemical-free herbal teas using home-grown and dried ingredients. They received funding to purchase a sub-compact tractor with loader, trailer, and flail mower, which will increase productivity by enabling much faster, more efficient, creation and maintenance of no-dig herb beds, as well as better management of wildlife habitats across their site.	
<b>Gluten Free Bakers</b>	<b>£18,000</b>
Gluten Free Bakers provide a range of sweet and savoury gluten free baked goods to both the business and consumer markets. Their project aims to bring automation to the manual tasks in production to ease bottlenecks, improve throughput, leading to an increased production capacity and margins.	
<b>Great Loxhill Vineyard</b>	<b>£25,000</b>
Great Loxhill Vineyard is an organic vineyard near Lypstone. They received funding to build an area with commercial access to host vineyard tours, tastings, and events, capitalising on the trend of agrotourism and offering visitors a unique and educational experience.	
<b>Kobocrete</b>	<b>£5,212</b>
Kobocrete's project is focused on upscaling their polished concrete product manufacturing capability. Their project will enable Kobocrete to safely and effectively manufacture larger/heavier sections of polished concrete which they cannot currently manufacture due to lifting and transporting constraints for which specialised equipment is required.	
<b>Powderkeg</b>	<b>£18,000</b>
Powderkeg developed a trial cask product, "Idler", that has a lower ABV rating. They received funding scale this up, providing production capacity and reusable casks for stock holding and servicing customers.	
<b>RP Lyme Regis</b>	<b>£30,000</b>
RP Lyme Regis manufacture chilli crisp and sell to a small number of farm shops within Devon. They received funding to improve the process and move from a hand-cooking and filling system to a near fully mechanised production line, increasing production in East Devon to serve the whole of the UK market.	
<b>Vigo Presses</b>	<b>£29,782</b>
Vigo Presses provide contract packing solutions for small to mid-sized drinks producers. They are relocating to a larger area within their Dunkeswell facility to grow. They received funding to provide a food-safe refit to their building to house their canning line plus a new bottling line. The larger facility will allow the operation of canning and bottling lines concurrently.	
<b>Whitehall Farms</b>	<b>£14,000</b>
Whitehall Farm have a flock of Gotland sheep and aim to create living rugs and blankets which involve felting rather than tanning. They have received funding to develop courses for people to make their own rugs.	

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