

**Audit of Economic Development services provided by TVBC's family of local authorities**

The economic developments comprise:

Business Support:

- business grants
- expert advice
- support for networking and events
- procurement support (helping businesses trade with councils)
- newsletters etc.
- general liaison with businesses e.g. visits

Skills/Training/Apprenticeships

Tourism:

- supporting a tourist information centre
- providing a destination management organisation
- marketing

Town Centres:

- providing markets, events etc.
- organising a Business Improvement District (BID)
- promoting town centre redevelopment schemes

Rural e.g. LEADER programmes

Premises:

- funding enterprise centres
- attracting inward investment

## Annex 2

### Comments by businesses which have received Andover Skills Training Fund made in 2015 survey

- allowed staff to grow and develop in correlation with the business
- enhanced company reputation
- now able to offer services that no other clinic in the area is able to.
- great way to offer opportunities to staff
- allowed them to be far more commercially marketable
- greater confidence. Training been a great success
- allowed them to offer a wider and more extensive clinical service
- “The training programme has completely changed the culture of the business, made the staff happier, increased productivity, increased loyalty, increased skillset at all levels and 28% increase in sales. I cannot describe how different the business is today compared with the staff of 2014...”
- the staff who have completed the training have had their confidence levels raised and their self esteem
- annual turnover has increased by £1.1m and the company has benefitted hugely from the grant.
- very important to the business to attract more customers and employ more staff.
- been able to cut down on the cost of using sub-contracted electrical engineers by carrying out a lot of basic installation and wiring themselves.
- enhancing the skills and technical ability of the trainee.
- supported development of existing employee, management skills to enable senior position.
- allowed for fantastic opportunities for their company to expand and move forward
- given employees more confidence and increased their skills
- more business due to additional skills
- allowed current employees to improve their skills

- “Funding was really appreciated” “new skills acquired” “modest increase on revenue”
- staff have benefitted from some excellent training, which would not have been possible without the ASTF and is much appreciated.
- great benefit to their company
- “...helped us clarify our company strategy.” “Operate more effectively and...made everyday business decisions more easy to make.” “Helped our promotional strategy be clearer.” “Very useful indeed”