



**SUSTAINABLE  
ADVANCED  
MANUFACTURING**

# HELP FOR SME MANUFACTURERS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

**In response to the global Covid-19 pandemic, the Sustainable Advanced Manufacturing (SAM) Project is adapting its support for manufacturing SMEs in the North East.**

We are making some changes to our grant fund during this unprecedented time to ensure it better responds to the challenges SME manufacturers now face. The SAM Project is making additional funding available into its grant fund. Two new funds will replace the original grant fund, which will be used to support companies during this pandemic. The decision has been made to reduce the maximum grant allocation per company to £10,000 to allow us to support as many companies as we can.

## **THE TWO NEW GRANT FUNDS ARE AS FOLLOWS:**

1. A grant fund for manufacturing SMEs in the North East making PPE for the NHS or other frontline healthcare teams. Match funding grants are available up to £10,000\* (terms and conditions apply)
2. A grant fund for manufacturing SMEs to help them diversify, adapt and stay in business and operational during and after Covid-19. Match funding grants are available up to £10,000\* (terms and conditions apply).





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## SUSTAINABLE ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

### GRANT FUND 1

The Sustainable Advanced Manufacturing (SAM) Project has created a new grant fund for manufacturing SMEs in the North East making PPE for the NHS and frontline healthcare professionals.

This grant programme will make available upon application up to £10,000 in match funding for North East LEP based manufacturing SMEs that are making PPE for the NHS and frontline workers. This is a grant at a 50% rate in County Durham and 40% rate in Tyne and Wear and Northumberland.

Companies can claim for the defrayed cost of materials being used for the manufacture of such PPE, which are not being sold at a profit and are being provided to the NHS and other essential public services free of charge, or at an 'at cost' rate\*.

\*The materials must have been bought after 1 March, for PPE manufacture only, to be eligible.

### GRANT FUND 2

The Sustainable Advanced Manufacturing (SAM) Project has adapted its grant fund for manufacturing SMEs in the North East to support companies to diversify, adapt and stay in business and operational during and after Covid-19.

Applications can be for new capital equipment, resources or other expenditure (excluding working capital such as salaries, rent or rates) to help their company survive, innovate, adapt and sustain themselves through the crisis.

Examples could be the purchase of laptops to enable staff to work from home, buying capital kit to help them diversify their income and stay afloat or taking advantage of changes in market conditions.

Businesses in County Durham can access up to 50% matched-funding, while those in Tyne and Wear and Northumberland receive 40%.

**An expression of interest form will be made available in the coming days. In the interim, please contact [sam.project@sunderland.ac.uk](mailto:sam.project@sunderland.ac.uk) to submit your interest.**