



# CREATE GROWTH UPDATE

JANUARY 2023

Welcome to the first update of the East Midlands Create Growth programme. January will focus on two main activities:

- Innovate UK funding competition
- Applications to join the first cohort of businesses

Both are available to Creative Businesses based in Leicestershire, Derbyshire, Rutland and Lincolnshire. **You are welcome to apply to either or both.**

## Innovate UK Create Growth Funding competition

Innovate UK will invest approximately £3m across six regions, including the East Midlands counties included in Create Growth. Grants of between £10,000 and £30,000 will be made for innovation projects to grow business.

To support applications, EMC<sup>2</sup> will be hosting an online workshop led by a previously successful Innovate UK funding applicant to offer advice and guidance.

The online workshop on-line event will be held on January 18 at 10:00am and you can book on here:

[Event Details for Create Growth Funding Competition event \(evolutive.co.uk\)](https://evolutive.co.uk)

The event will be followed by the opportunity to receive 1-2-1 support via a limited number of sessions, supported by funding experts.

Further information about the competition and eligibility can be found on the DCMS website:

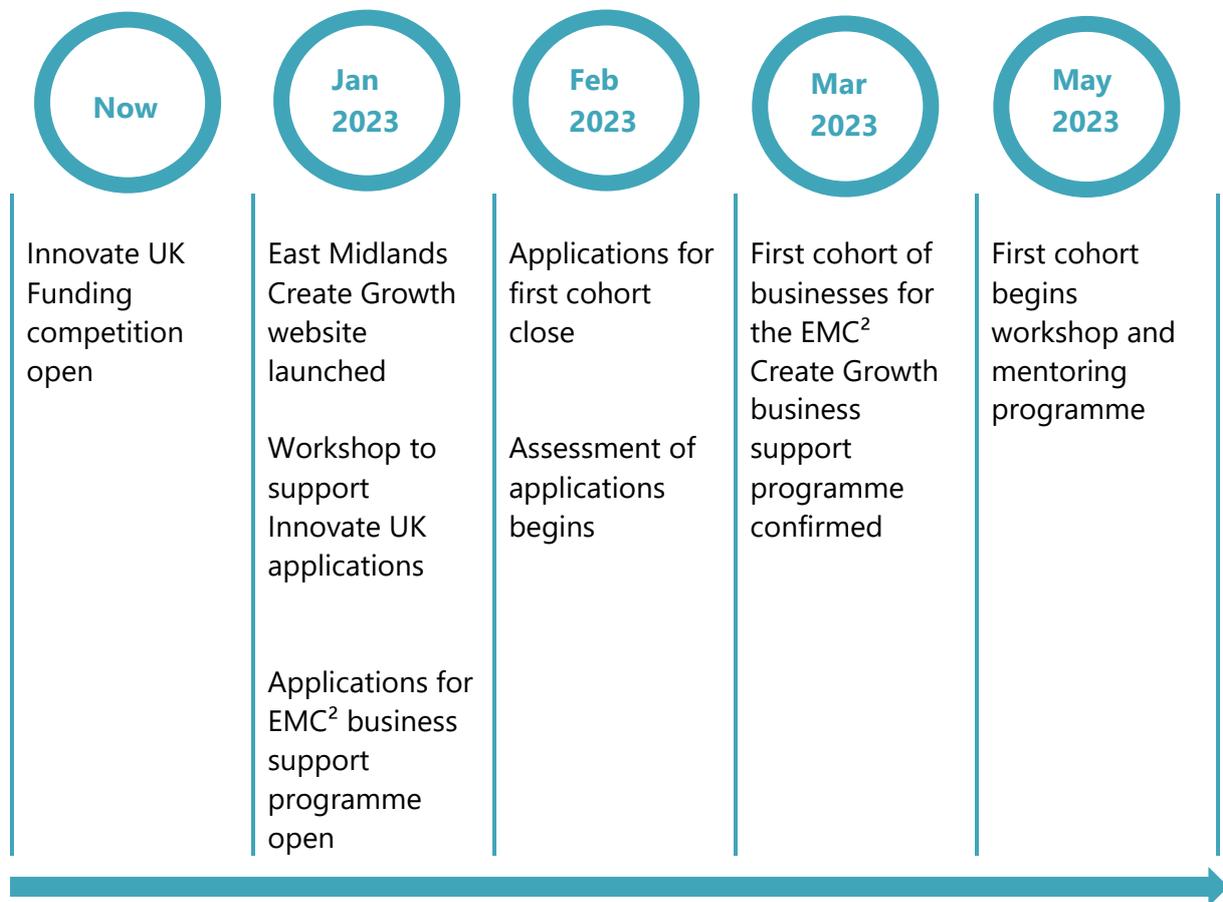
[Competition overview - DCMS Create Growth Fund: Competition 1](#)

## EMC<sup>2</sup> business support programme

The business support programme will be a combination of masterclass workshops and intense mentoring, with the end goal of putting your business in a stronger position to scale up and receive investment. The first cohort will be those already on the path to investment readiness.

The programme will run until 2025 with at least three more cohorts, other opportunities to get support and a programme of local events.

Here is a quick summary of what's planned so far for early 2023:



Applications will open in the week commencing January 23.

If you would like to register your interest in the programme and have not already done so, you can do so here:

[Register an interest in Create Growth](#)

## Eligibility

Eligible geographies for the EMC<sup>2</sup> for Create Growth are:

- Derbyshire
- Leicestershire
- Lincolnshire
- Rutland

This includes all local authority areas within these boundaries, for example, Derby and Leicester cities and North and North East Lincolnshire.

You can check the local authority of your post code here by using the search function:

[UK Postcode Districts \(doogal.co.uk\)](https://doogal.co.uk)

Eligible sectors:

The creative industries are defined by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). Your project should focus on one or more of the following sub-sectors:

- advertising and marketing
- architecture
- crafts
- design and designer fashion
- film
- television
- video
- radio
- photography
- IT, gaming, software and computer services
- publishing
- museums, galleries and libraries
- music, performing and visual art

Creative industry businesses refer to those with a high intensity of creative occupations. We understand that not businesses and projects map neatly to codes so please contact us if you are unsure.

For further details or queries, please contact: [CreateGrowth@bizgateway.org.uk](mailto:CreateGrowth@bizgateway.org.uk)



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