

# Applications now open for the Welsh Enterprise Zone Business Rates Scheme

The scheme focuses on small and medium sized enterprises that are demonstrating business growth, new starts or businesses that are increasing the size of their full time workforce.

Consideration will also be given to other business activity related to sectors, increased productivity and innovation/R&D.

Applications for the 2016/17 financial year can be made until **Friday, 31st March 2017**.

Economy Secretary Ken Skates said:

“This latest round of the Enterprise Zone Rates Scheme has the potential to make a real difference to businesses, helping to significantly cut their rates bills which in turn can improve cash flow and enable companies to make investments in their growing businesses.

“We first launched the scheme in 2012 and between 2012 -2016 around £9million has been offered to more than 200 eligible businesses located in seven of our Enterprise Zones, with the offer extended to Port Talbot Waterfront Enterprise Zone following its designation last year.”

For more information about the Scheme, businesses can ring the Business Wales helpline on freephone 03000 6 03000 or contact the EZBRS team at [EZBRS@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:EZBRS@wales.gsi.gov.uk) for an application form.

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## Three quarters of a million pounds for Little Haven flood alleviation scheme

The village of Little Haven, in Pembrokeshire, has been regularly affected by both fluvial and tidal flooding, with the most recent event in January 2015.

The flooding is caused by shingle building up and blocking a stream from flowing out under a road bridge onto the beach. Severe storms also cause flooding with water flowing over the existing sea defences.

The funding being announced today by the Welsh Government will contribute 85%

towards the cost of construction of the flood alleviation scheme, a grant value of £729,348 towards the total cost of £858,057.

The Little Haven flood alleviation scheme will include:

- placing shingle in front of the existing defences to alleviate any overtopping,
- installing a short length of box culvert to extend the outfall down the beach beyond the shingle bank,
- raising the current sea defences,
- replacing lost shingle, restoring the profile of the beach.

The Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs, Lesley Griffiths said:

“I am pleased to confirm the Welsh Government will provide nearly three quarters of a million pounds of funding to help protect Little Haven from flooding. This will provide reassurance to all those who live and work in, or visit this popular village.

“This financial year we are committed to investing almost £55million in flood risk management to reduce risk to homes and businesses across Wales and we are delivering on our promise.”

Pembrokeshire County Council is providing the remaining 15 per cent of the funding. Its Cabinet Member for Environmental and Regulatory Services, Huw George, welcomed the Welsh Government’s announcement. He added:

“We are pleased that we will now be able to proceed with this scheme in order to address the flooding concerns of a number of Little Haven residents.”

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## [Ninewells Community Garden event](#)



On Thursday 23rd February, [Ninewells Community Garden](#) is running a workshop to help develop a vision for the garden.

- How do we see the garden and charity develop?
- What are the opportunities and challenges?

Starting at 1pm, the workshop will take approximately 2 hours, after which there will be refreshments and a presentation to volunteers.

All are welcome – no booking required – please bring food or drink to share if you are able.

More information is available [here](#).

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## [Facts at a glance- Uttar Pradesh Assembly Elections -2017](#)

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## [Making Digital Payments a Mass Movement in India](#)

It has been 58 days since the launch of NITI Aayog's two incentive schemes – Lucky Grahak Yojana and Digi Dhan Vyapar Yojana to promote digital payments and the public response has been quite encouraging.