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## Enterprising Cumbria to Deliver Growth Scheme

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Enterprising Cumbria has been selected as the regional delivery partner for the UK Government's new Business Growth Service, which forms part of the wider Backing Your Business strategy to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

The service aims to give firms across Cumbria streamlined access to free, impartial, and expert business advice. It is designed to replace the often fragmented and confusing

support structure previously faced by many businesses.

The national programme seeks to address barriers holding back smaller firms, including poor access to finance, delayed payments, and a lack of straightforward guidance on exporting, embracing digital tools, and expanding operations.

"We're delighted to be Cumbria's delivery partner for the Business Growth Service.

This partnership gives Cumbrian businesses the best of both worlds, local knowledge and tailored advice from our team, combined with easier access to national opportunities."

The service will be delivered through Enterprising Cumbria's established **Cumbria Accelerator programme**, which already works with hundreds of businesses throughout the region. It offers tailored support for companies at every stage, from early-stage start-ups to long-established businesses aiming to scale up or develop new products.

"Our Accelerator is there to support every stage of a business journey, whether someone's just getting started or ready to grow their workforce. This new partnership will help scale that support further."

According to Enterprising Cumbria, the new Business Growth Service is in response to longstanding concerns from SMEs about navigating the existing patchwork of national and local support. The updated model aims to simplify the process by providing a single access point to a broader range of tools and schemes.

Crucially, the service is open to businesses of all types and stages, whether they are launching, growing, or preparing to scale further.

While the national economic outlook remains strained under the current government, schemes such as this one offer practical support for enterprise at the local level, where results are often most needed.