

#### **Overview**

This unit is about identifying the need for and obtaining additional finance to fund the organisation's proposed activities. The organisation may already be generating some surplus income through the ongoing supply of its products and/or services. This may be insufficient, however, to fund activities such as investment in new equipment or proposed changes to products and/or services and it is in instances such as these where additional finance might be required.

A key aspect of this unit is identifying types of finance and funding providers which are appropriate to the particular needs of the organisation.

Whilst you would be expected to draw on the expertise of financial specialists, you are not expected to be a financial specialist yourself.

For the purposes of this unit, an `organisation' can mean a self-contained entity such as a private sector company, a charity or a local authority, or a significant operating unit, with a relative degree of autonomy, within a larger organisation.

# Performance criteria

#### You must be able to:

- P1 identify the additional finance required to fund the organisation's proposed activities
- P2 seek and make effective use of specialist financial expertise
- P3 evaluate the costs, benefits and risks of the current types and providers of finance used by the organisation and other potential types and providers of finance
- P4 select the types of finance which are most appropriate to the needs of the organisation, taking account of levels of acceptable risk and views of stakeholders, and identify possible providers
- P5 present fully-costed proposals and recommendations for obtaining additional finance to relevant people in the organisation and, where appropriate, any key stakeholders, and discuss and agree on potential providers of finance
- P6 ensure timely submission of clear proposals or bids or applications to potential providers of finance and seek regular updates on progress
- P7 put formal agreements in place with providers for agreed amounts of finance at agreed times and, as appropriate, agreed costs and repayment schedules
- P8 identify any shortfall in the level of additional funding obtained and take appropriate action
- P9 put contingency plans in place to deal with any problems in the additional finance being made available and any changes to the level of additional finance required
- P10 monitor the effectiveness of the agreements for providing additional finance, identifying and making changes where necessary and identifying improvements for the future

Knowledge and understanding	Gen	eral knowledge and understanding
You need to know and understand:	K1	why organisations might need additional finance for their proposed activities
	K2	where to obtain and how to evaluate information in order to identify an organisation's requirement for additional finance
	K3	sources of specialist financial expertise and how to make effective use of them
	K4	different types of finance
	K5	different providers of finance
	K6	how to evaluate the costs, benefits and risks of different types and providers of finance
	K7	criteria for selecting types and providers of finance which are appropriate to organisational needs and the views of stakeholders
	K8	the importance of risk in obtaining additional finance and ways in which the level of risk can be identified and managed
	K9	how to work out the full cost of obtaining finance from providers
	K10	the importance of consulting with relevant people in the organisation and key stakeholders on proposals and recommendations for obtaining additional finance
	K11	the importance of submitting clear proposals or bids or applications to potential providers of finance and allowing sufficient time for their submission and consideration
	K12	the type of formal agreements that should be put in place with providers of finance and what they should cover
	K13	the type of actions that might need to be taken in the event of a shortfall in additional funding
	K14	why it is necessary to put contingency plans in place in relation to obtaining additional finance and the type of contingencies that might occur
	K15	how to monitor the effectiveness of agreements put in place for providing additional finance
	K16	the changes that might need to be made to agreements for additional finance
	Indu	stry/sector specific knowledge and understanding
You need to know and understand:	K17	the types and providers of finance that tend to be used in your industry or sector, and why they are preferred
	K18	guidelines and codes of practice and any legislative, regulatory and ethical requirements in relation to types and providers of funding in your industry or sector

	Con	text specific knowledge and understanding.
You need to know and understand:	K19 K20	the vision, objectives and plans of the organisation the proposed activities of the organisation, including those which require additional finance
	K21	the organisation's stakeholders and their views in relation to the financing of the organisation's activities
	K22	the current types and providers of finance used by the organisation and other potential types and providers of finance and their associated costs, benefits and risks
	K23	the particular needs of the organisation in terms of securing additional finance, including the organisation's attitude to risk
	K24	relevant people in the organisation and any key stakeholders who should be consulted on proposals and recommendations for obtaining additional finance
	K25	proposals or bids or applications submitted to providers of finance and how they have been progressed
	K26	formal agreements with providers of additional finance to the organisation
	K27	
	K28	the specialist financial expertise currently used by your organisation and other potential sources of expertise
	K29	the systems in place for monitoring the effectiveness of the agreements for additional finance and identifying changes to agreements and improvements for the future

### **Additional Information**

### **Behaviours**

- 1. You reflect regularly on your own and others' experiences, and use these to inform future action.
- 2. You comply with, and ensure others comply with, legal requirements, industry regulations, organisational policies and professional codes.
- 3. You show sensitivity to stakeholders' needs and interests and manage these effectively.
- 4. You identify the implications or consequences of a situation.
- 5. You act within the limits of your authority.
- 6. You identify and work with people and organisations that can provide support for your work.
- 7. You constructively challenge the status quo and seek better alternatives.
- 8. You are vigilant for potential risks.
- 9. You identify and raise ethical concerns.
- 10. You recognise changes in circumstances promptly and adjust plans and activities accordingly.
- 11. You work to a clearly defined vision of the future.

### Skills

Thinking strategically Questioning Information management Evaluating Presenting information Communicating **Decision-making Risk management** Prioritising Contingency-planning Monitoring Involving others Planning Forecasting Influencing and persuading Problem-solving Leadership Reviewing Negotiating

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Obtain additional finance for the organisation

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