

Small Business Service

The Small Business Service is an Executive Agency of the DTI. It is devolving delivery to the RDAs. For example, the RDAs will take over the oversight of the Business Link Operator network and the administration of R&D grants from April 2005. The SBS is therefore moving from programme delivery towards a more strategic and influencing role within government. It will be the champion of small business within government on such issues as better regulation and improving the business environment.

The SBS does not have a formal role in relation to the structural funds. However, SBS budgets are sometimes used by organisations such as Business Link Operators as match funding for ERDF and, occasionally, ESF.

More information on the activities of the SBS is available from their website:
<http://www.sbs.gov.uk/>