

Gill Thewlis - Mentoring and Business Support Track Record

Gill specialises in the commercialisation of creativity and works to Help creative people and organisations become better businesses.

Over the last 10 years Gill has worked through a wide range of agencies in the delivery of business advice and support to over 93 individuals and organisations, as follows



Artist / maker Business Support 2013	Creative Industry Finance – Key Fund 15 individuals assisted with the commercialisation of their creativity
Artist / maker Business Support 2012	Supported 3 individual artist/ makers directly without access to funding
Leadership & Management Funding 2010/11	Exemplas Directors of five arts organisations received leadership development tailored to their needs through a process of coaching and mentoring.
Strategic Business Reviews 2009/10	Business Link Yorkshire 3 design agencies, one interiors company and a training organisation were assisted with the development of medium term strategic plans
High Growth Business Mentoring 2008/09	Business Link Yorkshire 5 one-to-one mentoring programmes delivered. One relationship resulting in mentee being able to attract an investor. All others gained clarity of purpose and planning.
Culture Finance (Yorkshire) 2006/7	Programme administered by Yorkshire Culture on behalf of Arts Council England Yorkshire A programme of initial diagnostic support was delivered to 16 organisations and a programme of further support to 13 of them. This programme concentrated on BME, women run and disabled organisations across Yorkshire and was focused on; Raising financial awareness amongst organisations that traditionally rely on public funding. Providing referral and introduction to new and untried sources of finance for these organisations Assistance with planning and developing more sustainable approaches to development of these organisations Development of commercial income streams and commercial exploitation of IP Development of social enterprise and adoption of appropriate legal and operating forms to support this.
Access to Finance Plus 2004/5	Delivered in conjunction with Arts Council England Yorkshire and Arts&Business Yorkshire. This programme delivered initial diagnostic reports to 8 organisations and ongoing support to 5 – all of whom were BME organisations in Yorkshire. The purpose of the programme was to promote access to finance and raise awareness of planning and financial discipline within these arts and creative organisations.
Culture Finance – early wins 2005/6	Programme administered by Arts Council England North West and Arts Council England Yorkshire Diagnostic assessment and support in developing more sustainable plans for the future with 6 BME and women run organisations, each organisation received as a result grants to access further support and resources to assist them in reaching the next step in their organisational development.
High Growth Start-up Programme 2004/5	Programme administered by Inspiral, Sheffield. Consultancy assignments with two social enterprises to develop more robust approaches to planning and financial management within organisations rooted in community media and visual arts, to deliver turnover in excess of £150k within 2 years of beginning trading
Creative Exchange & Creativity Works 2004/8	Programmes administered by CIDA, Huddersfield Business mentoring support provided to in excess of 30 individuals and organisations in the creative sector in business planning and implementation of these plans. From pre-start-up to organisations which had been trading for up to 4 years on the cusp of high growth – several went on to double or triple in size as a result.