



Funds for Print is a programme of support for print companies based in the City Fringe. Covering the boroughs of Hackney, Islington, Tower Hamlets and Camden, the initiative has helped hundreds of print businesses to improve their employee skills, production processes, sales and environmental impact. The City Fringe area includes a locally-important group of print and publishing micro businesses whose main concern was access to funding for smaller printing and design equipment.

Equipment grants for micro businesses

Ehtasamul Haque is the Director of Today's Printers Ltd in Tower Hamlets, one of several micro businesses in the area to benefit from a Funds for Print grant to upgrade computer equipment. He has since gone on to become further involved in the Funds for Print programme and urges other small firms to do the same.

"Our old computer system was slowing down the business. We needed something more powerful that would enable us to produce our designs faster," he explains. "The Funds for Print programme gave us £1,000 to buy a new computer, which has saved us a lot of time.

"Since then, I've been talking to Funds for Print about how we can improve the business and let people know we exist. They are giving us some really useful help in sales and marketing, setting targets, organising our cash flow and approaching new customers. For a small company like us, this kind of expert advice is invaluable. We couldn't afford to employ this kind of external help."

Funds for Print is helping Today's Printers approach new customers in the City who can benefit from their services. "They don't need to go elsewhere – they can get all their printing services locally," says Ehtasamul. "Before, they didn't even know we were here. We couldn't afford to approach bigger companies like this by ourselves – we wouldn't have the resources. That's where Funds for Print has really helped us.

"I would encourage other small print companies like myself to get in touch with Funds for Print. Working with them can really grow your business and improve your sales."

Funds for Print

For more information contact Funds for Print at info@fundsforsprint.org.uk