

# Business Builder

## Business: The Tipsy Beekeeper Owner: Lydia McClintock

### Helping a tiny honey business grow with Business Builder support

#### The Challenge

Lydia started The Tipsy Beekeeper after learning about the health benefits of eating honey produced by bees feeding on local flowers within just a few miles. What began as a passion project for her family quickly became a small but meaningful side business.

Balancing the business alongside her day job meant she needed equipment that could help her work more efficiently.

However, she hadn't considered seeking support until being introduced to the Business Development team at Broadland District Council.

#### The Solution

Through guidance from the Council, Lydia applied for - and received - a Build Up Grant, enabling her to invest in a larger honey harvesting extractor and additional equipment to support her growing hive operations.

"It's not just the financial help - it's having someone giving solid business advice and believing in you. It makes such a difference."

The new kit allows her to increase productivity and manage her growing colonies more effectively.

#### The Impact

Business Builder support has helped Lydia:

- Increase honey production with a larger extractor
- Improve efficiency while balancing a full time job
- Access practical advice and encouragement from the Business Development team
- Grow her presence through four local stockists
- Expand her colonies to around 2 million bees, with steady growth ahead

"Getting that grant was a turning point. It helped me scale a tiny idea into something that's beginning to take shape."

#### About The Tipsy Beekeeper

The Tipsy Beekeeper is run by Lydia McClintock, who produces and sells locally made honey in Broadland with the help of her thriving colonies.

Her mission is simple: to make delicious, local honey while supporting healthy pollinator populations and contributing to her community's food ecosystem.

**The Business Builder programme** has supported 472 businesses, providing advice and training, and has paid out £2.3 million in grants across Broadland and South Norfolk between late 2022 and February 2026.

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