

## PRESS RELEASE

15<sup>th</sup> April 2014 – For immediate issue

### Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership welcomes RGF funding

The Heart of the South West (HotSW) Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has welcomed the announcement that four organisations in the area have been awarded government funding to help boost growth across the area.

Two Plymouth based businesses - Becton Dickinson U.K. Limited and Fine Tubes Limited – along with Torquay based Gooch and Housego and economic delivery agency, North Devon+, have been awarded a share of the government's £3.2 billion Regional Growth Fund (RGF), designed to help companies in England grow.

Run by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, the RGF was established to support projects and programmes that raise private sector investment to create economic growth and sustainable employment. Six rounds of RGF funding are being released between 2011 – 2015 and the current round (five) is worth a total of £300 million.

Chris Garcia, Chief Executive of the HotSW LEP said: "This is excellent news as it will boost growth and increase employment in our area. Some of our other businesses have received support through previous funding rounds and we believe it is making a real difference.

"There is abundant potential, vision and ambition for business growth across the area – we've got a wealth of companies across a wide variety of sectors who want to expand given the right conditions. This new programme is set to directly help businesses to unlock that potential, helping them to expand and create sustainable and long-term jobs."

## ENDS

### Notes to Editors:

For more information, contact Emma Parker Reynolds or Kathryn Williams at Coast Communications on 07944 360631 / 01752 847135.

### Heart of the South West

The Heart of the South West Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) has been formed under the leadership of the private sector supported by the local authorities from Devon, Plymouth, Somerset and Torbay and the area's District Councils. It is one of 39 partnerships created since the Government's Local Growth White Paper published in October 2010. More information about the work of the LEP is available from the website [www.heartofswlep.co.uk](http://www.heartofswlep.co.uk)