## A LOCAL SUCCESS STORY THAT TAKES THE CAKE



Annie's Bakery was able to grow thanks to support from the Caithness Business Fund



## Caithness Business Fund support helped Annie's Bakery expand into new areas

Annie Body has always been passionate about good food and long dreamt of having her own business. In March 2013, at the age of just 21, Annie took the plunge and set up Annie's Bakery to produce a range of high quality baking for local customers. Since then, Annie's Bakery has gone from strength to strength and the business has fast become one of Caithness' real success stories - after just eight months of trading, the business had expanded enough to allow Annie to take on another full-time baker to meet demand.

## The support from the Caithness Business Fund came at just the right time.

When Annie was approached in 2014 by Natural Retreats to take on a major contract to supply their new Cairngorm Mountain resort in Aviemore, she came to the Caithness Business Fund for assistance. The team were keen to help one of the county's young entrepreneurs grow her business. With their support, Annie was able to successfully apply to the Fund for a grant enabling her to purchase a retarder prover and refrigeration unit.

As a result of the support provided by the Fund, Annie was able to take on the contract with Natural Retreats and expand her business. She has since won a number of awards, including the Highlands & Islands Food and Drink Awards Young Shining Star and the Caithness Chamber of Commerce Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

"I couldn't have done it without the support of the Caithness Business Fund," said Annie. "The contract with Natural Retreats offered a real opportunity for me to expand into new areas and to significantly grow my business, but investing in the necessary equipment would have been difficult without financial help.

"The support from the Caithness Business Fund came at just the right time to help me take that next step. I would recommend that anyone looking to grow their business contact the Fund to see how they can help."

To find out more about how the Caithness Business Fund can help you grow your business, contact us today on 01847 50010 or enquiries@caithnessbusinessfund.co.uk





## **CAITHNESS BUSINESS FUND**

Naver Business Centre, Naver House, Naver Road, Thurso, KW14 7QA T: 01847 500104 E: enquiries@caithnessbusinessfund.co.uk W: caithnessbusinessfund.co.uk

Assistance is available for businesses in the Caithness and North Sutherland Area through the Caithness Business Fund which is managed by Caithness Chamber of Commerce.