

Dear Colleagues,

At last week's SELEP Strategic Board meeting the board approved **a new open call for projects seeking capital funding** utilising previously unallocated Local Growth Fund (LGF) monies. The details are as follows:

Amount of capital funding available

- SELEP currently has **£8.3million** at its disposal to allocate to new* projects.
- Project applications should be in the range **£250k to £8m**.
- In addition there is a possibility that some previously-agreed LGF projects won't be able to come forward within the agreed LGF timescale (due to project issues or delays). If these projects don't come forward for approval by mid-Feb 2019, the ring-fencing of funds for these projects will be removed, so making the funding available for reallocation to new projects. Whilst the total amount of funding available through this route is not known yet, it could be anything up to **£38.9m**.

* Note that 'new' projects can include previously agreed projects that have changed their scope so are deliverable within the LGF timescale.

Timescales for submitting a bid

- Any interested applicant needs to send a completed Expression of Interest to economic.development@eastsussex.gov.uk by no later than 12pm (midday) on **Monday 20th August 2018**. The EOI template is attached to this email.
- ESCC officers will then sift the applications and present a series of recommendations to Team East Sussex for approval at the TES Board meeting on Monday 24th September 2018.
- Successful applicants at this stage will be asked to complete a Strategic Outline Business Case by 26th October 2018, which SELEP's Independent Technical Evaluators will assess.
- A meeting of the SELEP Investment Panel will take place on 7th December 2018 to agree the full SELEP-wide ranked pipeline of projects.

Milestone	Deadline
Submit Expression of Interest	12pm (midday) Monday 20 th August 2018
Assessment and consideration of EOI by Federated Board*	Recommendation to Team East Sussex on 24 th September 2018
Submission of SOBC to SELEP	26 th October 2018
Investment Panel	7th December 2018 (Same day as Strategic Board)

Criteria

Projects must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Alignment with SELEP's objectives to support economic growth;
- Requires capital investment (not revenue);

- The project can be delivered in line with legal requirements about the use of public funds (e.g. state aid rules);
- The project will spend the LGF by 31st March 2021.

Eligible projects will then be assessed and prioritised against the following criteria:

- The project has evidence of public support, and is supported by the federated board (TES) and by a relevant upper-tier/unitary authority;
- There is evidence of strategic fit;
- The project has completed 'option generation and sifting';
- There is a good rationale for the funding request;
- The project is deliverable and will realise benefits (e.g. jobs, houses, learners, etc.);
- The project provides good value for money;
- The project has secured additional funding from other sources (i.e. some element of match funding);
- The project has a comprehensive risk register and risk management in place.

SELEP plans to upload guidance notes to the [SELEP website](#) in the coming days. In the meantime, for information the full paper from last week's SELEP Strategic Board meeting is attached so applicants can see how the criteria are applied (i.e. what merits a Red/Amber/Green rating during the assessment).

Please feel free to forward this email onto any interested parties through your various contacts/networks.

Any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Dave Evans

EDS Project Officer

Economic Development & Skills

Dave.Evans@eastsussex.gov.uk

eastsussex.gov.uk