

Local Growth Fund

New Call for bids 2019

Published Questions and Answers

Q: Please can you offer any more guidance on the VFM section 1.11? Are you able to send through the HM Treasury VFM assessment criteria?

A: We would refer you to the Treasury Green Book on the Government Website.

Q: Can I ask if existing LGF funded and approved projects, but received less than originally requested, would be eligible to apply for this new round of funding?

A: The new call is open to any application, so we wouldn't prevent existing projects from bidding for further funding, however it would need to tie in with the Gatwick 360 SEP, and link to additional matched funding, and output creation to meet the criteria.

Q: Could you advise please whether a project in the Lewes/Newhaven area would still be eligible?

A: We have been advised from Government that because it is recycled LGF funding, that both Lewes and Croydon could bid in for this funding.

Q: Where you say "The minimum funding that can be applied for is **£500,000 and the maximum is £2,000,000**. All projects will need to be at least 50% match funded. Matched funding must be at least the required percentage of the total project costs." I read that to mean that the project must therefore be a minimum of £1m in value, made up of £500k (50%) LGF and £500k (50%) match. Is this correct?

A: Yes that is correct. Match Funding can be more, just needs to be a minimum of 50% of the total project costs.

Q: Can a private sector company be the lead applicant for C2C's Local Growth Funding call?

A: Yes private sector companies can bid in, as long as they are state aid compliant.

Q: Is a UK-funding source (as opposed to an EU-funded source such as ERDF)?

A: Yes it is a UK funding source.

Q: The call states that projects need to contribute towards the Coast to Capital Gatwick 360 Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) by delivering “economic outputs as detailed within the 8 priorities SEP, or to support medium term delivery of our Strategy**.”

Is it correct to interpret the latter (**) as a projects that fits with the Local Industrial Strategy that Coast to Capital is currently negotiating with The Government? Do you have any further guidance on the “medium term delivery of our Strategy”?

A: This is down to applicants to determine, all projects must identify with one of the 8 priorities all which will be taken forward as part of our development of the LIS. Applicants must highlight which priority and how they could help Coast to Capital to deliver that priority as part of our medium term delivery of the Strategy (Gatwick 360)

Q: Are the “economic outputs as detailed within the 8 priorities SEP” only the ones in the linked 8 documents on your SEP page, or can they be outputs from the wider document (for example address outputs itemised in the Economic Challenges chapter that are not specifically itemised on in one of the priority documents)?

A: This is correct, and also see the output section in the application/guidance.

Q: Section 1.14 of the EOI requests confirmation of Stakeholder support - Given the short window during which this call is open, will a letter from the stakeholder confirming support be sufficient for the Eoi?

A: This is down to applicants to determine. Letters of support will be accepted as supporting documentation, but you could also write or detail in the applicants which stakeholders are on board etc. Project applicants taken forward to FBC stage would be asked to provide more sufficient evidence.

Q: We are in the process of testing some innovative solutions for horticultural production. With a keen eye on quality yield and sustainability in respect of environmental impact. Do these commercial plans align with your 8 pillars?

A: Unfortunately we are unable to advise applicants which priority their project may fit in down to applicants to demonstrate through the EOI template which priority they feel the project aligns with and then to explain how and why. This is because we do not

have the resource to give advice all applicants and therefore due to transparency and fairness we unable to do so.

Q: Are you actively seeking bids that will deliver against the “sustainable Growth” priority?

A: We are looking for any type of EOI that fits within priority 1-8 which includes sustainable growth. Unfortunately I cannot say which priority areas are likely to be funded as it will be dependent on how applicants demonstrate that they can meet the specific criteria/scoring as per the guidance document.

Q: Can funding already spent on the scheme be counted towards match funding?

A: We can confirm that we can accept matched funding previously spent however you would need to be able to evidence each invoice as per our current process.

Q: We understand the requirement of minimum 50% match funding to be provided by the applicants. We also note the LGF expenditure conditions to be met by Dec 2020. Our project is highly innovative and for the business community to benefit, the innovation programmes which support the revenue stream match would have to go on beyond this date. With this in mind, we note the guidance asks for “a high proportion of matched funding be reported by December 2020”, could you please advise what is the minimum threshold acceptable for the revenue shown in period of LGF execution?

A: There is no specific guidelines for how much match funding, but it would not be acceptable to only spend the LGF by December 2020 with no matched funding being put into a project. Therefore projects who can spend more matched funding within this period along with LGF are likely to score higher on the funding criteria.

Q: "Issue Date" on page 1, is that the date of our submission?

A: Correct.

Q: 1.10 has a table of Expected tangible core outputs/outcomes. It differs from the 2017, with the inclusion of the final 3 rows in red. Please would you provide some guidance as to what is expected in these cells, as there is nothing in the notes.

Coast to Capital

A: These are only relevant if you see fit. The add priority is if there are other outcomes from your project you see fit.
