Appendix C – Eligibility criteria for BSF Programme delivery

Criteria	Description
Programme must respond to COVID-19	The programme must demonstrate how it is responding directly to the needs of business from the impacts of COVID-19
Programme delivery must be pan-LEP	The programme must demonstrate impact in all SELEP Federated Areas with proportionate benefits
Programme should recognise SELEP's strategic economic objectives	The programme must demonstrate alignment with SELEPs Economic Strategy Statement and COVID-19 Economic Response Statement
Programme must only support SMEs within the SELEP region	The programme is limited to supporting SMEs (EU definition) operating within the SELEP region
Programme must not duplicate existing or forthcoming business support schemes	The programme must illustrate a good understanding of the current business support landscape, and ensure that it does not duplicate or displace existing of forthcoming provision
Programme must align with the Growth Hub service	The programme must align itself with the South East Business Hub and Area Growth Hubs (BES, BEST and KMGH) to facilitate the customer journey and cross-referrals
Programme must carry the SELEP brand	SELEP branding must be used throughout the programme to illustrate the funding source
Programme must demonstrate value for money	The programme must ensure that it achieves value for money against the specified over-arching outcomes
Programme should demonstrate a commitment to a clean recovery	The programme will be asked to outline how they will support businesses to contribute to decarbonisation
Programme is not required to provide match funding but should illustrate added value	Match funding will not be a requirement, however the programme should outline where it can bring added or increased value, whether financial or in-kind.
Applications may be on behalf of a consortium	Applications to deliver a programme may be from a consortium of delivery partners to enable pan-LEP delivery, and familiarity and alignment with current provision
Programme can factor in management and administration costs	Management and administration costs for delivery can be included in programme design and must not compromise value for money; the programme should demonstrate whether these can support or subsidise Growth Hub resource
Programme should deliver within 24 months of funding award	The programme will be asked to demonstrate an ability to mobilise efficiently and effectively in order to address challenges at the required time
Programme must be evaluated	The programme must design and undertake an evaluation of impact, including changes (e.g. behavioural, operational) that have been brought about, against pre-defined change criteria