

Sector Support Funding Application – Independent Evaluation

Appraisal Guidance:

Bids will be appraised by the SELEP Secretariat and the SELEP Accountable Body. This is to ensure that the requirement of the SELEP Assurance Framework to ensure that all investments are independently evaluated, is met. The appraisal will be proportionate to the value of the investment. The appraisal will be made to ensure the bid fits with the criteria as laid out below. If the project does not meet all of the criteria, it is not suitable for this funding.

Applicant	South East LEP Skills Advisory Group (Essex County Council accountable body)
Lead Contact for Project	Louise Aitken
Project	Delivering skills of the future through teaching: <i>teaching for growth</i> (EXTENSION PROPOSAL)
Reviewed by	Amy Bernardo
Date	15/05/2020
Outcome:	met

Criteria for Funding

All funding applications must meet the following criteria:

Criterion	Notes	Reviewer Comments & RAG
Scope must be pan LEP	The project must be able to demonstrate impact in at least three of the SELEP federated areas, preferably all four	Pan LEP project

Federated areas must support the project	Project sponsors must discuss the project with Federated Boards or their lead officer/Director for every federated area impacted	The Project is endorsed by Team East Sussex, Opportunity South Essex, Success Essex, and Kent and Medway Economic Partnership (KMEP have endorsed the principle and are anticipated to formally endorse on 3rd June 2020).
The outcomes must align with SELEPs overarching objective to <i>create the conditions</i> for increased jobs and homes , safeguarding existing jobs and raising skill levels	Given the low investment levels of this fund, it is not expected that the projects will directly deliver greater numbers of jobs and homes but applicants must be able to demonstrate how the project will be part of creating the conditions for greater numbers of jobs and homes	The Project seeks to increase jobs through increased trainers and provision of training
The project must align with the SELEP priorities as defined in the Strategic Economic Plan / Economic Strategy Statement	Applicants should highlight which objective(s) that their project supports. If you are unable to identify an objective to align to, this would suggest your project is not suitable for this funding	Aligns to increasing skills requirements and STEM sector growth across SELEP
The project must be for a discrete piece of work, not ongoing or business as usual (BAU) costs	This funding is project based, that is a stand-alone piece of work, with defined start and finish dates and clearly identified inputs and outputs.	The project is an extension of an existing discrete project.
Minimum application value is £25,000 and maximum application value is £200,000	Bids outside of this range will not be considered	£76,000

Funding will be awarded as a grant to support revenue spending only	Capital bids will not be considered	Revenue project
Match funding of 30% must be demonstrated	Applicants must be able to evidence at least 30% of match funding at time of application. This match can be either cash or non-cash. The source of this match must be identified and other SELEP funding or SELEP resource (including SELEP working group time) cannot be submitted as match	£50,000 of match-in-kind resources
Projects are expected to be a maximum of 12 months duration. Exceptions will be considered on a case by case basis	Funding can be provided in more than one financial year if the 12 month period straddles two financial years	12 month delivery across 2020/21 & 2021/22
The project must demonstrate Value for Money and comply with the SELEP Assurance Framework	Further guidance on demonstrating Value for Money in a proportional manner can be found in Annex A	The Project provides a BCR of 6.5:1 There is supporting evidence provided to demonstrate value for money.

The project must be supported by a lead County/Unitary Authority or equivalent	The preferred route of contracting would be with one of the County/Unitary authorities. Other contracts will be considered on a case by case basis	The Accountable Body is Essex County Council who would be the contracting authority with SELEP.
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SELEP Assurance Framework Value for Money Requirements:

To receive a recommendation for approval, projects should have a Benefit Cost Ratio of at least 2:1 or comply with one of the two exemptions listed below:

Exemption 1: This may be applied where a project does not present High Value for Money (a Benefit Cost Ratio of over 2:1); but

- has a Benefit Cost Ratio value of greater than 1.5:1; or
- where the project benefits are notoriously difficult to appraise in monetary terms.

Exemption 1 will only apply if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (1) The funding sought from SELEP in relation to the project must be less than £2.0m and to conduct further quantified and monetised economic appraisal would be disproportionate; and
- (2) where there is an overwhelming strategic case (with minimal risk in the other cases); and
- (3) there are qualitative benefits which, if monetised, would most likely increase the benefit-cost ratio above 2:1.

Exemption 2: This may be applied where a project does not demonstrate a High Value for Money (a Benefit Cost Ratio of over 2:1), but has a Benefit Cost Ratio of over 1:1, and only if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (a) there is an overwhelming strategic case that supports the prioritisation of this project in advance of other unfunded investment opportunities identified in the SEP; and
- (b) there is demonstrable additionality which will be achieved through investment to address a clear market failure; and
- (c) there are no project risks identified as high risk and high probability after mitigation measures have been considered; and
- (d) there are assurances provided from the organisations identified below that the project business case, including value for money, has been considered and approved for funding through their own assurance processes.

(1) A Government Department;

(2) Highways England;

(3) Network Rail;

(4) Environment Agency; or

(5) Skills Funding Agency.

Sector Support Funding Application – Independent Evaluation

Appraisal Guidance:

Bids will be appraised by the SELEP Secretariat and the SELEP Accountable Body. This is to ensure that the requirement of the SELEP Assurance Framework to ensure that all investments are independently evaluated, is met. The appraisal will be proportionate to the value of the investment. The appraisal will be made to ensure the bid fits with the criteria as laid out below. If the project does not meet all of the criteria, it is not suitable for this funding.

Applicant	Produced in Kent (Kent County Council accountable body)
Lead Contact for Project	Floortje Hoette
Project	BUY LOCAL SOUTH EAST
Reviewed by	Amy Bernardo
Date	15/05/2020
Outcome:	Met

Criteria for Funding

All funding applications must meet the following criteria:

Criterion	Notes	Reviewer Comments & RAG
Scope must be pan LEP	The project must be able to demonstrate impact in at least three of the SELEP federated areas, preferably all four	Pan LEP

<p>Federated areas must support the project</p>	<p>Project sponsors must discuss the project with Federated Boards or their lead officer/Director for every federated area impacted</p>	<p>No endorsement as at 21052020.</p> <p>Scheme Promoter - The Federated Boards of Essex and East-Sussex have met and we are awaiting their feedback. The KMEP is meeting on the 3rd of June,</p> <p>The Board will receive a verbal update on 12 June 2020.</p>
<p>The outcomes must align with SELEPs overarching objective to <i>create the conditions</i> for increased jobs and homes, safeguarding existing jobs and raising skill levels</p>	<p>Given the low investment levels of this fund, it is not expected that the projects will directly deliver greater numbers of jobs and homes but applicants must be able to demonstrate how the project will be part of creating the conditions for greater numbers of jobs and homes</p>	<p>Additional employment – target of 30 FTE posts (existing and start-ups)</p>
<p>The project must align with the SELEP priorities as defined in the Strategic Economic Plan / Economic Strategy Statement</p>	<p>Applicants should highlight which objective(s) that their project supports. If you are unable to identify an objective to align to, this would suggest your project is not suitable for this funding</p>	<p>The project will contribute to the delivery of the adopted <i>SELEP Strategic Economic Statement Priority 1: Creating Ideas and Enterprise</i>.</p> <p>Through its virtual business recovery support package, the project will enable small rural businesses to access expertise to support development of new products/services, and build products/services started in response to the Covid19 crisis. Advice and training on new technologies and innovations in the areas of food production and delivery techniques, food processing, sales and marketing, routes to</p>

market and access to new markets will enhance economic development and support job creation.

The sector Covid19 impact and recovery survey will inform in which specific areas support will be provided

The online B2C and B2B platform created by the regional map, as well as the virtual business support offering provides food and drink businesses with a more efficient, cheaper and less time-consuming way of developing business relationships, knowledge exchange and upskilling. The project, through its B2C and B2B platform, will provide an opportunity to businesses across the three federated areas to connect with each other, with larger regional, national (large retail) and international 'Buyers' as well as with customers residing within and outside of the SELEP area

Priority 4 – Creating Places.

Covid19 has shown the pivotal role the food and drink industry is playing in our local economy and communities. By beating the Buy Local drum through its SELEP-wide marketing campaign, and by supporting growers, producers, retailers and businesses in the hospitality sector boost B2C and B2B sales and build regional supply chains, the project supports the regional economy,

		<p>promotes a connected, healthy and happy community, and contributes to a well-maintained countryside and a better environment</p> <p><i>Priority 5 – Working Together.</i> The regional map and supporting marketing campaign provide customers looking for local produce an insight into the great variety of food and drink businesses in the SELEP area, with the regional map providing a direct Call to Action, boosting sales and subsequent business growth.</p> <p>The map and business support activities offer the opportunity for local producers to engage with broader market and build on the ‘local produce’ offer, offering a more sustainable approach to food production which directly supports local job creation and community cohesion.</p>
The project must be for a discrete piece of work, not ongoing or business as usual (BAU) costs	This funding is project based, that is a stand-alone piece of work, with defined start and finish dates and clearly identified inputs and outputs.	Sector specific, discrete piece of work.
Minimum application value is £25,000 and maximum application value is £200,000	Bids outside of this range will not be considered	£69,510
Funding will be awarded as a grant to support revenue spending only	Capital bids will not be considered	Revenue project

<p>Match funding of 30% must be demonstrated</p>	<p>Applicants must be able to evidence at least 30% of match funding at time of application. This match can be either cash or non-cash. The source of this match must be identified and other SELEP funding or SELEP resource (including SELEP working group time) cannot be submitted as match</p>	<p>£29,750 of match-in-kind resources</p>
<p>Projects are expected to be a maximum of 12 months duration. Exceptions will be considered on a case by case basis</p>	<p>Funding can be provided in more than one financial year if the 12 month period straddles two financial years</p>	<p>12 month delivery across 2020/21 and 2021/22</p>
<p>The project must demonstrate Value for Money and comply with the SELEP Assurance Framework</p>	<p>Further guidance on demonstrating Value for Money in a proportional manner can be found in Annex A</p>	<p>The Project provides a BCR of 44:1 There is supporting evidence provided to demonstrate value for money.</p>
<p>The project must be supported by a lead County/Unitary Authority or equivalent</p>	<p>The preferred route of contracting would be with one of the County/Unitary authorities. Other contracts will be considered on a case by case basis</p>	<p>The Accountable Body is Kent County Council who would be the contracting authority with SELEP.</p>

SELEP Assurance Framework Value for Money Requirements:

To receive a recommendation for approval, projects should have a Benefit Cost Ratio of at least 2:1 or comply with one of the two exemptions listed below:

Exemption 1: This may be applied where a project does not present High Value for Money (a Benefit Cost Ratio of over 2:1); but

- has a Benefit Cost Ratio value of greater than 1.5:1; or
- where the project benefits are notoriously difficult to appraise in monetary terms.

Exemption 1 will only apply if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (4) The funding sought from SELEP in relation to the project must be less than £2.0m and to conduct further quantified and monetised economic appraisal would be disproportionate; and
- (5) where there is an overwhelming strategic case (with minimal risk in the other cases); and
- (6) there are qualitative benefits which, if monetised, would most likely increase the benefit-cost ratio above 2:1.

Exemption 2: This may be applied where a project does not demonstrate a High Value for Money (a Benefit Cost Ratio of over 2:1), but has a Benefit Cost Ratio of over 1:1, and only if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (e) there is an overwhelming strategic case that supports the prioritisation of this project in advance of other unfunded investment opportunities identified in the SEP; and
- (f) there is demonstrable additionality which will be achieved through investment to address a clear market failure; and
- (g) there are no project risks identified as high risk and high probability after mitigation measures have been considered; and
- (h) there are assurances provided from the organisations identified below that the project business case, including value for money, has been considered and approved for funding through their own assurance processes.
 - (1) A Government Department;
 - (2) Highways England;
 - (3) Network Rail;
 - (4) Environment Agency; or

(5) Skills Funding Agency.

Sector Support Funding Application – Independent Evaluation

Appraisal Guidance:

Bids will be appraised by the SELEP Secretariat and the SELEP Accountable Body. This is to ensure that the requirement of the SELEP Assurance Framework to ensure that all investments are independently evaluated, is met. The appraisal will be proportionate to the value of the investment. The appraisal will be made to ensure the bid fits with the criteria as laid out below. If the project does not meet all of the criteria, it is not suitable for this funding.

Applicant	Kent County Council (Kent County Council accountable body)
Lead Contact for Project	Steve Samson
Project	SE Export Development (SEED)
Reviewed by	Amy Bernardo
Date	15/05/2020
Outcome:	Not Met

Criteria for Funding

All funding applications must meet the following criteria:

Criterion	Notes	Reviewer Comments & RAG
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<p>Scope must be pan LEP</p>	<p>The project must be able to demonstrate impact in at least three of the SELEP federated areas, preferably all four</p>	<p>Project intends to support 50 businesses across all SELEP federated areas.</p>
<p>Federated areas must support the project</p>	<p>Project sponsors must discuss the project with Federated Boards or their lead officer/Director for every federated area impacted</p>	<p>The Project is endorsed by Success Essex Board. Sent to KMEP but, not endorsed as at 15/05/2020.</p> <p>No reference to OSE or TES support, and directly engages with businesses in these areas, so there should be endorsement from them.</p>
<p>The outcomes must align with SELEPs overarching objective to <i>create the conditions</i> for increased jobs and homes, safeguarding existing jobs and raising skill levels</p>	<p>Given the low investment levels of this fund, it is not expected that the projects will directly deliver greater numbers of jobs and homes but applicants must be able to demonstrate how the project will be part of creating the conditions for greater numbers of jobs and homes</p>	<p>Outcomes do not reference jobs and homes, safeguarding existing jobs and raising skill levels. However, there is an assumed increase in these outcomes due to ultimate objective being to expand regional businesses and promote Growth</p>
<p>The project must align with the SELEP priorities as defined in the Strategic Economic Plan / Economic Strategy Statement</p>	<p>Applicants should highlight which objective(s) that their project supports. If you are unable to identify an objective to align to, this would suggest your project is not suitable for this funding</p>	<p>The project will contribute to the delivery of the adopted <i>SELEP Strategic Economic Statement</i></p> <p>SEED will provide intensive support to businesses in SELEP's strategically important sector, whilst raising the profile abroad of the SELEP area's strengths.</p>

		<p><i>Priority 1: Creating Ideas and Enterprise.</i></p> <p>This project will create an environment and support infrastructure to enable businesses to achieve sustainable growth and high value jobs.</p>
The project must be for a discrete piece of work, not ongoing or business as usual (BAU) costs	This funding is project based, that is a stand-alone piece of work, with defined start and finish dates and clearly identified inputs and outputs.	The project is discrete, with defined start and finish dates and clearly identified inputs and outputs.
Minimum application value is £25,000 and maximum application value is £200,000	Bids outside of this range will not be considered	£129,860
Funding will be awarded as a grant to support revenue spending only	Capital bids will not be considered	Revenue project -
Match funding of 30% must be demonstrated	Applicants must be able to evidence at least 30% of match funding at time of application. This match can be either cash or non-cash. The source of this match must be identified and other SELEP funding or SELEP resource (including SELEP working group time) cannot be submitted as match	£40,000 of match-in-kind resources; £10,000 is the expected contribution from the individual businesses selected to participate, so is not guaranteed. Unclear who federated areas are providing officer time and whether this has been confirmed.

Projects are expected to be a maximum of 12 months duration. Exceptions will be considered on a case by case basis	Funding can be provided in more than one financial year if the 12 month period straddles two financial years	12 month delivery in 2020/21 & 2021/22
The project must demonstrate Value for Money and comply with the SELEP Assurance Framework	Further guidance on demonstrating Value for Money in a proportional manner can be found in Annex A	<p>The BCR of the Project is not provided.</p> <p>There is supporting descriptive evidence provided to demonstrate value for money.</p> <p>However, there are high risks due to COVID and BREXIT in current year which make VFM exemptions not applicable.</p>
The project must be supported by a lead County/Unitary Authority or equivalent	The preferred route of contracting would be with one of the County/Unitary authorities. Other contracts will be considered on a case by case basis	The Accountable Body is Kent County Council who would be the contracting authority with SELEP.

SELEP Assurance Framework Value for Money Requirements:

To receive a recommendation for approval, projects should have a Benefit Cost Ratio of at least 2:1 or comply with one of the two exemptions listed below:

Exemption 1: This may be applied where a project does not present High Value for Money (a Benefit Cost Ratio of over 2:1); but

- has a Benefit Cost Ratio value of greater than 1.5:1; or
- where the project benefits are notoriously difficult to appraise in monetary terms.

Exemption 1 will only apply if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (7) The funding sought from SELEP in relation to the project must be less than £2.0m and to conduct further quantified and monetised economic appraisal would be disproportionate; and
- (8) where there is an overwhelming strategic case (with minimal risk in the other cases); and
- (9) there are qualitative benefits which, if monetised, would most likely increase the benefit-cost ratio above 2:1.

Exemption 2: This may be applied where a project does not demonstrate a High Value for Money (a Benefit Cost Ratio of over 2:1), but has a Benefit Cost Ratio of over 1:1, and only if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) there is an overwhelming strategic case that supports the prioritisation of this project in advance of other unfunded investment opportunities identified in the SEP; and
- (j) there is demonstrable additionality which will be achieved through investment to address a clear market failure; and
- (k) there are no project risks identified as high risk and high probability after mitigation measures have been considered; and
- (l) there are assurances provided from the organisations identified below that the project business case, including value for money, has been considered and approved for funding through their own assurance processes.
 - (1) A Government Department;
 - (2) Highways England;
 - (3) Network Rail;
 - (4) Environment Agency; or
 - (5) Skills Funding Agency.