

Prioritisation of Local Growth Fund Projects

In response to a Growth Deal funding opportunity, Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEP) are required to submit Growth Deal bids to Central Government. The bid document comprises a list of prioritised projects from across the four Federated Areas. To determine the list of projects to be included in a Growth Deal bid to Central Government, prioritisation of projects is completed following an approach agreed by the overarching SELEP Strategic Board.

The initial identification and prioritisation of projects for Local Growth Fund opportunities is undertaken by the [Federated Boards](#). Each Federated Board is required to comply with the prioritisation system, agreed by the Strategic Board, in order to ensure a consistent approach is followed by each area.

Before a project can be considered for funding from the SELEP, the project must first gain Federated Board support and shall be developed in consultation and agreement with local partners at every stage of the project.

To support the prioritisation of projects for funding opportunities, scheme promoters are required to develop a Strategic Outline Business Case, using the appropriate SELEP's Business Case template. The information provided in the Strategic Outline Business Case is then used to support the prioritisation of projects.

The prioritisation of projects for funding includes an assessment of projects based on Her Majesty's Treasury's The Green Book: Appraisal and Evaluation in Central Government (The Green Book), and related departmental guidance. The prioritisation of projects gives consideration to the five cases listed below.

The Strategic Case – The project should be aligned with the Strategic Economic Plan of the SELEP and support delivery of the objectives and outcomes contained within the plan;

The Economic Case – The project is expected to deliver high or very high value for money for investment of public funds;

The Commercial Case – The proposed deal is attractive to the market place, can be procured and is commercially viable;

The Financial Case – The project should demonstrate the proposed funding streams to finance the total project costs and the expected phasing of the funding. There is expectation that opportunities will be sought to leverage private sector investment and other match funding to support delivery of the project;

The Management Case – The project should set a proposed plan for project delivery, evaluation, progress reporting and monitoring of benefit realisation. It should also include details of any risks and how these risks will be managed, including the costs of mitigating these risks.

A proportionate approach is taken for the assessment of the projects against the five criteria listed above, based on the scale of the intervention and the amount of funding which is being sought. Consideration is also given to the phasing and suitability of the funding available. Support and advice is often sought from SELEP's Independent Technical Evaluator to assist with the prioritisation process.