



Department  
for Work &  
Pensions



**European Union**  
European  
Social Fund

## 2014 to 2020 European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme

### Call for Proposals European Social Fund

### Priority Axis 1: Inclusive Labour Markets

<b>Managing Authority</b>	<b>Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)</b>
<b>ESI Fund</b>	<b>European Social Fund</b>
<b>Priority Axis:</b>	<b>Priority Axis 1 : Inclusive Labour Markets</b>
<b>Investment Priority:</b>	<b>1.4: Active Inclusion</b>
<b>Call Reference:</b>	<b>Active Inclusion in D2N2</b> <b>OCO8S17P0801</b>
<b>LEP Area:</b>	<b>D2N2</b>
<b>Call Opens:</b>	<b>25<sup>th</sup> July 2017</b>
<b>Call Closes:</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> September 2017</b>
<b>Document Submission</b>	<b>Completed Outline Applications must be submitted to ✉: <a href="mailto:2014-2020.ESFAPPLICATIONS@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK">2014-2020.ESFAPPLICATIONS@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK</a></b>

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# 1. Call Context

The 2014 to 2020 European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) bring the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), European Social Fund (ESF) and part of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) together into a single European Union (EU) Structural Investment Funds (ESIF) Growth Programme for England supporting the key growth priorities of innovation, research and development, support for Small and Medium Enterprises (SME), low carbon, skills, employment, and social inclusion.

European Structural and Investment Funds are managed by the Department for Communities and Government (ERDF), Department for Work and Pensions (ESF) and the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (EAFRD). In London, the Greater London Authority acts as an Intermediate Body for the European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund programmes. Unless stated otherwise, the term “Managing Authority” will apply to all these organisations. These Departments are the Managing Authorities for each Fund. The Managing Authorities work closely with local partners who provide:

- Practical advice and information to the Managing Authorities to assist in the preparation of local plans that contribute towards Operational Programme priorities and targets;
- Local intelligence to the Managing Authorities in the development of project Calls (decided by the Managing Authorities) that reflect Operational Programme and local development needs as well as match funding opportunities;
- Advice on local economic growth conditions and opportunities within the context of Operational Programmes and the local ESIF Strategy to aid the Managing Authority’s assessments at outline and full application stage.

This Call is issued by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) to commission ESF Funded projects that will support the **Priority Axis 1 of the Operational Programme: Inclusive Labour Markets** and **Investment Priority: 1.4 Active Inclusion** as set out in the Operational Programme.

All applications will need to be eligible under the European Social Fund Operational Programme for England 2014 to 2020. The [ESF Operational Programme](#) is available for applicants to read.

This Call for proposal sets out the requirements for any applicants to consider before applying. Applications against this Call will be assessed as part of a two stage appraisal process and successful applicants will enter into a funding agreement with the DWP. Further information is given in sections 4 to 10.

All ESF applicants will need to be aware of the requirement to collect and report data on all participants as per Annex 1 (see Appendix A). This will be as well as the requirement of reporting on output and result indicators referred to in section 3 of the Call for proposal.

## 1.1 National Context

This priority axis aims to increase participation in the labour market and thereby improve social inclusion and mobility. It will support activities through:

**Investment Priority: 1.4** - Active inclusion, including with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability

ESF will not fund activity that duplicates or cuts across national policy on grants and loans for tuition for skills activities. Exemptions to this principle will be considered only where a local specific need and/or market failure has been demonstrated and where the activity falls within the scope of the Operational Programme.

Full details of what can and cannot be supported under this Investment Priority are set out in the Operational programme. Details of the specific objectives have been reproduced below.

Specific Objective	Results that the Member States seek to achieve with Union support
<p>To support people with multiple and complex barriers to participation to address these underlying issues and to move closer to or into the labour market.</p>	<p>The additional support for this investment priority will help people who are distant from the labour market and require intensive support in addressing their multiple, profound and complex barriers to participation in the labour market.</p> <p>The main result will be that people address their complex needs and therefore are better able to engage in labour market activity. There are output targets for disadvantaged sub-groups and result targets for movement into work and increased labour market activity.</p>
<p>To engage marginalised individuals and support them to re-engage with education, training, or in employment.</p>	<p>The additional support from this investment priority will help participants to move into employment, education or training. They will have a range of barriers and will be distant from the labour market or education/training. They will require intensive, tailored support.</p> <p>The main result that will be achieved is that more participants will be in education, training or employment upon leaving.</p>

## 1.2 Local Development Need

Projects must deliver activity which directly contributes to the objectives of Priority Axis 1, Investment Priority 1.4 of the Operational Programme, and which meets the **local development need** expressed in the text and table below.

### Call outline

ESIF Call Template  
 ESIF-Form-2-001, Version 10.0  
 Date published 25 July 2017

The [D2N2 Strategic Economic Plan](#) (SEP) sets out proposals for raising productivity and skills growth rates in the D2N2 area, creating increased prosperity and higher levels of employment.

The [D2N2 EU Structural and Investment Funds \(ESIF\) Strategy 2014-20](#) sets out the priorities for ESIF investment in the D2N2 area. It is further supported by the [D2N2 Social Inclusion Framework](#) which sets out the priorities by which the benefits of the SEP objectives can be shared more equally across the D2N2 area and reach those most disadvantaged and excluded from the benefits of local growth.

The [D2N2 Community Programme](#) is a package of investment incorporating both ESF and ERDF components. The Community Programme will be delivered through a 'modular' approach, in line with the themes of the D2N2 ESIF Strategy. The first 'module' is the Active Inclusion, to be delivered through a delegated Active Inclusion Community Grant programme; which aims to promote access to smaller communities and organisations, whilst retaining the scope to make larger grants to support more substantial communities, grant administrators should make delegated grants available of between £10,000 and £50,000. The Active Inclusion Community Grant Programme is only funded through ESF.

The D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership area covers Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire. It is one of the largest LEP areas within England, with a population of more than 2m people and an economic output of nearly £40bn. The economy comprises a mixture of rural and urban areas across 19 local authority areas.

Employment is distributed across D2N2 but there is a concentration of employment in and around the area's two largest centres – the Core City of Nottingham and the key city of Derby – with the two cities combined accounting for 36% of total employment, compared to 26% of total population.

Based on information available from NOMIS (October 2015 to September 2016), the number of unemployed stood at 48,400 for those aged 16 or over (28,200 males and 20,200 females), which equated to 4.8% of the total number of economically active across the D2N2 area.

The total number of economically inactive (NOMIS - October 2015 to September 2016) stood at 303,300, which equated to 22.3%. Also, based on NOMIS information (February 2017), the claimant count (out-of-work benefits) by sex, totalled 23,920 (15,505 males and 8,410 females) and by age, totalled 23,920 (aged 16 and over), of which 5,450 were aged 50 or over.

In terms of the make-up of the claimant groups (based on NOMIS information at August 2016), the number of lone parents totalled 15,200 and the number of disabled people totalled 12,610.

Alongside the two cities there is also a distinct urban conurbation in Ashfield / Mansfield and there are a number of smaller centres that serve rural hinterlands across the D2N2 area. In terms of transport links, D2N2 has a central location in England, well served by key north-south transport links such as the M1, A1, Midland Main Line and East Coast Main Line.

The Vision is that D2N2 will become a more prosperous, better connected, and increasingly competitive and resilient economy, by supporting the creation of an additional 55,000 private sector employee jobs in D2N2 by 2023. As well as being recognised as a place which inspires and supports people to achieve their potential in an economy that provides opportunities for all to live, work and prosper.

The aim of the D2N2 Community Programme is to extend the benefits of the D2N2 ESIF programme and add value to 'mainstream' delivery by promoting;

- locally distinctive and innovative activity in communities across D2N2
- social value and social innovation, excellence in equalities and environmental sustainability.

In contributing to this aim the Active Inclusion Grants Programme will;

- add value to the Big Lottery Fund's 'Building Better Opportunities' project,
- contribute towards the priorities identified in the D2N2 Social Inclusion Framework (October 2014)
- promote equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability.

A full summary of the delivery objectives for the Active Inclusion Community Grants can be found in the [Strategic Overview](#).

### **Existing Provision and Added Value**

Delivery of the Active Inclusion Grants Programme should be mindful of other related ESF activity across the D2N2. In particular applicants should specifically reference alignment with the three Building Better Opportunities projects (*Towards Work, Opportunity & Change* and *Money Sorted*), with Inspire Local and Youth Engagement programmes across D2N2.

Both the Building Better Opportunities Programme and the Active Inclusion Community Grant will be part funded by Investment Priority 1.4 of the European Social Fund. Therefore beneficiaries cannot participate in the same activities supported by both the Community Grant and the Building Better Opportunities programme and be counted as an output by both. Participants can however progress to an ESF Programme such as INSPIRE Local, SKILLS Local or EMPLOY Local that is not funded by Investment Priority 1.4. Applicants applying to administer Community Grants should describe how they will add value to BBO provision and

how they will ensure that beneficiaries, particularly the hardest to reach, receive the most appropriate type of support.

All relevant documentation supporting this call can be found on the D2N2 website at: <http://www.d2n2lep.org/EUFunding/Key-Documents> and a diagram describing existing funded ESF provision is available at: <http://www.d2n2lep.org/write/Documents/ESIF/ESF/D2N2-ESF-Programmes-2015-to-2018.pdf>

**Local priorities**

In addition to the local inclusion priorities identified in the D2N2 [Social Inclusion Framework](#), the ESIF Strategy and other strategic reviews (including early findings of the *Building Better Opportunities Programme*) also identify the following priority groups:

- People with physical disabilities;
- People with learning disabilities;
- Offenders and ex-offenders;
- Carers;
- People from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities;
- Refugees.

Applicants can apply to administer the Active Inclusion Community Grant in one or more delivery area. Full details of the options for delivery models can be found in the [Strategic Overview](#) document.

Details of the local ESIF Strategy can be found at: [D2N2 Strategic Economic Plan](#)

**1.3 Scope of activity**

This Call invites Outline Applications which support the delivery of Priority Axis 1, **Investment Priority: 1.4 Active Inclusion** of the European Social Fund Operational Programme and responds to the local development need set out in the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership Area European Structural and Investment Funds Strategy.

This Call aims to address the identified shortfalls listed in section 1.2 Local Development Need above.

**2. Call Requirements**

All applications are competitive.

<b>Indicative Fund Allocation:</b>	Indicatively, through this Call the Managing Authority expects to allocate approximately <b>£1,500,000 ESF</b>
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	The Managing Authority reserves the right to decrease or increase the indicative allocation, or support more or fewer projects subject to the volume and quality of proposals received.
<b>Minimum application level</b>	<p>European Social Fund investment is intended to make a significant impact on local growth. Applications are expected to demonstrate appropriate scale and impact. The Managing Authority does not intend to allocate less than <b>£50,000 of European Social Funding to any single project.</b></p> <p>It is important to ensure a range of activity across all 4 geographical areas is supported as detailed in the call and also the need for coherence. Therefore the MA favours a single project in each area which responds to local circumstances, challenges and opportunities.</p>
<b>Duration of project approvals</b>	Projects should be for a maximum of three years; however the Managing Authority reserves the right to vary the maximum duration in exceptional circumstances.
<b>Geographical Scope</b>	All interventions should be focused on activity and beneficiaries within the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership area. However, delivery in North Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire areas also included within the Sheffield City Region will need to be mindful of activity and provision within the area of overlap.
<b>Specific Call requirements</b>	This is a Call for ESF activity.
<b>Call Deadlines</b>	For this specific Call, applications will be assessed following closure of the Call. Applications received after the published Call close date will not be considered.
<b>Application selection</b>	All applications will be scored in line with the ESF scoring criteria, but the MA reserve the right to invite projects to full application stage where they complement other activity or provide niche activity to target groups within the OP.
<b>Applicant proposals</b>	These can only contain activities which are eligible for ESF
<b>Eligible match funding</b>	Applicants will need to have eligible match funding for the balance of costs, which must be from a source other than the European Union. At outline application stage the applicant will need to provide information to demonstrate that the operation is likely to have the required level of match funding in place at the point of formal approval.
<b>Operational completion</b>	Operations must be completed no later than 30 <sup>th</sup> of September 2020



<b>Procurement</b>	All procurement must be undertaken in line with EU regulations.
<b>State Aid law</b>	Applicants must demonstrate compliance with State Aid law
<b>Audit/ Compliance</b>	All expenditure and activities will be subject to rigorous audit and non-compliance may lead to financial penalty.
<b>Calls listing multiple activity</b>	The applicant is required to list each activity they plan to deliver, supported by a clear breakdown of costs. Expected outcomes and results per activity should be provided.

ESF cannot be used to duplicate existing activities or activities that do not address market failure. ESF can only be used to achieve additional activity or bring forward activity more quickly. Applicants must be able to demonstrate that proposals are additional to activity that would have occurred anyway or enables activity to be brought forward and delivered more quickly than otherwise would be the case in response to opportunity or demand.

### 3. Deliverables required under this Call:

Applications will be expected to achieve the minimum indicative level of Programme Deliverables by contributing to the following Investment Priority. The definitions of which can be accessed at the [ESF Operational Programme](#).

<b>Investment Priority</b>	<b>1.4 Active Inclusion.</b>
<b>Specific Objectives</b>	Active inclusion, including with a view to promoting equal opportunities and active participation, and improving employability
<b>Indicative Actions</b>	<p>ESF will not support activities that duplicate or replace existing support within national programmes, but may be used to support additional activities or target groups, including provision co-designed with local partners.</p> <p>Examples of activities that may be supported include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• basic skills and ESOL training, including additional support with basic skills in preparation for apprenticeships;</li> <li>• support for those who need pre-traineeship and pre-Work Programme assistance, to prepare them for the next step;</li> <li>• support complementing other skills provision, such as crosscutting and 21st century skills, including team working, effective communication, problem solving, critical thinking and self-direction;</li> <li>• money management support and advice and financial literacy programmes in order to address deep seated debt issues which make moving from benefit into work more challenging;</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• digital and internet literacy courses to aid job searching, access to benefits and progress in work;</li> <li>• volunteering and training opportunities (as a pathway back to work) for marginalised individuals / groups / communities to help them access jobs in low carbon sectors or land drainage flood risk management or work that supports property level protection against flooding;</li> <li>• local ‘Community Grant’ type activity to support small scale voluntary sector activity which can be crucial to reaching out to these groups;</li> <li>• first contact engagement activities (for example, arranging events in places that people feel comfortable to visit);</li> <li>• local networks and groups to support people to get a job or access learning (for example, Job Clubs or Learning Champion type activity) to provide people with a safe environment and peer support;</li> <li>• softer skills development (for example, assertiveness, anger management and motivation);</li> <li>• volunteering, which is recognised in general terms as a good way to re-engage those furthest from the labour market.</li> </ul> <p>The investment priority may also encourage Social Investment models (e.g. social impact bonds) by providing outcome funding that enables payment by results programmes to be established to support the Government’s agenda on Social Justice and encourage innovative delivery models within local communities. The focus would be on disadvantaged individuals and families, e.g. in areas such as employment, training, drug addiction and other issues which are usually part of the cycle of deprivation.</p> <p>To complement other thematic objectives, the investment priority may support activities that are designed to promote social inclusion whilst also tackling environmental issues such as environmental protection, waste recycling, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. These activities are relevant across all types of territory.</p>
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## Results Table

<b>ID</b>	<b>Result Indicator</b>	<b>Minimum Target value for this call</b>
ESF-CR02	Participants in education or training on leaving	17% More Developed
ESF-CR06	Participants in employment, including self-employment, 6 months after leaving	22% More Developed

R1	Unemployed participants into employment (including self-employment) on leaving	14% More Developed
R2	Inactive participants into employment, or job search on leaving	27% More Developed
R4	Participants with childcare needs receiving childcare support	36% More Developed

### Outputs table

Investment Priority 1.4		Delivery Area				TOTAL
		Derby	Derbys	Nottm	Notts	
A - Economically inactive		32,200	110,800	65,200	110,000	318,200
B – Unemployed		7,400	16,200	13,400	19,600	56,600
C - Not looking for work		22,100	87,300	50,800	86,400	246,600
TOTAL (A+B-C)		17,500	39,700	27,800	43,200	128,200
%		<b>14%</b>	<b>31%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>34%</b>	
As above TOTAL ESF Funding		£204,758	£464,509	£325,273	£505,460	£1,500,000
<b>Output Targets</b>						
O1	Total Number of Participants	200	454	318	494	<b>1465</b>
- Male	Total Number of Participants	106	240	168	262	<b>777</b>
-Female	Total Number of Participants	94	213	149	232	<b>689</b>
CO1	Unemployed, inc. Long Term Unemp.	108	245	172	267	<b>791</b>
CO3	Inactive	78	177	124	193	<b>571</b>
O4	Participants over 50 years of age*	30	117	30	116	<b>293</b>
O5	Participants from Ethnic Minorities*	36	14	72	25	<b>147</b>
CO16	Participants with disabilities*	47	160	56	161	<b>425</b>

Applicants will be required to demonstrate how they will achieve the deliverables within their proposal along with any methodology that will be used to record

achievement. Applicants will also need to ensure robust systems are in place, and be able to describe them, to capture and record the targets and to report quantitative and qualitative performance across the D2N2 LEP area. All operations will be required to collect data and report progress against the deliverables with each claim. Where an operation underperforms against their deliverables they may be subject to a performance penalty.

There must be a fully evidenced audit trail for all contracted deliverables.

## 4. General Information

Essential information to support the drafting of an application and delivery of a successful ESF funded project is available at the [European Growth Funding](#) website pages.

### 4.1 Compliance and Eligibility

When developing an application, Applicants should refer to [guidance](#) on eligible Applicants, activities and costs. These are for guidance only and Applicants should take their own specialist advice if in doubt. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to ensure that the rules and guidance are adhered to both at application stage and following approval.

European Structural Investment Funds (ESIF) are governed by European regulations and national rules. Applicants are advised to familiarise themselves with the relevant documentation listed in the 'key documents' section prior to submitting an Outline application. If successful, Applicants will enter into the standard Funding Agreement and must abide by the standard terms and conditions contained therein. Applicants are therefore strongly advised to read these terms and conditions to ensure that they would be able to enter into such an agreement prior to responding to the Call. Once a Funding Agreement has been issued it should be signed and returned within a short timescale.

### 4.2 Intervention Rate & Match Funding

ESF is funding used where no other funding can be obtained (the funder of last resort) and the maximum ESF intervention rate for the operation is 50%. This means ESF can contribute up to 50% of the total eligible project costs, subject to State Aid regulations. The remaining 50% or more must come from other eligible sources. For all outline applications, the applicant will need to provide information to demonstrate that the operation is likely to have the required level of match funding in place at the point of formal approval.

ESF is not paid in advance and expenditure must be defrayed prior to the submission of any claims. Applicants may be asked to demonstrate how they are able to cash flow the operation.

### **4.3 Applicants**

Applicants must be legally constituted at the point of signing a Funding Agreement, and be able to enter into a legally binding Funding Agreement. The Applicant will be the organisation that, if the application is successful, enters into a contract for ESF and therefore carries the liability for ensuring that the terms of the ESF Funding Agreement are met by them and to all delivery partners. If there is more than one organisation applying for the funds, a lead organisation must be selected to become the Applicant. It is this organisation that carries the responsibility and liability for carrying out a compliant project.

The Managing Authority will consider the Applicant's track record, both positive and negative. If the Applicant has been involved in the delivery of previous European grants and any irregularities with this (these) grant(s) have been identified, the Managing Authority will look into these and expect to see how and what steps have been taken to ensure that these have been addressed to mitigate the risk of further irregularities in the future. It is acknowledged that some organisations will be new to ESIF funding and will not have a track record.

### **4.4 Cross Cutting Themes**

All applications received under this Call should demonstrate how the Cross Cutting Themes have been addressed in the project design and development. Cross cutting themes for ESF are 'gender equality and equal opportunities' and 'sustainable development'.

For ESF, the project applicants will be required to deliver their services in-line with the Public Sector Equality Duty (as defined in the Equality Act 2010). All projects must have a gender and equal opportunities policy and implementation plan which will be submitted at full application stage and in-line with Managing Authority guidance. Project applicants will also be required to answer a number of ESF-specific equality questions which will be set out in both the full application form and the related guidance.

For ESF, all projects will also be required to submit a sustainable development policy and implementation plan (in-line with guidance produced by the Managing Authority).

The ESF programme particularly welcomes projects that have an environmental focus that can meet the strategic fit at local and programme level whilst also adding value by:

- supporting environmental sustainability; and/ or

- complementing the environmental thematic objectives of other programmes such as ERDF; and/or
- using the environment as a resource to help motivate disadvantaged people

Further information is available in the [ESF Operational Programme](#)

## 4.5 State Aid & Revenue Generation

Applicants are required, in the Outline Application, to provide a view on how their proposal complies with State Aid law. Applicants must ensure that projects comply with the law on State Aid.<sup>1</sup> Grant funding to any economic undertaking which is state aid can only be awarded if it is compatible aid, in that it complies with the terms of a notified scheme or is covered by the De Minimis Regulation. Guidance for grant recipients, explaining more about State Aid, is available; it is important that Applicants take responsibility for understanding the importance of the State Aid rules and securing their full compliance with them throughout the project, if it is selected into the Programme.

The Managing Authority is not able to give legal advice on State Aid. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to ensure that the operation is State Aid compliant.

Where the Applicant does not perceive that there is any State Aid, it should state whether or not it considers Articles 61 and 65(8) of regulation 1303/2013 to apply. This revenue should be taken into account in calculating eligible expenditure. Article 61 refers to monitoring revenues generated after completion of the project, and Article 65(8) how to deal with differences in the forecast and actual revenues at the end of the operation. The details of this will be tested at the full application stage.

## 4.6 Funding Agreement

The Funding Agreement is a standard, non-negotiable and legally binding document. Any successful Applicant will be subject to the terms and conditions contained within this agreement. Applicants are strongly advised to seek their own advice to ensure that they would be able to enter into and abide by the terms of the Funding Agreement.

Failure to meet any of the conditions of the agreement or the commitments within the application will result in claw back of funding.

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<sup>1</sup> Article 107(1) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union provides that: "Save as otherwise provided in the Treaties, any aid granted by a Member State or through state resources in any form whatsoever which distorts or threatens to distort competition by favouring certain undertakings or the production of certain goods shall, in so far as it affects trade between Member States, be incompatible with the internal market."

Applicants should be aware that additional provisions and securities may be included within the Funding Agreement to protect the investment. These will be further discussed if relevant following the Full Application stage.

#### **4.7 Procurement**

All costs delivered by the Grant Recipient (the applicant) and/or delivery partners must be delivered on an actual cost basis. Other costs must be procured in line with EU regulations. The most common error identified during audit has been failure to comply with relevant procurement regulations and crucially to maintain a full audit trail to prove that they have complied with the relevant regulation. Robust and transparent procurement is required to ensure that Grant Recipients:

- consider value for money;
- maximise efficient use of public money; and
- maintain competitiveness and fairness across the European Union.

It is recommended that applicants seek their own legal advice pertaining to their procurement and requirements to publicise any tendering opportunities.

The Managing Authority is not able to give legal advice on procurement. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure the project is compliant in this respect.

#### **4.8 Retrospection**

There will be no retrospection for applications made against this Call, other than in line with the general policy on retrospection which allows costs to be potentially eligible between outline and full application stage, but only where the full application is approved.

## **5. Application Process & Prioritisation Methodology**

There are two stages to the ESF application process; Outline Application and if successful, Full Application. Applicants must fully complete the Outline Application Form (section 9 refers). Guidance is available on the [European Growth Funding](#) website pages. Acceptance of an Outline Application to progress to full application stage does not in any way indicate or constitute an offer of European Social Fund grant. Applications will be subject to a Gateway Assessment undertaken by the Managing Authority under the following criteria:

- Applicant eligibility;
- Activity and expenditure eligibility; and
- The fit with the ESF OP and the Call.

Proposals that pass the Gateway Assessment will move into the Core Assessment which consists of the following:

- Strategic fit;
- Value for money;
- Management & control;
- Deliverability;
- Procurement / tendering; and
- State Aid compliance.

The Managing Authority will seek advice from partners when considering applications to ensure its assessment is informed by local economic growth conditions and opportunities within the context of Operational Programmes and the local ESIF Strategy. This will include the relevant LEP Area ESIF Committee and other partners deemed relevant to the application.

The assessment and any prioritisation will be undertaken using only the information supplied as part of the application process. The Managing Authority cannot accept further detail outside this process.

Non-public sector Applicants who are successful at the Outline Application stage may be subject to due financial diligence checks by the Managing Authority, prior to submission of a Full Application. Applicants will be required to submit accounts, and to clarify financial or other organisational information. New Applicant organisations may be required to provide details of a guarantor.

There is no appeal process for applicants whose Applications are rejected at Outline Application stage, Full Application stage or for failing to satisfy the MA's Financial Due Diligence checks.

## 6. Support

Please note that this is a competitive Call and to preserve impartiality we are unable to enter into correspondence with applicants over their Outline application. Details of where guidance can be found are contained throughout this Calls document. In exceptional circumstances, if there are issues with accessing this guidance, please contact:

✉: [ESF.2014-2020@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ESF.2014-2020@dwp.gsi.gov.uk)

No applications are to be sent to this email address. Completed Outline applications must be sent to the email address provided in Section 9 – Document submission.

## 7. Key Documents

- Outline Application Form;
- Outline Application Form Guidance;



- Local Enterprise Partnership area’s ESIF strategy; and
- National ESF Eligibility Rules.

## 8. Document Checklist

The assessment will be undertaken on the basis of documentation received at the point of closure of the call. Applicants should provide the following documentation.

Outline Stage:

- fully completed Outline Application;
- financial tables (if the application is against more than one Category of Region, a financial table for each Category of Region);
- Outputs, Results and Indicators tables (if the application is against more than one Category of Region, a Outputs, Results and Indicators table for each Category of Region); and

To enable the Managing Authority to complete the required Financial Due Diligence checks (if private or voluntary and community sector), applicant to provide

- three years financial accounts
- Proof of existence - Certificate of Incorporation, Charities Registration , VAT Registration Certificate or alternate form of incorporation documentation;
- Proof of trading - Financial Accounts/Statements for the most recent two years of trading including, as a minimum, Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheets;
- Completed Financial Viability and Risk Assessment Applicant Template (for applications requesting annualised funding of greater than £1m)

Failure to provide the above documentation could result in the application being rejected.

## 9. Document Submission

Completed Outline Applications must be submitted to

✉: [2014-2020.ESFAPPLICATIONS@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK](mailto:2014-2020.ESFAPPLICATIONS@DWP.GSI.GOV.UK)

## 10. Timescales

Launch of Call advertised on gov.uk.	25 July 2017
Deadline for submission of Outline Application	27 September 2017

Outline Application forms not received by the deadline will not be assessed. Outline Applications which are not fully completed will be excluded.

For this Call applications will normally be required to **commence delivery/activity within three months** of the award of contract.

Any changes related to the deadline for the submission of the Outline Application form will be notified on the [European Growth Funding](#) website pages.

# 11. Appendix A – Common output indicators

## Appendix A – extract from Annex 1 of the ESF regulation

Common output and result indicators for ESF investments

(1) Common output indicators for participants

"Participants" refers to persons benefiting directly from an ESF intervention who can be identified and asked for their characteristics, and for whom specific expenditure is earmarked. Other persons shall not be classified as participants. **All data shall be broken down by gender.**

The common output indicators for participants are:

unemployed, including long-term unemployed
long-term unemployed
inactive
Inactive, not in education or training
employed, including self-employed
below 25 years of age
above 54 years of age
above 54 years of age who are unemployed, including long-term unemployed, or inactive not in education or training
with primary (ISCED 1) or lower secondary education (ISCED 2)
with upper secondary (ISCED 3) or post-secondary education (ISCED 4)
with tertiary education (ISCED 5 to 8)
participants who live in jobless households
participants who live in jobless households with dependent children
participants who live in a single adult household with dependent children
participants who are offenders or ex-offenders
ethnic minorities
Participants with disabilities
other disadvantaged
homeless or affected by housing exclusion
from rural areas

Common immediate result indicators for participants are:

inactive participants engaged in job searching upon leaving
participants in education/training upon leaving
participants gaining a qualification upon leaving
participants in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving
disadvantaged participants engaged in job searching, education/ training, gaining a qualification, in employment, including self-employment, upon leaving

Common longer-term result indicators for participants are:

participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving
participants with an improved labour market situation six months after leaving
participants above 54 years of age in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving
disadvantaged participants in employment, including self-employment, six months after leaving