



# 2014 to 2020 European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme

# Call for Proposals European Social Fund

# **Priority Axis 1: Inclusive Labour Markets**

Managing Authority	Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)	
ESI Fund	European Social Fund	
Priority Axis:	Priority Axis 1: Inclusive Labour Markets	
Investment Priority:	1.2 Sustainable Integration of Young People into the Labour Market	
Call Reference:	1.2 Sustainable Integration of Young People into the Labour Market in Coventry & Warwickshire - OC06S19P1371	
LEP Area:	Coventry & Warwickshire	
Call Opens:	18 April 2019	
Call Closes:	11 July 2019	
Document Submission	Completed Full Applications must be submitted to ⊠: 2014-2020.esfapplications@dwp.gov.uk	

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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.

The Government has confirmed that it will guarantee funding for ESF projects that are contracted by the end of 2020. Whatever the outcome of the EU negotiations, this guarantee will stand. This ensures that UK organisations, such as charities, businesses and universities, will continue to receive funding over a project's lifetime if they successfully bid into EU-funded programmes before the end of 2020, even in the event of a no-deal. Details of the guarantee can be found at the following website link.

All contracted ESF projects must be completed by the end of the programme period in 2023. Each application for ESF will be required to demonstrate that it delivers good value for money and domestic strategic priorities.

European Structural and Investment Funds are managed by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local 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 appraisal of each Full Application.

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: 1.2 Sustainable Integration into the Labour Market of Young People** 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 <u>ESF Operational Programme</u> 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 appraised as part of a single-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. The Operational Programme identifies the need to address high levels of youth unemployment in specific areas of England this will be delivered through the following Investment priority:

**Investment priority 1.2** Sustainable integration into the labour market of young people (ESF), in particular those not in employment, education or training, including young people at risk of social exclusion and young people from marginalised communities, including through the implementation of the Youth Guarantee

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.

	Results that the Member States seek to		
Specific Objective	achieve with Union support		
To support the rise in the participation age by providing additional traineeship and apprenticeship opportunities	The additional support from this investment priority will help more young people enter traineeships and apprenticeships (in areas that do not qualify for the Youth Employment Initiative up to 2018) It will improve the quality of what is offered to individuals by improving recruitment and assessment and engagement with employers. By helping more young participants aged 15 to 24, male and female, who were NEET or at risk of NEET, to take up traineeships or apprenticeships, we will improve movements into work.		
To engage marginalised 15-18 year olds and support them to re- engage with education or training	The additional support from this investment priority will help to find and engage young people who are disconnected from mainstream activity in areas that do not qualify for the Youth Employment Initiative. Participants could, for example, be members of gangs, care leavers, young lone parents, ex-offenders or young people with learning		

To address the basic skills needs of young NEETS so that they can	difficulties. They are likely to require more intensive and tailored interventions. The main result that will be achieved is that more participants will be engaged with education or training on leaving, and this will be measured by the result target. The additional support from this investment priority will help young NEETs (in areas that
compete effectively in the labour market;	do not qualify for the Youth Employment Initiative up to 2018) to acquire the basic skills necessary to enable them to progress into an apprenticeship, traineeship or other employment. The main result that will be achieved is that more participants will have gained basic skills. There is an output target for participants without basic skills and a result target for participants gaining basic skills.
To provide additional work experience and pre-employment training opportunities to unemployed 18-24 year olds	The additional support from this investment priority will help unemployed 18-24 year olds (in areas that do not qualify for the Youth Employment Initiative up to 2018) to transition into training or sustainable employment (or self-employment). The main result that will be achieved is that more participants will enter traineeships, apprenticeships or sustainable employment (including self-employment) on leaving.
To support young lone parents to overcome the barriers they face in participating in the labour market (including childcare).	The additional support from this investment priority will help young lone parents (in areas that do not qualify for the Youth Employment Initiative up to 2018) to move closer to and into sustainable employment (including self- employment). Support will include assistance with childcare when this has not been covered by public provision, such as Universal Credit. It will also help participants to overcome other barriers, such as low basic skills or lack of confidence. The main result that will be achieved is that more participants will move into sustainable employment (including self-employment). There is an output target for the number of lone parents.

#### **1.2 Local Development Need**

Projects must deliver activity which directly contributes to the objectives of Priority Axis 1, Investment Priority 1.2 of the Operational Programme, and which meets the **local development need** expressed in the text and table below.

#### **Local Priorities:**

Youth unemployment continues to be of concern in Coventry and Warwickshire with rates varying significantly across the area. As a result of these variations Coventry was awarded Youth Employment Initiative monies. This call is intended to provide complementary provision in Warwickshire as well as provide opportunities for non YEI eligible delivery in Coventry.

As at June 2018 the Coventry & Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership (CWLEP) area had a youth unemployment rate of 1.9% however this masks large variations across the area. Rates of youth unemployment range from 4.4% in Nuneaton and Bedworth and 3.5% in Rugby to 1.5% in Coventry less than 1% in Warwick. This compares to a West Midlands rate of 3.7% highlighting that some parts of the CWLEP area are falling well below the regional average.

There have been some improvements in youth unemployment since our strategy was first published, however a small group of persistent NEETS remain. As at November 2016 (the latest data regarding the age of claimants available from Nomis) in the CWLEP area we have 5140 under 25 year olds who are claiming benefits, 3880 of these have been claiming for over 6 months and an alarming 2320 for over 2 years. Numbers on jobseeking benefits are significantly smaller indicating that many of these young people will have complicated issues and may have additional needs or be from vulnerable groups, such as care leavers. The CWLEP would wish to see provision that can provide support to individuals in a way that is tailored, personalised and flexible so that these complex difficulties may be addressed.

Warwickshire seeks a "joined up" offer for young people and the successful applicant would be invited to join the NEETS Planning and Co-ordination group chaired by Warwickshire County Council. This forum brings together a number of providers supporting young people in the county to share information and understand the depth and breadth of provision on offer. Coventry is developing a similar group.

Project activity must be easily accessible across the whole of the county. Applicants should demonstrate how they will ensure effective coverage for young people across Warwickshire including its more rural areas.

#### Call Outline

Evidence from the Gatsby Foundation shows that interactions with employers, work experience and employability skills training are important to retain the engagement of this group and ensure they not become too far removed from the labour market.

Locally our priority activities, focussing in the CWLEP area, will be:

- Expanding and improving the quality of careers advice for young people.
- Increasing young people's exposure to industry including via traineeships and apprenticeships.

- Tailored intervention, including coaching and mentoring or support with transport costs.
- Improved employability skills.
- Supporting interventions for young people, especially those with multiple barriers to their participation, including care leavers, lone parents, offenders and those with learning disabilities/ difficulties.

The following areas have high levels of deprivation and the expectation that a minimum of **50%** of the people engaged in this priority axis will live in the priority wards listed below.

**Coventry Wards:** Foleshill, Binley & Willenhall, Longford, Henley, St Michael's, Radford, Upper Stoke, Holbrooks, Lower Stoke, Westwood

**Warwickshire Wards:** Bar Pool, Camp Hill, Kingswood, Abbey, Wem Brook, Newbold and Brownsover, Bede, Crown, Atherstone Central, Poplar, Atherstone South & Mancetter, Rokeby and Overslade, Warwick West, Brunswick, Atherstone North, Attleborough, Exhall, New Bilton, Eastlands/Benn, Arley & Whitacre, Heath, Admirals & Cawston/Bilton, Slough, Alcester, Hartshill, Arbury, Stratford Avenue & New Town, Stratford Mount Pleasant.

The Coventry and Warwickshire ESIF strategy can be found at: <u>Coventry &</u> <u>Warwickshire ESIF</u>

#### **Consortia/Partnership Applications**

Applications are encouraged from consortia or other similar types of partnership arrangements. In each such case the application must be submitted by a lead organisation on behalf of the partnership/consortia and the lead applicant must have the financial capacity to meet the required Due Diligence criteria.

#### 1.3 Scope of activity

This call invites Full Applications which support the delivery of Priority Axis 1, Investment Priority 1.2 Sustainable Integration of Young People into the Labour Market of the European Social Fund Operational Programme and responds to the local development need set out in the Coventry & Warwickshire 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

Indicative Fund	Indicatively, through this call the Managing Authority	
Allocation:	expects to allocate approximately £2,000,000 ESF.	
	The Managing Authority recomposites the right to increase or	
	The Managing Authority reserves the right to increase or	
	decrease the indicative allocation, or support more or	
	fewer projects subject to the volume and quality of	
Minimum application	proposals received.	
Minimum application level	European Social Fund investment is intended to make a significant impact on local growth. Applications are	
level	expected to demonstrate appropriate scale and impact.	
	expected to demonstrate appropriate scale and impact.	
	The Managing Authority would prefer, and will give	
	preference to applications over £500,000 of ESF.	
	However, in exceptional circumstances we will consider	
	applications of not less than £300,000.	
	Applications requesting an ESF amount below the	
	'Minimum Application Level' will be rejected.	
Duration of project	Projects must be completed no later than 3 years and 6	
	months after the proposed project start date; however,	
	the Managing Authority reserves the right to vary the	
	maximum duration in exceptional circumstances.	
	All ESF Projects must be completed by 31 <sup>st</sup> December	
	2023. Project costs cannot be incurred beyond this date.	
	<b>NOTE:</b> Delivery of activities and associated costs can be	
	incurred up to and including 31 <sup>st</sup> December 2023, with	
	the full and final claim expected no later than February	
Geographical Scope	2024 All interventions should be focused on activity and	
Sevyraphical Scope	beneficiaries within the Coventry & Warwickshire Local	
	Enterprise Partnership area.	
Specific call		
requirements	This is a call for ESF activity.	
Call Deadlines	For this specific call, applications will be appraised	
	following closure of the call. Applications received after	
	the published call close date will not be considered.	
Application selection	All applications will be scored in line with the ESF	
	scoring criteria, but the MA reserve the right to offer ESF	
	funding where a project complements other activity or	
	provides niche activity to target groups within the ESF	
	Operational Programme.	

Applicant proposals	These can only contain activities which are eligible for ESF.
Eligible match funding	Applicants will need to have eligible match funding for the balance of costs, which must be from a source other than the European Union. 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.
Procurement	All procurement must be undertaken in line with EU regulations.
State Aid law	Applicants must demonstrate compliance with State Aid law.
Audit/ Compliance	All expenditure and activities will be subject to rigorous audit and non-compliance may lead to financial penalty.
Calls listing multiple activity (delete if not appropriate)	The applicant is required to list each activity they plan to deliver, supported by a clear breakdown of costs. Expected outputs 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 <u>ESF Operational Programme</u>.

Investment Priority	1.2 Sustainable Integration Of Young People Into The Labour Market	
Specific Objectives	Sustainable integration into the labour market of young people (ESF), in particular those not in employment, education or training, including young people at risk of social exclusion and young people from marginalised communities, including through the implementation of the Youth Guarantee	
Indicative Actions	<ul> <li>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.</li> <li>Examples of actions for all young people who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET include:</li> </ul>	

<ul> <li>literacy, numeracy, ICT and employability provision to ensure that individuals have the basic skills needed in all jobs and to help them prepare for apprenticeships and progress through other routes to gaining higher skills;</li> <li>support which complements other skills provision, such as crosscutting and 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, including team working, effective communication, problem solving, critical thinking and self-direction;</li> <li>training and vocational qualifications to equip young people for specific jobs;</li> <li>support for young women to enter non-traditional sectors (e.g. construction) which addresses barriers to entry e.g. to apply for apprenticeships;</li> <li>community and informal learning to engage young people who have struggled at school and encourage them to access more formal learning;</li> <li>intermediate labour market activity to provide a structured and supportive environment where young people can gain work experience;</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>using self-employment as a route out of worklessness, including providing advice and support for self- employment.</li> </ul>

#### **Results Table**

ID	Result Indicator	Minimum Target value for this call
R3	Participants gaining basic skills	4%
R5	Participants (below 25 years of age) in employment, including self-employment, or education/ training upon leaving	43%
ESF-CR06	Participants in employment, including self-employment, 6 months after leaving	34%

### Outputs table

ID	Output Indicator	Total Minimum target value for this call	Men minimum target value	Women minimum target value
02	Participants (below 25 years of age) who are unemployed or inactive	3000	1530	1470
ESF –CO01	Unemployed, including long-term unemployed	2158	-	-
ESF – CO03	Inactive	842	-	-

O5	Participants from ethnic minorities	613	-	-
ESF - CO16	Participants with disabilities	432	-	-
O6	Participants without basic skills	601		
ESF - CO14	Participants who live in a single adult household with dependent children	209	-	-

#### **Outputs and Results Rationale**

Applicants must explain in detail in their Full Application how they have estimated each of the outputs and results for their project, demonstrating clearly how each of the proposed outputs and results directly link to their specific project activities and objectives.

Applicants must also explain their approach for forecasting each deliverable; including the specific base-lining/research they have undertaken to ensure their projected profiles are realistic and achievable and any assumptions they have made which impact on their forecasts.

Where an applicant is proposing one or more output or result figures below the expected minimum target value for this call, an explanation must also be provided by the applicant in their Full Application.

ESF Outputs and Results Indicator Definitions Guidance is available on GOV.UK <u>here</u>.

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 Coventry & Warwickshire 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 <u>European Growth Funding</u> website pages.

#### 4.1 Compliance and Eligibility

When developing an application, Applicants should refer to <u>guidance</u> 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 'Document Checklist' section prior to submitting a Full 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 <u>up to</u> 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 full 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 Full 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

<sup>&</sup>lt;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."

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.

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.

For organisations applying for ESF funds through the Single-Stage Application process, the effective date for incurring eligible ESF expenditure will be the day after the relevant open call closing date. Any expenditure incurred by an ESF Direct Bid project prior to this date is ineligible.

However, any expenditure incurred by an ESF applicant, up to and including the date on which an ESF Funding Agreement is fully executed, will be at the applicant's own risk.

# 5. Application Process & Prioritisation Methodology

The ESF application process is a single-stage process – Full Application only. Applicants must fully complete the Full Application Form (section 9 refers). Guidance is available on the <u>European Growth Funding</u> website pages. 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 appraisal 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 appraisal 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 may be subject to due financial diligence checks. 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.

If, following the appraisal process, an applicant is not satisfied with the ESF funding decision for their project, they can submit an appeal in writing to the ESF Managing Authority.

### 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 Full Application prior to the call closing date. 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:

#### ⊠: <u>esf.2014-2020@dwp.gov.uk</u>

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

## 7. Key Documents

- Full Application Form
- Full Application Form Guidance
- Financial Annex
- Indicator Annex
- Local Enterprise Partnership area's ESIF strategy; and
- National ESF Eligibility Rules.

## 8. Document Checklist

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

- 1. Fully completed **Full Application Form** (Note that Sections 2.7 and 2.8 of the Full Application Form will not be applicable as this is a "one stage" application process);
- 2. **Financial tables** (if the application is against more than one Category of Region, a financial table for each Category of Region);
- 3. **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);
- 4. A visual, high level customer journey document e.g. flow chart;
- 5. **Confirmation of match funding** from each funder (confirmation must be in place by the point of formal approval);
- Detailed Granular budget breakdown (All costs must be itemised, eligible, appropriate for the project and profiled across the project period. The granular budget should also include all hourly rate figures, per job role, for staff working part-time or part of their time on the ESF Project – calculated using the 1720 hour rate calculation set out in the <u>ESF Programme Guidance</u> on GOV.UK. This includes match-funded staff roles);
- 7. Equality and Diversity Policy and Sustainability Policy (Applicant is responsible for ensuring that Delivery partners also hold relevant policies);
- 8. Independent state aid advice (if applicable);
- 9. Job Descriptions and Organogram (covering all staff, including any delivery partner and/or match-funded staff posts);
- 10. Applicants procurement policy (if applicable);
- 11. Draft SLA with Delivery Partners (if applicable)
- 12. **Project level risk register** (this should cover areas such as financial risk, output risks, delivery risks etc. please ensure that the register covers how these risks will be managed and mitigated);
- 13. **Anti-Fraud Statement** (a statement on how you will deal with suspected fraud in your organisation and if appropriate, with your sub-contractors); 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 FVRA 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 Full Applications must be submitted to

⊠: <u>2014-2020.esfapplications@dwp.gov.uk</u>

### 10. Timescales

Launch of Call advertised on GOV.UK	18 April 2019
Deadline for submission of Full Application	11 July 2019

Full Application forms not received by the deadline will not be appraised.

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 Full 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
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

disadvantaged participants in employment, including self-employment, s months after leaving