



European Union

European Structural
and Investment Funds

**European Structural and Investment
Funds
2014 - 2020**

Growth Programme for England

Greater Lincolnshire ESI Funds Sub-committee

Minutes of meeting held 05 November 2019: 11:00-13:00

Board Room, Lancaster House, 36 Orchard Street, Lincoln, LN1 1XX

Agenda:

- 1. Welcome and Introduction**
- 2. Minutes of 19th June 2019 meeting and progress of actions**
- 3. Written Procedures update**
- 4. ERDF Programme Update**
- 5. ERDF PA1 Outline Applications**
- 6. ERDF PA2 Outline Applications**
- 7. ERDF PA3 Outline Applications**
- 8. ERDF PA5 Outline Applications**
- 9. ESF Update and ESF Reserve Fund**
- 10. EAFRD Update**
- 11. Any other Business**

1. Welcome and Introduction

- 1.1. **The Chair** welcomed Members and Attendees to the meeting. Attendance and apologies were noted as per **Annex B**.
- 1.2. **The Chair** asked all present for any Conflicts of Interest, to which there were 2 responses. Each COI was noted for the record.

2. Minutes of 19th June 2019 meeting and progress of actions

- 2.1. The minutes of the June 19th meeting were approved without requiring amendment.
- 2.2. It was agreed universally that all actions from the 19th June 2019 meeting have been successfully concluded.

3. Written Procedures update

- 3.1. **RD** provided an update to the Sub-Committee on the 5 Written Procedures that had been undertaken since the 19th June 2019 meeting, giving detail as per Paper 3 of the comments received.
- 3.2. There was a broad discussion about the Midlands Investment Fund and some internal concerns of the Sub-Committee around the thresholds proposed. **JF** noted that the Midland's region has a MEIF lead who has received varying feedback from different LEP's and that the feedback is being considered and reflected in the proposal going forwards.

4. ERDF Programme Update and June Calls

- 4.1. **RD** provided an update, as per the paperwork provided for section 4, confirming that 17 applications had been received following the recent Call for Proposals for the GLLEP area in Priority Axes 1, 2, 3 & 5.
- 4.2. There was a broad discussion around the equity left in each Priority Axis and the recent proposal, which was sent to members by email, to reallocate this remaining allocation to the Midlands Engine Investment Fund- namely around the matter of the funds remaining allocated as Transitional, thus benefitting GLLEP even through the MEIF due to being a Transitional area. There was agreement that remaining funds will be transferred to the MEIF.
- 4.3. **The Chair** made enquiry as to whether the reallocation of funding to MEIF would preclude applicants in the GLLEP area from applying for the Reserve Fund Allocations. A discussion occurred around the table on this matter, the outcome of which was an action for the Managing Authority; **ACTION; Managing Authority**, to investigate if the Reserve Fund will be allocated according to Category of Region and feedback to the Sub-Committee.
- 4.4. There was further discussion around how well utilised the MEIF is at this time, in the GLLEP Area, with **SH** providing some clarity on the take-up which is exceeding expectation. **SH** noted that some feedback suggested certain applicants were struggling with the repayments of MEIF interventions but overall the utilisation is demonstrating a positive local impact. An action was noted as follows; **ACTION; SH**, to email **RD** with the specific concerns around MEIF utilisation in GLLEP & **RD** to investigate.
- 4.5. **RD** Informed the Sub-Committee of a change to the Terms of Reference, whereby not all Full Applications come back to the Committee for consideration; only those that are formally selected for review for any reason, by either side. There was a broad discussion around the room on this.
- 4.6. **JF** noted to the group several points around how the Managing Authority will be conducting the process of Invitation to Full Application; giving particular iteration to the June 2020 deadline for Funding Agreements to be in place.
- 4.7. There was a broad discussion around timeframes and processes, during which **JF** confirmed the Managing Authority's Plan to hold both Individual Feedback Meetings with Applicants as well as Regional Events at which the common pitfalls and concerns will be raised with applicants, with a view to addressing historical issues which have lead to delays.
- 4.8. **JF** brought attention to the low attendance of this meeting and a wider discussion ensued, the outcome of which was an agreed action as follows; **ACTION; RD**, To email the Sub-

Committee members list with a request to provide any comments on the ERDF Outline Assessments by Close of Play 08th November 2019.

5. ERDF PA1 Outline Applications

- 5.1. **RD** presented, in turn, a summary of each of the Outline Application's received under this Priority Axis. The Strategic Fit and any comments from the Sub-Committee are contained within **Annex C: ERDF Outline Applications**.

6. ERDF PA2 Outline Applications

- 6.1. **RD** presented, in turn, a summary of each of the Outline Application's received under this Priority Axis. The Strategic Fit and any comments from the Sub-Committee are contained within **Annex C: ERDF Outline Applications**.

7. ERDF PA3 Outline Applications

- 7.1. **RD** presented, in turn, a summary of each of the Outline Application's received under this Priority Axis. The Strategic Fit and any comments from the Sub-Committee are contained within **Annex C: ERDF Outline Applications**.

8. ERDF PA5 Outline Applications

- 8.1. **RD** presented, in turn, a summary of each of the Outline Application's received under this Priority Axis. The Strategic Fit and any comments from the Sub-Committee are contained within **Annex C: ERDF Outline Applications**.
- 8.2. **ACTION; RD** to investigate whether it is possible for a GLLEP specific Growth Hub condition can be put on all successful Outline Letters
- 8.3. **ACTION; SH** to email existing agreement on Growth Hub Condition and Wording to **RD**

9. ESF Update and ESF Reserve Fund

- 9.1. Papers were provided in advance of the meeting for the Sub-Committee's consideration.
- 9.2. **The Chair** queried the content of these papers as it was his understanding that there would be some form of Direct Bidding to be undertaken. As no member of the ESF Managing Authority was present this query was not able to be concluded and an action was set as follows; **ACTION; The Chair**, To query with the ESF Managing Authority whether any form of Direct Bidding for funding remains an option for the Sub-Committee.

10. EAFRD Update

- 10.1. Papers were provided in advance of the meeting for the Sub-Committee's consideration.
- 10.2. No Comment or query was raised on these papers

11. AOB

- 11.1. **RD** proposed that the next meeting, which was due to occur on 11th December 2019, be pushed back to February. This was agreed and the date/time of the next meeting will be confirmed in due course.
- 11.2. **SH** Provided, for information only, a Growth Hub Cross referral Organogram which shows each of the GLLEP ERDF funded projects approved to date and how these tie in to the Growth Hub

Date, time and venue of future meetings:

Time	Date (2019)	Venue
TBC	TBC	TBC

Annex A

Agenda Item	Action	Action Assigned to
4	AP1: to investigate if the Reserve Fund will be allocated according to Category of Region and feedback to the Sub-Committee.	RD
4	AP2: to email RD with the specific concerns around MEIF utilisation in GLLEP & RD to investigate.	SH
4-8	AP3: To email the Sub-Committee members list with a request to provide any comments on the ERDF Outline Assessments by Close of Play 08 th November 2019.	RD
5-8	AP4: to investigate whether it is possible for a GLLEP specific Growth Hub condition can be put on all successful Outline Letters	RD
5-8	AP5: to email existing agreement on Growth Hub Condition and Wording to RD	SH
9	AP6: To query with the ESF Managing Authority whether any form of Direct Bidding for funding remains an option for the Sub-Committee	TG/JK

Annex B: Attendee List

GLLEP ESI Funds Sub-committee 19th June 2019 meeting

Chair & Deputy Chair:

Name, title and organisation	Sector/Organisation Representing
Pat Doody (PD) – Chair	Private sector
Rebekah Duckmanton (RD)- Deputy Chair	ERDF Managing Authority (MHCLG)

Sub-Committee Members:

Name, title and organisation	Sector/Organisation Representing
Cllr Peter Bedford (Cllr PB)	Local Authorities
Ashley Myers (AM)	Accountable Body/ Local Authority

Others in attendance (non-members - including secretariat):

Samantha Harrison (SH)	Accountable Body/ Local Authority
John Fuller (JF)	ERDF Managing Authority (MHCLG)
Andrew O'Shaugnessy (AO)	ERDF Managing Authority (MHCLG)
Oliver Reynolds (OR)	ERDF Managing Authority (MHCLG)
Morgan Wray (MW)	Environment Agency

Apologies:

Name, title and organisation	Sector/Organisation Representing
Andrew Bailey (AB)	Environment Agency
Ruth Carver (RC)	GLLEP
Christopher Franklin (CF)	EAFRD Managing Authority (RPA/DEFRA)
Fran Smith (FS)	Environment
Ben Bailey (BB)	Voluntary Sector
Prof. Scott Fleming (SF)	Higher Education
Prof. Nigel Curry (NC)	Private Sector
Jasmine Sodhi (JS)	Equalities and Non-Discrimination
Melanie Fischer (MF)	EAFRD Managing Authority (RPA/DEFRA)
Jay Kara (JK)	ESF Managing Authority (DWP)
Andy Brooks (ABr)	Local Authority
Jo Maher (JM)	Further Education