

Guidance for Applicants – Capital Growth Programme ‘Call for Projects’

Introduction

New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership is committed to driving economic growth in Norfolk and Suffolk. Our ambitions for future growth are set out in the Economic Strategy for Norfolk and Suffolk for the period 2017 to 2036.

The **ambitions** are:

- The place where high growth businesses with aspirations choose to be
- An international facing economy with high value exports
- A high performing productive economy
- A well-connected place
- An inclusive economy with a highly skilled workforce
- A centre for the UK’s clean energy sector
- A place with a clear, ambitious offer to the world

We will deliver these ambitions through actions and investment in priority **themes** and **places**.

The **themes** are:

- Our offer to the world
- Driving business growth and productivity
- Driving inclusion and skills
- Collaborating to grow
- Competitive clusters, close to global centres

The **priority places** are:

- Ipswich
- Norwich and Greater Norwich
- The Norfolk and Suffolk Energy Coast, including Bacton, Great Yarmouth, Lowestoft and Sizewell, with assets on and offshore
- The Cambridge - Norwich corridor
- The East/West corridors along the A47 from Lowestoft to King’s Lynn and the A14 Felixstowe through Ipswich, Stowmarket, Bury St Edmunds, Newmarket and Haverhill to Cambridge
- King’s Lynn and the A10 and rail corridor to Cambridge

The Economic Strategy can be viewed by following this link: <http://www.newanglia.co.uk/new-economic-strategy/>

Focused Call

Applications are invited for capital grant support towards the following priority themes and activities identified in the Economic Strategy:

Driving business growth and productivity:

- Prioritise digital and physical infrastructure projects to support businesses to develop and provide the opportunities that new and existing firms need to grow.
- Establish new centres of excellence to improve productivity and innovation, providing new skills for business leaders and employees.

Driving inclusion and skills:

- Prioritise capital investment on provision that will deliver the future skills our sectors and workforce need.

Projects will ideally deliver against both of the above priority themes.

We would particularly welcome projects that respond to the game changers identified for our Local Industrial Strategy, i.e. Agri Food, ICT and Clean Energy.

The funding is available through the Capital Growth Programme ('Growth Deal'). It must contribute to one or more of the following key outputs of the programme:

- New high quality jobs
- New businesses
- New learners/ apprenticeships
- Match funding (private and/ or public).

Eligibility criteria

Only Capital projects located within the New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership area may apply.

All projects must be:

- Able to fully draw down LEP funding by 31 January 2021 (note LEP funding can only be drawn down in arrears upon satisfactory evidence of costs incurred).
- State Aid compliant
- Able to demonstrate their contribution to the delivery of the Economic Strategy and Call Focus through direct and indirect outputs.
- Able to demonstrate the need for funding and the additionality achieved by the funding.

It will not be possible to support:

- revenue costs
- costs that have been incurred before a grant offer is made
- items that only benefit an individual or sole business
- items that are not directly needed to deliver the proposed work
- loan repayments or contributions to general appeals
- political or religious activities.

The full application criteria are listed below.

Application process

i) Application Form:

Please submit an application form - to receive a copy of the application form, email jonathan.rudd@newanglia.co.uk

You will need to provide sufficient information to help determine if the project meets the requirements of the Call.

Please send completed Application Forms to jonathan.rudd@newanglia.co.uk

To arrive no later than 5pm on Friday 11th January.

No late submissions will be considered.

ii) Selection criteria

Projects will be scored on a competitive basis against the criteria set out in this call:

- Strategic Fit
- Fit with Call
- Deliverability
- Additionality
- Economic Return

Key areas will be scored 1-5 for each project, with 5 being the highest.

Table 1 provides further detail (see below).

iii) Selection process

Applications will be subject to a full appraisal by an independent consultant once submitted. A technical appraisal specialist may be sourced for individual projects if necessary.

The appraisal will be in accordance with HM Treasury Green Book principles of viability, value for money, achievability, affordability and need.

Once submissions have been received, applicants may be required to respond to queries about their projects from the LEP programmes team as part of the shortlist process.

The New Anglia LEP Board will consider all applications at its 27 March 2019 meeting and determine whether to approve or reject each application.

iv) Funding: All projects approved for funding will be subject to a legal agreement drawn up in conjunction with the LEP's Accountable Body, Suffolk County Council. The agreement will include the cycle of anticipated drawdown of funding and the outputs expected to be generated by the project.

Support

Queries on the completion of the Application Form/ Business Case and process should be directed to: chris.dashper@newanglia.co.uk or jonathan.rudd@newanglia.co.uk

Useful information

[Economic Strategy for Norfolk and Suffolk](#)

Applicants should ensure that they are familiar with the standards required for full business case appraisal at an early stage. Guidance for this can be found at: [HM Treasury Green Book Appraisal and Evaluation in Central Government](#)

In addition, reference should be made to the [DCLG Appraisal Guide](#) (December 2016).

Table 1: Assessment process

Criteria	5	4	3	2	1
Strategic Fit: An assessment will be made against both the themes and places in the strategy, incorporating an assessment of the strategic case for public money, where appropriate.	High - strong strategic fit that directly supports 5 or more ambitions and directly delivers specific actions in the themes and places and / or unlocks other projects that do. A clear inclusive growth impact.		Medium - Good strategic fit. Project supports 3-5 ambitions & has a clear link to actions in themes & places, but delivers limited improvement on business as usual and/ or marginal inclusivity.		Low- Strategic fit not clear, supports <3 ambitions. Perhaps ongoing upkeep or sustaining activity, but does not directly support an action in a theme or place or will not bring about net additional growth or direct inclusive growth impact.
Fit with Call: An assessment will be made against the project's fit with the project call, with a robust plan in place to deliver against the criteria.	Strong fit.		Moderate fit.		Low fit.
Deliverability: An assessment will be made that considers how the project will run and includes considerations of timescales, capacity, experience, risks and resources, alongside potential financial viability (whether the project is sufficiently well advanced to draw down LEP funding in the relevant timeframe).	High – Project has owners, governance and a clear route to funding with appropriate delivery capacity and a plan identified.		Medium – Plan is high level, with limited assessment of risk and only indicative funding, delivery and governance arrangements. Unclear whether delivery skills have been identified.		Low – Project plans not developed, little clear assessment of funding.
Additionality: An assessment against the	High - demonstrates strong contribution to the metrics; clear		Medium - demonstrates reasonable contribution to the metrics; likely to		Low - demonstrates low contribution to the metrics; unlikely to achieve

Criteria	5	4	3	2	1
<p>information and evidence provided that demonstrates the net additional outputs against the economic indicators in the strategy. Given this is designed for strategic prioritisation, this should assess additionality in terms of the overall impact on the economic indicators.</p>	<p>process to achieve all metrics.</p>		<p>achieve majority of metrics.</p>		<p>metrics.</p>
<p>Economic Return: An initial assessment of economic impact & return on investment, to gain further insight into value for money. It will consider the forecast net outputs compared to the total cost of the project. Where available it will also consider any calculations relating to Return on Investment (ROI), GVA per £ of funding (over 10 years) or Benefit to Cost Ratio (BCR) where employment outcomes are harder to forecast.</p>	<p>High – demonstrates good value for money.</p>		<p>Medium – demonstrates reasonable value for money.</p>		<p>Low – demonstrates minimal value for money.</p>

