



**LIVERPOOL
CITY REGION**

ESIF update

Angela Hanaghan, LEP
13 June



ESF

- 23 Projects (including 6 under the recent YEI call, which are yet to go to ESIF Sub Committee for approval. It is hoped that the assessments will be ready for Local Strategic Fit consideration by the meeting on 29th June).
- If approved, these will bring current committed projects to £55million (61% of the ESF Programme allocation)
- Eunoia has been selected to carry out the piece of work to identify gaps in ESF Programme delivery in order to inform calls going forward.

ERDF

- 23 Projects (including the recently approved LCR Activate, which is caught up in purdah but will be issued with a GFA as soon as this constraint is lifted, and 3 Low Carbon projects (PA4), which are at the full application stage and will go to ESIF as soon as DCLG has completed the appraisals. The first of these, RetroFIT for the FUTURE, is expected to go to the committee at the end of this month. The other 2 are likely to be circulated for Local Strategic Fit assessment by written correspondence).
- This will bring the ERDF total committed value to £67.4million (66% of the total ERDF Programme allocation).
- It is hoped that the go ahead will be given for an evaluation / study to be commissioned for the ERDF Programme in order to identify gaps in delivery. Approval for this is pending.

SUD

- Call to be launched on gov.uk 30th June (subject to final Government approval)
- SUD Call Workshop scheduled for Tuesday 4th July. This will be advertised on the calls page of the LEP website and an email will also be circulated to the EU contacts database.
- However, if anyone knows of potential interest in this call, please contact Angela Hanaghan in LCR LEP (angela.hanaghan@liverpoollep.org) and I will ensure that they are included on this circulation list.
- Call will remain open until 15th September.



Key dates

- ESIF Sub Committee 29th June
- ERDF Project collaboration meeting September (date to be confirmed). There will also be a similar meeting held for ESF projects around this time.

UKREP meeting and ESIF

- ESIF
 - ‘Omnibus’ regulation (http://ec.europa.eu/budget/mff/lib/COM-2016-603/COM-2016-605_en.pdf) of simplification in regulations. Not much disagreement between Council and EP so triilogue discussions should move white fast. Probably enter into force in January 2018 so we could benefit from them for a short time
 - Future Cohesion - Cohesion Forum end June - challenge for MFF is to find new balance without UK. 7th Cohesion Report due out on 10/10/17 and will be discussed in Nov. There will also be a report on first 2 years of Urban Agenda



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Trans-national funding update

LCR funding groups

- Blue Group, 15 June, 10.30

- Atlantis 1 and 2 - update
- EU Maritime projects update, LJMU
- Calls scan, bid ideas roundtable
- Horizon 2020 work plan (2018-2020) - new info*
- Urban Mobility KIC - information

- Green Group, 15 June, 12.30

- H2020 Urban Green Up - project update
- Horizon 2020 work plan (2018-2020) - new info*
- Urban Mobility KIC - information
- Climate Metropole – LCR Adaptation Case Studies
- Calls scan, bid ideas roundtable

*Brussels Office has leaks of several WPs for final three years: 'Blue Growth', energy, environment and climate, transport, health. Analysis pending, will circulate WPs after this week's meetings

Interreg revisited

- NW Europe project ideas lab, Luxembourg, late March
 - LJMU presented bid idea for remote maintenance of offshore windfarms
 - Brussels Office attended
 - 40+ bid ideas circulated to LCR partners, which generated interest from LEP, health partners, circular-economy partners
- From UK AA NCP
 - Will be budget left for second Interreg AA call (possibly autumn)
 - Interested in holding official UK info session in Liverpool (discussions via Brussels Office)
- From UK NWE NCP
 - “Call 6 will be sorted well within Brexit deadline, with step 2 approval scheduled by the end of 2018. Call 7 step 2 approvals could also be concluded before March 2019, but that still leaves the signing the contract open to slippages to after the UK leaves the EU.”
 - Call 6 timetable now public: <http://www.nweurope.eu/apply/call-calendar/>
 - Interested in holding official UK info session in Mann Island in early September - watch this space.



UKREP meeting and trans-national funding

- UK paying to opt into future programmes - 3rd country participation as a 'pay and play' model?
- No timeframe for discussion, government departments want to know what benefits are and what we could achieve bilaterally v buying into programme
- Call to help UKREP to build a case, especially Interreg
 - Who we would like to work with and why could prove useful (bilateral links)
 - Benefits of B and C strand projects, not just x-border
- Future FP9
 - Report from an expert group led by ex-Commissioner Pascale Lamy will be out on 3/7/17. Informal Ministerial at end July in Tallin to discuss.
- UK involvement in all current programmes – might they be allowed to run their course???