



North of Tyne Community Led Local Development

Call for Projects

Round 5 - ERDF

May 2022

North of Tyne Community Led Local Development is funded by European Regional Development Fund and European Social Fund as part of 2014 to 2020 European Structural and Investment Funds Growth Programme The Local Action Group for the North of Tyne Community Led Local Development programme issues the following Call for Projects:

1. We are seeking projects that will contribute to achieving the Objectives of the North of Tyne Community Led Local Development Strategy 2017-2022 and will fit into the following ERDF Activities:

Objective A Making community assets, organisations and the social fabric in the CLLD area more entrepreneurial	Activity 2: Promotion of entrepreneurship and self-employment (including small grants to entrepreneurs).
Objective B Strengthening the business community in the CLLD area	Activity 3: Tailored business support activities including: mentoring, coaching, information, advice and guidance (on general business running skills and also on e.g. digital opportunities, insurance, supply chains and communications), small grants to existing and start-up businesses as well as creating and supporting trading and networking opportunities.

- 2. We are especially seeking projects that will support existing enterprises with an emphasis on new enterprises (less than 12 months old). Therefore, priority will be given to projects that can achieve the following ERDF outputs:
 - C1 Number of enterprises receiving support
 - **C5** Number of new enterprises supported (subset of C1 above) Please note that both these outputs are achieved once 12 hours of active support have been provided by a project and evidenced.

Applicants are invited to consider if their project can also achieve the following ERDF output:

• C8 - Employment increase in supported enterprises.

We understand that post-Covid this is going to be very challenging. Therefore, it is not an essential requirement. However, we would like to encourage applicants to consider if it is realistic for them to include this output.

We would also like to encourage applicants to design their projects around supporting businesses to adopt low carbon technologies/solutions and/or become part of 'green' economy in any other way (again - it is not an essential requirement).

Please refer to the latest version of '*Output Indicator Definitions Guidance for the European Regional Development Fund for England*' <u>here</u> for full definitions of all these outputs and evidence requirements.

- 3. The amount of funding available in Round 5 is approximately £50,000 of ERDF.
- 4. ERDF can cover up to 60% of the total project cost, therefore applicants will need to secure at least 40% match funding from other eligible sources (e.g. other non-EU grants, own resources, reserves etc.). Due to a tight schedule of Round 5, we expect applicants to have match funding already secured (or already applied for and

expecting decision by the end of May 2022). Projects with no match funding secured (or applied for with imminent decision) will not be considered.

- 5. There are no requirements in relation to maximum and minimum value of projects. However, based on prior experience from our other CLLD Rounds, we are expecting to approve 1-2 projects.
- Projects will need to be complete by 31st December 2022. This means that all activities will need to be finalised, all outputs achieved and evidenced, and all costs paid for by 31st December 2022. Applicants can decide on the start date of their projects. The earliest they can start is right after the decision is made by the Assessment Panel most likely in w/c 13th June 2022 (please see section 7 below).
- 7. In Round 5 we are introducing a simplified application process with only 1 stage:
 - a. Full Application Form (in Word), Output table (in Excel) and Budget table (in Excel) to be submitted by noon on Wednesday, 25th May 2022 to the following email address: <u>clldproject@newcastle.gov.uk</u>. We will only consider applications when all 3 documents have been submitted with all relevant sections completed.
 - b. The Assessment Panel will meet in w/c 6th June 2022 (exact date to be confirmed). We reserve the right to alter the date of the Panel due to external / unforeseen circumstances.
 - c. Applicants will be notified via email shortly after the Assessment Panel.
 - d. Contracting will follow for successful applicants; projects will be allowed to start 'at risk' if contracting is not finalised before their start date.
- 8. Applicants are invited to discuss their project with Victoria Powell, Communities Officer, <u>victoria.powell@newcastle.gov.uk</u> who can help with project development, networking and filling in application documents.
- This document should be read together with the North of Tyne CLLD Strategy and Handbook for Applicants and Delivery Organisations which includes detailed information, rules and requirements of the North of Tyne CLLD programme – available on: <u>www.northoftyneclld.org.uk</u>

This document is available in large print. Please contact us to request your copy.