

2014-20 EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL AND INVESTMENT FUNDS GROWTH PROGRAMME FOR ENGLAND

Worcestershire ESIF Sub-Committee

Marking:	Restricted Distribution. ESIF Committee members and Consultee Partners only. Not for publication.
Subject:	European Social Fund: National Overview and Local Update
Purpose:	This paper provides the Sub Committee with an update on the Managing Authority's (MA) progress of the programme so far at a National and local level.
Recommendations:	The paper is for information only
Summary:	National ESF Programme Update CFO position –Update on current CFO claims Eclaims update LEP Area update Open Call Update Applications status update

1. National ESF Programme Update

Data on the values of MoUs/funding agreements remains unchanged from the last update (recent increases to any ESFA MOU's have not been captured in this update but will be reflected in future iterations).

- (i) Current ESF commitment has increased to £1.4bn which equates to 47% of total programme allocation.
- (ii) There are 162 Direct Bid Funding Agreements totalling £355m and 146 CFO MOUs valued at £1.045bn.
- (iii) There are currently ten live ESF Open calls across England. Further Calls are being planned in June.

2. The CFO Position

The MA continues to work closely with the CFOs to establish their position regarding their future involvement in the programme and to address any potential barriers to their doing so. Below is a high level update on their overall claims to date:

HMPPS (formerly NOMS) Claims total eligible expenditure of £82,314,378.22 have been submitted up to and including Q4 2017. Payments totalling £43,587,011.62 have been issued. Their Project Change Request has now been approved by the MA and a revised MOU will be issued to reflect the increased value and extension in time. This will take the full value of the MOU to £370,164,578

DWP Claims total eligible expenditure of £13,885,163.71 have been submitted up to and including Q3 2017. Payments totalling £7,334,482.43 have been issued. Q4 claims totalling £12,321,863.03 of eligible spend have been submitted and are being considered for payment. A second Performance Management meeting has been completed in April. DWP intend to start writing to ESIF Sub-Committees in June in tranches. This will detail those MOU's that qualify for an extension to obtain the Sub-Committees agreement to submit a Project Change Request to the MA for consideration. (Worcestershire LEP Area does not currently have a DWP Opt In.)

BLF Claims total eligible expenditure of £14,654,340.02 have been submitted up to and including Q3. Payments totalling £6,994,436.28 have been issued. Q4 claims totalling £14,570,990.77 of eligible spend have been submitted and are being considered for payment. A second Performance Monitoring meeting took place in March and discussions centred around underspend and how BLF are progressing this with projects. Assurances were recorded to reflect that under performance is being challenged using the appropriate methodology.

ESFA Claims total eligible expenditure of £41,110,984.54 have been submitted up to and including Q4 2017. A number of claims have been withheld by the CFO whilst further compliance checks are completed. The Managing Authority agreed that the submission of the Participant Data Schema could be deferred until the Q1 2018 claim due to technical difficulties with the upload to the MA's Eclaims system. The ESFA Project Change Requests have now been approved to reflect an extension in time for some areas and an extension in time and money for others. Revised MOU's have been issued by the Managing Authority during May.



In Worcestershire the committed ESFA funding under Investment Priority 1 has not been increased but the extension to allow continuation of provision through to March 2019 has been agreed. The MOU for Investment Priority 2 ESFA funding has increased from £3,120,000 to £4,680,000 and an extension in time has also been agreed. The ESFA will now work with the contracted provider in this area to establish the business case for growth.

3. E-CLAIMS update

The majority of Grant Recipients have now been provided with access to E-CLAIMS. Our Contract Managers are in touch with those organisations who do not yet have access and are working with them to provide access.

Initial feedback has been positive, with a number of organisations already submitting claims directly through E-CLAIMS.

4. LEP Area Call and Progress Narrative (Management Information)

see attached MI document.

(Please also note that these figures include 50% match funds.)

5. Open Calls

No current Calls in the Worcestershire area.

6. Applications Status

No applications currently in assessment or appraisal in this area.

Tim George
ESF Managing Authority 04/06/2018