

2007-13

Opportunities in the current ERDF programme

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NW ERDF Operational Programme

- Changes - NWDA closing
- July-Sept ERDF staff transferring to CLG
- Committee changes, LEPs
 - new - Strategy sub-committee
- Review of programme
 - Money committed
 - Expected spend
 - Outputs, Results and Impacts
- What's left?
- New bidding rounds

NW OP Priorities

- Priority 1 High Growth
- Priority 2 Knowledge Industries
- Priority 3 Sites and Premises, Tourism
- Priority 4 Worst off Areas
- Priority 5 Technical Assistance

Calls for Projects

- **Nothing is definite** at the moment
- It is possible there will be -
 - Bidding round for P4 and P5 in a couple of weeks
 - Bidding round for P1 in February
- Short timetable
- Rapid appraisals?
- Partnership and Strategic Bids

Priority 4

- Priorities described in Operational Programme (agreed between European Commission and UK Government) - would need formal agreement to change, taking at least six months
- Investment Framework - extra explanations written later, split into three sub-sections (stimulate enterprise, link jobs to people, support employment creation)
- Investment framework sections modified and merged to just one section (March '11 Monitoring Committee and subsequent meetings)

Priority 4

- ISUS project finished end of December 2011
 - start-up support
- Bids will be to provide new, focussed start-up support
- Awareness raising, workshops, one to one support to develop enterprise, planning, support up to 36 months??
- General belief that need now is for revenue projects - getting money and support out as soon as possible
- Might be limited support for a few capital projects in the future if there is any money left - but would need to have match, be ready to go and have the support of the sub-regional partners and LEP

Merseyside P4

- Three Strategic bids already in the system (over a year), plus smaller project previously agreed
- Start up support
 - Social Enterprise North West
 - general initial support, social enterprise for later stages
 - Liverpool City Council
 - On behalf of the five Local Authorities
 - Alt Valley
 - coalition of smaller voluntary sector and other bids
 - St Helens Chamber - previously agreed (LEGI match)
- Working together, MoU, Strategic
- Are there any gaps?

Priority 4

- About £1m ERDF left in Merseyside, £16m in Rest of North West (depending on bids still in pipeline)
- Preference expected to be for sub-regional bids
 - Manchester, Lancashire, Cumbria, Cheshire
- Not buildings - mainly or completely start-up support
- Geographical Communities and Communities of interest
 - Worst off half of the North West
 - Under-represented groups - women, BME communities, people with disabilities, young people, older workers, offenders and ex-offenders, asylum seekers and refugees ...

Streamlined process

- Speedy decisions?
- Call at end of January??
- About four weeks to respond
- No changes once bid is submitted
 - This is a new idea for this programme
- Start from April 2012 (or later?)

Partnership

- Talk to others in the sub-region
- Gain support of sub regional partnership and LEP
- One bid or several?
- Has to be strategic response
- Must be able to start rapidly
 - Match in place
 - Clear description of what will be done, and costs
- Last up to three years?

Priority 1

- Perhaps announcement in February?
- Support for High Growth enterprises
- Gazelles
- Fit in with other local provision.



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