

Pipeline Project – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q1	What is the deadline for applications?
A1	The deadline is 28 September 2018 at 17:00
Q2	What's the size of the budget for this fund?
A2	Dorset LEP wishes to have a pipeline of capital projects should funding opportunities connected with the delivery of the Government's Industrial Strategy arise, or if other sources of funding become available such as the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.
Q3	Will the fund cover 100% of project costs?
A3	There is no one-size-fits all approach; it will depend on each project but match funding is highly encouraged.
Q4	Will the UK Shared Prosperity Fund only cover capital costs?
A4	It is not fully clear yet, but our initial indication shows that the fund may cover both, revenue and capital. However, for the Pipeline Projects round, we are only looking for capital projects. The CIPFA definition of capital expenditure is applicable here ¹ .
Q5	What is the selection process of projects?
A5	<p>1st step - high level review of applications to ensure they are meeting the basic criteria stated in the Project Pipeline Guidance.</p> <p>2nd step – shortlisting of projects that meet DLEP strategic vision as well as the objectives of the Pipeline Projects.</p> <p>3rd step – due diligence / independent review of benefit cost ratio (BCR).</p> <p>4th step – assessment of projects against potential available budget.</p> <p>5th step – a funding recommendation paper will be submitted to the Dorset LEP Board in November.</p>
Q6	Are the cases reviewed by sector or case by case?
A6	Early discussion with the Dorset LEP Programme team is essential as this will alert us to any other applicants that are pursuing a similar thing and whether there is room for collaboration. All projects will be reviewed on a case basis.
Q7	Can one business write an application for more than one project?
A7	Yes, it is possible. The projects do not have to be linked; can be two separate projects.

¹ <http://www.cipfa.org/policy-and-guidance/publications/p/practitioners-guide-to-capital-finance-in-local-government-2012-edition-hard-copy>

Q8	Are you encouraging collaborative projects?
A8	Yes, but we encourage that governance of projects is clearly outlined in the applications. For example, there is an Memorandum of Understanding between organisations that outlines who is receiving the funding, who is responsible for implementation, etc.
Q9	Will you accept projects that are at the proof of concept or pilot stage?
A9	Yes. These projects are riskier, and DLEP would have to do detailed due diligence, but we are very keen to see such projects.
Q10	Do you provide any assistance in filling out the application?
A10	Yes, if you have any questions, you are encouraged to reach out to the Dorset LEP Programme team before you apply to check that your project is eligible. We can also help you with the application itself. We have also bit-writing support available for Innovate UK Funds. You can find the information here .
Q11	Is there a focus on carbon reduction projects?
A11	A project that is in line with one of the Industrial Strategy foundations of productivity or four grand challenges (such as clean growth) will be welcomed. More information can be found here .
Q12	What advice can you get to projects focusing on social and environmental productivity?
A12	The current Pipeline Projects is focusing on economic productivity. However, the UK Shared Prosperity Fund will be focusing on other areas such as social / environmental projects.
Q13	Will you consider projects focusing on rural/coastal areas?
A13	Yes, there is a productivity gap in Dorset that shows the need for more 'inclusive growth' investments.