

DORSET PIPELINE PROJECTS

Overview

Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) was established in 2011 with the aim of stimulating growth in the economy across the Dorset area. It is a business led private and public sector partnership that aims to promote local economic growth and prosperity. Acting as a strategic gateway to funding, Dorset LEP supports and delivers projects of long term economic benefit for all in Dorset through cross-sector partnership.

Dorset LEP is inviting private sector businesses and public sector organisations operating in Dorset to submit an outline business case for projects in Dorset that will deliver **increased productivity**.

Dorset LEP has already successfully secured £98.5m through the Government's Local Growth Fund, as part of an overall investment programme of £234m, for projects identified in our [Strategic Economic Plan](#).

Dorset LEP wishes to have a pipeline¹ 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. There is currently no funding available from Dorset LEP.

Background

The Industrial Strategy² is the Government's long term plan to boost the productivity and earning power of people throughout the UK. It was published in November 2017. It sets out five "foundations of productivity" as the building blocks of a vision for a transformed economy:

- **Ideas** – the world's most innovative economy
- **People** – good jobs and greater earning power for all
- **Infrastructure** – a major upgrade to the UK's infrastructure
- **Business Environment** – the best place to start and grow a business
- **Places** – prosperous communities across the UK

Four "grand challenges" are also identified as opportunities to put the UK at the forefront of the industries of the future:

- **AI & Data Economy** – putting the UK at the forefront of the artificial intelligence and data revolution
- **Ageing Society** – harnessing the power of innovation to help meet the needs of an ageing society
- **Clean Growth** – maximising the advantages for UK industry from the global shift to clean growth
- **Future of Mobility** – becoming a world leader in the way people, goods and services move

¹ List of projects for investment

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/industrial-strategy-building-a-britain-fit-for-the-future>

What sort of projects are we looking for?

Dorset LEP is looking for proposals for projects that will boost productivity in Dorset by addressing one or more of the Industrial Strategy's foundations and objectives in a way that is relevant to our place.

For example, Dorset has high levels of employment and so the key to boosting the productivity in our county might not be in creating new jobs, but in making those already in employment more productive. This could be through investment in new machinery or increasing production capacity through building additional workspace.

Who should come forward?

We are particularly interested in projects in our strategic priority sectors of;

- Advanced Engineering & Manufacturing (including Aerospace and Marine)
- Agri-tech
- Care
- Creative & Digital Industries
- Energy
- Financial Services & Insurance
- Med-tech
- Nuclear
- Rural productivity
- Tourism & Leisure

We welcome applications from any public, private or third sector organisation that has a project with the potential to **deliver increased productivity** in the **Dorset LEP area**. This is exclusively for capital projects with a minimum grant funding request of £250,000. We strongly recommend that you look at Dorset's Strategic Economic Vision and the Government's Industrial Strategy in order to judge whether your project is a good fit for our needs. We invite you to contact us for a discussion if you are unsure. The Dorset LEP website has examples of the type of projects that have previously been funded: <http://dorsetlep.co.uk/local-delivery/local-delivery-the-growth-deal/>.

There is currently no funding available from Dorset LEP.

Points to bear in mind if considering whether to submit an outline business case are:

- ✓ The proposed schemes should be for capital projects only - we are not expecting future grants to support revenue funding projects. The CIPFA definition of capital expenditure³ⁱ is applicable here.
- ✓ The Outline Business Case needs to be developed proportionally to the size of the project and the uncertainty of the timing of any funding call. You will need to be in a position to develop a Full Business Case if there is a funding call for capital bids and your project is assessed to be one of Dorset's pipeline projects.

³ <http://www.cipfa.org/policy-and-guidance/publications/p/practitioners-guide-to-capital-finance-in-local-government-2012-edition-hard-copy>

- ✓ The development of the full Business Case for your project will be at your own expense and may require legal advice, for example around state aid. Funding for the Business Case cannot be part of your application to Dorset LEP.
- ✓ We will prioritise projects that can be ready to start quickly. This may mean, in the example of a construction project, that you will own the land, have all the relevant planning in place and have agreed match funding by the time of a full application.
- ✓ The project can be delivered / completed by 31 March 2021.
- ✓ The project should fit with the strategic objectives of Dorset LEP as set out in the Strategic Economic Vision and be aligned with the Industrial Strategy's foundations and objectives.

How to express an interest in applying for future funding

You will need to produce an Outline Business Case for the project. The Dorset LEP form can be found annexed to this guidance or is downloadable from www.dorsetlep.co.uk. The forms must be submitted to Dorset LEP Programmes Manager, Katherine May at kmay@bournemouth.ac.uk

What happens next?

Dorset LEP will consider all of the submitted projects. Assessment will be based around four core elements:

- Ambition and rationale for intervention for the local area
- Value for money
- Deliverability and risk
- Impact on productivity

Timetable for Submission

We are inviting outline business cases to be submitted electronically by **17:00 on Friday, 28 September 2018** by emailing to Dorset LEP Programmes Manager, Katherine May at kmay@bournemouth.ac.uk. The milestones are highlighted in the table below.

Open call for projects	13 June 2018
1 st Business case workshop event (Kingston Maurward College)	25 June 2018
2 nd Business case workshop event (Bournemouth University)	28 June 2018
Open call closes	28 September 2018 (17:00)