

GRANTfinder

Update Bulletin

13 March 2018



Welcome to your **GRANTfinder** Update Bulletin.

GRANTfinder is Europe's leading provider of funding information. It is supported by an in-house team of researchers and keeps the UK's public, private and voluntary sectors up-to-date on the latest changes and trends in funding. The team researches funding changes each and every day to ensure that you have access to the information you need at the touch of a button. The most important changes are showcased in this bulletin.

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Arts, Culture and Heritage

Arts Council England Invites Applications to New National Lottery Project Grants

Fund ID: S43710

The new National Lottery Project Grants programme has replaced the Arts Council's Grants for the Arts as well as absorbed some elements of other Arts Council England funds, which have now closed to applications. The new Project Grants has been designed to be more open to supporting those working in creative and digital media than the previous Grants for the Arts.

Under the new programme, community and cultural organisations, museums and libraries and individual artists can apply for grants of between £1,000 and £100,000 to support a wide range of arts projects as well as creative and digital media projects. The funding can support projects lasting up to a maximum of three years.

Applications must meet the programme's four criteria of quality, public engagement, finance and management as well as focus on at least one of these areas: music, theatre, dance, visual arts, literature, combined arts, museum practice (accredited museums only), or libraries (arts-focused projects only).

The budget of £97.3 million per year is intended to further support the integration of museums and libraries into the Arts Council's total investment approach. Some aspects of the Strategic Touring and Ambition for Excellence funds will be absorbed into Project Grants, with £14 million per year reserved to support nationally significant and national touring projects of over £100,000. National Portfolio Organisations will be able to apply for some of the national activity previously supported by Strategic Touring and Ambition for Excellence.

The following funds closed on 1 March:

- Grants for the Arts
- Strategic Touring fund
- Ambition for Excellence fund
- PRISM Grant Fund
- Grants for the Arts Libraries fund

There are no deadlines as applications can be submitted at any time.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Business Support

All-Island Seedcorn Investor Readiness Competition - 2018 Round Open for Applications

Fund ID: S12625

Organised by the InterTradelreland Equity Network, the Seedcorn Investor Readiness Competition is designed to encourage the creation and development of emerging and high-growth business ventures throughout Ireland and to reward the effort and achievement of the individuals involved.

Application is open to independent ventures incorporated within Ireland (Republic of Ireland or Northern Ireland) that are at the seed, start-up or early stages of development – ideally targeting international markets.

Applicants should be individuals or venture teams who have created, manage and own such ventures, have played a major role in conceiving the venture, and have key management roles and significant equity.

There are two categories for entry:

- **New start Company** – for companies under five years old at 1 June 2018 and who are seeking to raise new equity of between €50,000 and €299,999.
- **Early stage Company** – for companies under five years old at 1 June 2018 and who are seeking to raise in excess of €300,000.

For 2018, the total prize fund is a €280,000, including €100,000 for the Best Early Stage Company; €50,000 for the Best New Start Company; six awards of €20,000 for the Regional Winners; and €10,000 for the best university spin-out.

To submit an application, companies are required to register on the InterTradelreland website and upload their business plan.

The deadline for submission of applications is Friday 1 June 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

ESTnetNG Tech Prize Launched to Help Young People in Wales Fulfil Tech Ambitions ****NEW****

Fund ID: S43720

The ESTnetNG Tech Prize aims to help young people who have shown outstanding commitment, enthusiasm and interest in the technology field to fulfil their talent and ambition.

The prize is an award of up to £2,000 for an idea or a business, but it could also be for an experience that could help applicants achieve their aspirations in tech.

The prize can be used to:

- bring to life an idea for a new technology product;
- contribute to the cost of an event or course that will enable the applicant to pursue and enhance learning;
- help to grow a tech-related business that the applicant has already started.

The award is open to individuals aged 16-24 who live, study or work in Wales and have a passion for technology.

The deadline for applications to be submitted is 29 March 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

Innovate UK Confirms Plans for a Second Phase of its Women in Innovation Awards

****NEW****

Fund ID: S43718

Coinciding with [International Women's Day](#), Innovate UK (IUK) has announced that it will run a second phase of its Women in Innovation Awards.

The programme, which is set to launch later this year, will consist of a funding competition and support package to encourage more female-led innovation. Alongside this, IUK will begin operating quarterly innovation accelerator workshops to help get more women innovating in business nationwide. The agency will also review its existing programmes to determine how it can better promote and inspire diversity.

The first Women in Innovation programme was launched in 2016, following research that found just one in seven applications for IUK funding came from women. To address this, IUK ran its first women-only competition with awards offering innovation grant funding and a tailored programme of mentoring and business support. This provided £50,000 in funding each for 15 female-led businesses plus mentoring.

Since the programme launched there has been a 10% increase in female registrations for IUK support.

The second Women in Innovation competition will seek ideas that address the four grand challenges posed by the government's [Industrial Strategy](#), which are:

- AI and the data economy
- Clean growth
- Future of mobility
- Ageing society

Commenting on the announcement, Doctor Ruth McKernan CBE, Chief Executive of Innovate UK, said:

"It is fantastic that more women are coming to us for innovation funding and support, but we need to go further.

"Our 2018 Women in Innovation programme is designed to help many more women achieve their business ambitions, drive UK growth and productivity, and harness the full talent pool."

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

Volvo Cars Launches Investment Fund for Technology Start-ups ****NEW****

Fund ID: S43714

The Volvo Cars Tech Fund provides strategic investments and global market access for innovative auto and tech start-ups from across the world.

Companies will benefit in several ways from participation in the programme, including associating with one of the world's leading car makers, validating their technologies and accelerating the pace of achieving product market fit. In addition, start-ups may have the opportunity to benefit from Volvo Cars' access to the Chinese car market, as well as potential access to Volvo Cars' global network of automotive and technology partners.

Applicants can be at the seed stage or later in their development. The funder can provide access to investors, technology for vetting and data room for due diligence process. Volvo will take minority stakes in equity shares or equity-related investments to help turn ideas into businesses.

Part of a push for innovation and digital transformation by the company, the Volvo Cars Tech Fund aims to invest in strategic technology trends that are transforming the industry, such as artificial intelligence, electrification, autonomous driving and digital mobility services.

The Fund will invest in high potential auto and technology start-ups from around the globe.

Zaki Fasihuddin, CEO of the Volvo Cars Tech Fund, said:

"By supporting promising young firms at the forefront of technological development and providing them with both capital and strategic value, we aim to strengthen our leading role in the industry's technological transformation."

Mats Moberg, Board Member for the Tech Fund and Vice President within R&D at Volvo Cars, said:

"We work closely with promising technologies and when we see value creation potential for us as a user, we can now also invest to help accelerate the venture."

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

VOOM PITCH 2018 Opens to Entries with £1 Million in Prizes for the Best UK & Ireland Start-ups

Fund ID: S40184

Virgin Media Business is looking for entrepreneurs to pitch their business ideas to Sir Richard Branson, giving them the chance to win various a share prizes from an overall pot of £1 million, coupled with valuable PR.

The final culminates in a pitch to Sir Richard in London on 23 May 2018. Participants will receive an invite to the FastTrack 100 Conference and awards dinner and the chance to attract mentoring and financial support.

This prize pot includes marketing campaigns, mentoring, ultrafast connectivity packages, business growth programmes, advertising, and cash prizes, all of which will be distributed between winners and runners-up.

For 2018 are two main categories and a host of special awards.

The main categories are:

- **Spark & Start-Up:** this category is for small businesses with fewer than 20 employees. The business might have an established operation or simply a bright idea.
- **Scale & Grow:** for businesses (with between 20 and 250 employees) that have been trading for at least a year – and are ready to scale.

Partner awards

- **PayPal International Award:** The winner receives processing fees on the first £100,000 of payments made by their business account, as well as one-to-one executive mentorship to five selected businesses for a period of six months post-competition.
- **Virgin Unite Impact Award:** This category includes a £20,000 grant for a charity, business, or social enterprise that's making a difference to people in need.
- **Grant Thornton Award:** Leaders with VOOM recognises outstanding leadership, and the two winners will receive support to finance their growth ambitions, including 1:1 planning for finance, creation of finance-ready documentation, plus pitch coaching and more.
- **Crowdfunder Award:** The five businesses that crowdfund the most money during VOOM will be shortlisted and reviewed by the judging panel, with the winner being rewarded with £70,000 of extra funding by Crowdfunder, Crowdcube and JCDecaux.

Entrants must be a UK or Ireland resident with a UK or Ireland based business; and aged 18 years or over. Only one entry per person will be accepted.

The deadline for completing a pitch is 8 May 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

ESIF Calls Launched to Support SMEs in England

Fund ID: S39285

Two SME Support calls for proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for various Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) areas throughout England.

SME support: International Trade Performance Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project supporting the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in various locations in England. This Call specifically aims to support the capacity of SMEs to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes.

This is a national Call which includes the following LEP areas:

- North East
- Leeds City Region
- Humber
- Sheffield City Region
- York, North Yorkshire and East Riding

- Cheshire and Warrington
- Cumbria
- Greater Manchester
- Lancashire
- Liverpool City Region
- Black Country
- Coventry & Warwickshire
- Greater Birmingham and Solihull
- Stoke-on-Trent & Staffordshire
- The Marches
- Worcestershire
- D2N2 (Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham & Nottinghamshire)
- Greater Lincolnshire
- Leicester & Leicestershire
- South East Midlands
- Dorset
- Gfirst (Gloucestershire)
- Swindon and Wiltshire
- Coast to Capital
- Enterprise M3
- Hertfordshire
- Solent
- South East

The total budget for the call is £28,219,569. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years.

SME support: Manufacturing Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project to create and extend the capabilities of small and medium sized enterprise manufacturers to grow and engage in innovation in various locations in England.

This call specifically aims to:

- Support the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development.
- Support the capacity of small and medium sized enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes.

This is a Multi Local Enterprise Partnership area call including the following:

- Humber
- Leeds
- York, North Yorkshire & East Riding
- Black Country
- Coventry & Warwickshire
- Greater Birmingham & Solihull
- Stoke and Staffordshire
- The Marches
- Worcestershire
- Greater Lincolnshire
- Leicester & Leicestershire
- South East Midlands
- EM3
- Hertfordshire
- South East
- Solent

The total budget for the call is £13,232,937. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years.

The deadline for outline applications is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Calls for Proposals Open in Greater Manchester

Fund ID: S39480

Five calls for proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the Greater Manchester Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

SME Support Call, Access to Finance Call and Manufacturing Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in Greater Manchester.

This Calls specifically aim to:

- Support the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development.
- Support the capacity of small and medium sized enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes.

£11.5 million is available for the SME Support Call, £1.84 million for the Access to Finance Call and £3.165 million for the Manufacturing Call. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Greater Manchester LEP area.

Low Carbon Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to support the shift to a low carbon economy in all sectors and promote energy efficiency and renewable energy use in enterprises.

The total budget for the call is £2 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Greater Manchester LEP area.

Research and Innovation Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run projects providing research and innovation in the Greater Manchester LEP area, specifically through the promotion of business investment in research and innovation.

The total budget for the call is £3 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Greater Manchester LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications to all calls is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Calls for Proposals Open in Lancashire

Fund ID: S39484

Four calls for proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the Lancashire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

Research and Innovation Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run projects providing research and innovation in the Lancashire LEP area, specifically through the promotion of business investment in research and innovation.

The total budget for the call is £1.2 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Lancashire LEP area.

SME Support Call, Access to Finance Call and Manufacturing Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in Lancashire.

This Calls specifically aim to:

- Support the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development.
- Support the capacity of small and medium sized enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes.

£7 million is available for the SME Support Call, £1.84 million for the Access to Finance Call and £3.165 million for the Manufacturing Call. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Lancashire LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications to all calls is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Calls for Proposals Open in Leicester and Leicestershire

Fund ID: S39501

Two calls for proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the Leicester and Leicestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

Information and Communications Technology Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available for projects enhancing access to, and use and quality of, Information and Communications Technology in the Leicester and Leicestershire LEP area.

The Call is specifically focussed on developing Information and Communications Technology products and services, e-commerce, and enhancing demand for Information and Communications Technology.

The total budget for the call is £1.3 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Leicester and Leicestershire LEP area.

SME Support Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in Leicester and Leicestershire.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators.
- Support the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development.
- Support the capacity of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes.

The total budget for the call is £8.65 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Leicester and Leicestershire LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications to all calls is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Calls for Proposals Open in Sheffield City Region

Fund ID: S39495

Six calls for proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

Research and Innovation Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run projects providing research and innovation in the Sheffield City Region LEP area, specifically through the promotion of business investment in research and innovation.

The total budget for the call is £1 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Sheffield City Region LEP area.

SME Support - Digital Economy Call, Graduate Call, High Growth SMEs Call, Social Enterprise Call, Supply Chain Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run projects enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in

Sheffield City Region. The Calls specifically aim to support the capacity of SMEs to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes.

The available budgets are as follows:

- **Digital Economy Call** - £2 million (£1.6 million for South Yorkshire (the Transition Region) and £400,000 for the remaining areas of Sheffield City Region).
- **Graduate Call** - £1 million (£800,000 for South Yorkshire (the Transition Region) and £200,000 for the remaining areas of Sheffield City Region).
- **High Growth SMEs Call** - £2 million (£1.6 million for South Yorkshire (the Transition Region) and £400,000 for the remaining areas of Sheffield City Region).
- **Social Enterprise Call** - £1 million (£800,000 for South Yorkshire (the Transition Region) and £200,000 for the remaining areas of Sheffield City Region).
- **Supply Chain Call** - £2.2 million (£1.6 million for South Yorkshire (the Transition Region) and £600,000 for the remaining areas of Sheffield City Region).

It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years, and projects must cover the Sheffield City Region LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications to all calls is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Calls for Proposals Open in Tees Valley

Fund ID: S39482

Three calls for proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the Tees Valley Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

Information and Communications Technology Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available for projects to enhance access to, and use and quality of, Information and Communications Technology in the Tees Valley LEP area.

This call is looking to enhance access to, and use and quality of, Information and Communications Technology including:

- Extending broadband deployment and the roll-out of high-speed networks and support the adoption of emerging technologies and networks for the digital economy.
- Developing Information and Communications Technology products and services, e-commerce, and enhancing demand for Information and Communications Technology.

The total budget for the call is £1.1 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Tees Valley LEP area.

Low Carbon Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy in Tees Valley.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable resources.
- Promote energy efficiency and renewable energy use in enterprises.
- Support energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector.
- Promote low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas, including the promotion of sustainable multimodal urban mobility and mitigation-relevant adaptation measures.
- Promote research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies.

The total budget for the call is £5 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Tees Valley LEP area.

SME Support Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in Tees Valley.

This call is looking to enhance the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises by promoting entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators.

The total budget for the call is £10 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Tees Valley LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications to all calls is 25 May 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Calls for Proposals Open in Worcestershire

Fund ID: S39602

Two Calls for Proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

SME Support Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in Worcestershire.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators.
- Support the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development.
- Support the capacity of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes.

The total budget for the call is £1.58 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Worcestershire LEP area.

Low Carbon Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy in Worcestershire.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable resources.
- Support energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector.
- Promote research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies.

The total budget for the call is £3.6 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Worcestershire LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications to both Calls is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - SME Support Call Launches in Liverpool City Region

Fund ID: S39492

A new SME Support Call for Proposals is open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in Liverpool City Region.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators.
- Support the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development.
- Support the capacity of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes.

The total budget for the Call is £13 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Liverpool City Region LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) – SME Support Call Opens in York, North Yorkshire and East Riding

Fund ID: S39483

An SME Support Call for Proposals has been launched under the European Regional Development Fund stream of the European Structural and Investment Funds for York, North Yorkshire and East Riding.

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in York, North Yorkshire and East Riding.

This call is specifically designed to support the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development. Proposals should clearly articulate and demonstrate how activities align with domestic strategic priorities and offer good value for money.

The total budget for the call is £1,120,413, consisting of £400,000 for the Transition Region of East Riding of Yorkshire, and £720,413 for the More Developed Region of York and North Yorkshire. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years.

The deadline for outline applications is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

2018 WeWork Creator Awards Contest - Applications Open for UK & Ireland

Fund ID: S43179

The WeWork Creator Awards Contest offers investment funding for UK entrepreneurs and desk space as part of a global funding pot to help small businesses. The sponsor is encouraging entrepreneurs who are “making a difference in their communities” and “pursuing their passions” to apply for one of three accolades:

- **The Incubate:** For those with an idea or a specific project that needs funding, but require support with introducing it to the world. Individual finalists are selected for Regional Finals, where work is displayed during the event and grants are awarded.
- **The Launch:** For those who have introduced an idea to the world, but are still learning as they make it real. Businesses and organisations selected for Regional Finals will pitch before judges, competing for a grant and winners move on to the Global Finals
- **The Scale:** For those who have launched, learned, have a solid approach, and are ready for the next level. Businesses selected for Regional Finals will pitch before judges, competing for a grant where winners move on to the Global Finals.

Applicants are invited to submit entries in one of four categories:

- The Nonprofit Award: for charitable organisations big and small (\$130k – \$360k awarded)
- The New Venture Award: for entrepreneurs and companies with fresh ideas (\$130k – \$360k awarded)
- Community Giver Award: for those making a difference in their local community (\$36k – \$130k awarded)
- The Performing Arts Award: for entertainers and groups with a unique point of view (\$18k – \$72k awarded)

All applicants will receive desk space for two days per month for a year, while finalists will be invited to London for a pitch event in September. Those who are successful will join the global finals alongside applicants from across the globe, with winners receiving between \$130 and \$360,000 in funding (approx £445,400).

The contest is open only to entrepreneurs and start-up businesses from any sector in the UK.

[Applications](#) have now opened for the 2018 London awards, which serve the UK and Ireland with a deadline of 23 September 2018.



Education, Employment and Training

Annual Information and Training Measures for Workers' Organisations Call Now Open

Fund ID: S3465

The objectives of the annual Information and Training Measures for Workers' Organisations Call include measures and initiatives to strengthen the capacity of workers' organisations to address, at EU/transnational level, changes in employment and work and social dialogue related challenges. Actions are also expected to contribute to the priorities and activities of European social dialogue, including those laid down in the work programmes of the EU cross-industry and sectoral social dialogue committees, as well as those that form part of the June 2016 Statement of the Presidency of the Council, the European Commission and the European social partners on "a new start for social dialogue"

Particular emphasis will be given to strengthening the involvement of social partners in the European Semester and enhancing their contribution to EU policy making. Measures which contribute to addressing the employment, social and economic challenges as identified in the discussions on a European Pillar of Social Rights will also be particularly welcome. Applicants are advised that access for people with disabilities should be guaranteed for measures funded under this Call.

Eligible activities include the following:

- Conferences.
- Seminars.
- Round tables.
- Studies.
- Surveys.
- Publications.
- Training courses.
- Training tools.
- Setting up of networks.
- Development and exchange of best practices.

Social partner organisations representing workers, at European, national regional or local level are eligible to apply.

A budget of €4,841,600 is available for the Call. Grants are expected to be between €150,000 and €500,000 for up to 90% of eligible costs.

The deadline for submissions is 18 May 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Launch of £15 Million Low Carbon Fund for Greater Manchester's Property Developers ****NEW****

Fund ID: S43725

The Greater Manchester Low Carbon Fund has been established to encourage and support property developers and infrastructure providers to use renewable energy in development schemes.

The Fund is aimed at renewable / low carbon technology installations and district energy networks, with the focus on greenhouse gas reduction. It will be used to support projects that would not attract traditionally-commercial finance, due to the relatively new technology involved, or projects that would be improved through the Low Carbon Fund's expertise.

Loans distributed through the Fund will be repaid and the funding will be recycled into further developments across the Greater Manchester region over the 15-year lifespan of the initiative.

A total of £15 million will be invested to promote the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable sources. It is envisaged that this will take the form of debt and equity funding of up to £5 million with a maximum term of 15 years.

Examples of eligible projects include:

- wind turbines dedicated to a development;
- projects generating energy from waste and landfill;
- biomass Combined Heat and Power (CHP) systems that generate electricity and heat powered by renewable woodchips.

Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, said:

"The Greater Manchester Combined Authority is pleased to launch our new Low Carbon Fund that will encourage the use of renewable energy in property developments and infrastructure projects, while also providing commercial investment in Greater Manchester.

"I look forward to working together with [the fund manager], developers and infrastructure providers as we use this Fund to achieve our goal of reducing carbon emissions across the region by 2020 and investing across Greater Manchester to drive sustainable economic growth."

Property developers and infrastructure providers in Greater Manchester may express an interest at any time.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

UK-South Korea Smart Energy Innovation Collaboration Competition - Registrations Invited ****NEW****

Fund ID: S43721

The UK-South Korea Smart Energy Innovation Collaboration Competition allows UK companies and project teams to apply for a share of up to £3 million to develop innovative smart energy solutions on a collaborative basis with partner companies or organisations from the Republic of Korea (South Korea).

The aim of the competition is to develop and demonstrate innovative technologies and business models in the field of smart energy, including: demand-side response (DSR), vehicle-to-grid (V2G), flexibility markets, system integration and energy storage systems. Projects that demonstrate novel business models that engage consumers are also encouraged as well as technology development projects.

UK partners will be able to bid for a share of up to £3 million innovation funding through this competition. Funding of between £250,000 to £1 million will be available for all the UK-based partners in a single project.

The competition will provide grant funding to companies and other organisations for the development and demonstration of smart energy

technologies and services. Projects supported by this competition could include:

- energy storage;
- demand-side response;
- vehicle-to-grid technologies;
- system integration;
- flexibility trading models.

Project teams for this competition must include:

- one or more UK-based organisations, led by an SME or large enterprise; and
- one or more South Korean organisations, led by an SME or large enterprise from South Korea;
- at least one SME or research organisation.

The deadline for registrations is 5pm on 26 April 2018. The deadline for competition submissions is 5pm on 3 May 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Environment

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) Launches Climate Change Call in Humber

Fund ID: S39494

A new Call has been launched under the ERDF strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds for the Humber. Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management in the Humber Local Enterprise Partnership area.

The call is specifically promoting investment to address specific risks, ensuring disaster resilience and developing disaster management systems. Proposals should clearly articulate and demonstrate how activities align with domestic strategic priorities and offer good value for money.

The total budget for the call is £3.6 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Humber LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Health and Social Welfare

Triangle Trust 1949 Fund - Organisations Working with Unpaid Carers

Fund ID: S33167

The Triangle Trust provides funding through its Development Grants programme twice a year to registered charities, not-for-profit social enterprises and community interest companies in the UK whose primary purpose is to support unpaid carers (spring round) and the rehabilitation of offenders or ex-offenders (autumn round).

Applications from organisations working in Scotland, Northern Ireland or Wales are particularly welcome. Organisations must have a constitution whose primary purpose is to support unpaid carers.

Development Grants provide funds towards any costs incurred by the applicant in undertaking its core business so that sustainable income sources can be developed and the organisation's income will not be reduced when the grant comes to an end. The grant could, for example, be used to enable an organisation to make a step change such as diversifying its income streams or setting up a social enterprise to help it become more sustainable in the long term.

Grants are available for up to £80,000 over three years with a maximum of £35,000 in year one. The amount requested each year is expected to taper down as applicants develop other sustainable income streams.

The emphasis of the Development Grant is to support the development of a solid foundation for the future. The grant could, for example, be used to enable an organisation to make a step change such as diversifying its income streams or setting up a social enterprise to help it become more sustainable in the long term.

Please note this funding is not available for charities with a broader remit that are running a project to support unpaid carers.

This is a highly competitive fund with only five Carer Development grants awarded in 2017.

The deadline for applications to the Spring round is 3 May 2018 (12 noon).

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

Pink Ribbon Foundation Re-opens for 2018 Applications

Fund ID: S34985

The Pink Ribbon Foundation's mission is to fund projects and provide financial support to UK charities which relieve the needs of people who are suffering from, or who have been affected by breast cancer or who work to advance the understanding of breast cancer, its early detection and treatment.

Grants of up to £5,000 are available for revenue, capital or project costs.

The Foundation provides financial support to charities in the UK whose objects are:

- To relieve the needs of people who are suffering from, or have been affected by, breast cancer by providing, or assisting in the provision of, information, care or emotional, practical and financial support.
- To advance public education in the understanding of breast cancer, its early detection and treatment, in particular but not exclusively by commissioning, or conducting, research into the causes, detection and treatment of breast cancer and by disseminating the results of such research.

The Foundation will consider applications from general cancer charities if any grant made will be used to benefit those suffering from, or affected by, 50% of patients that suffer from Breast Cancer or for research into, or the dissemination of information about, breast cancer.

The Foundation is keen to support initiatives which promote a positive view of living with breast cancer.

The Foundation welcomes applications from all ethnic and minority groups.

The deadline for applications is 31 May 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Housing

Nationwide Fund Launches Housing Fund for NI ****NEW****

Fund ID: S43719

The Nationwide Fund is offering grants to housing projects and charities to help make a change in their local area in Northern Ireland.

The new fund will support projects grouped under three key themes:

- Improves conditions (this could be physical, emotional or social).
- Directly helps people into a decent and affordable home (this could be through supported accommodation or stable rental accommodation).
- Indirectly helps people into decent and affordable homes through the creation/evaluation/research of innovative ideas that challenge the existing housing model.

Registered UK charities, CIOs, Companies Limited by Guarantee with charitable or social objectives and CICs can apply for the following levels of funding:

- Grants of between £10,000 and £25,000 for bids from single organisations.
- Grants of between £10,000 and £50,000 for bids from partners and consortia.

Examples of the types of project that could be funded include:

- Tenancy support.
- Independent living.
- Older people at home.
- Setting up mediation services for young people to enable them to access a safe place to live.
- Rent Deposit Loan schemes.

A regional Community Board, made up of Nationwide members, employees and charity partners, will review and short list the applications. The shortlist will then be put to Nationwide members to vote on with expectation that successful projects will not only receive a grant but also community support.

The deadline for applications is 13 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Research and Development

Innovate UK Launches Second Medicines Manufacturing Challenge Fund Call

Fund ID: S43479

Innovate UK (IUK) is now accepting applications for the second round of the Medicines Manufacturing Challenge Fund; a £10 million competition funded through the Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund (ISCF) that will support innovative projects in medicines manufacturing solutions.

The competition aims to stimulate the development and implementation of innovative methods and technologies to improve the manufacture of novel medicines for human use. Proposals must offer innovative approaches and could deliver:

- Improved commercially viable manufacturing processes.
- Methods for the reliable and robust scale-up of production of novel medicines.
- Increased yield of active ingredient.
- Lower cost of production and goods.

Projects may take the form of either feasibility projects, industrial research projects or experimental development projects. All projects must involve at least one small or medium-sized enterprise (SME) working alone or in collaboration with other organisations, and projects must demonstrate how they will improve the productivity, competitiveness and growth for at least one UK SME involved in the project. All projects must commence by 1 September 2018.

Eligible applicants will be able to apply for a share of up to £10 million. Up to £1 million will be available for projects lasting between six months and one year with eligible project costs of up to £100,000; and up to £9 million will be available for projects lasting between 12 and 30 months with eligible project costs of up to £1.5 million. The percentage of funding received varies according to the type of organisation the applicant is applying from and the type of research they intend to conduct.

Applications will be accepted until midday on 9 May 2018, and applicants must register via the IUK website prior to making a full application.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

Rare 2030 Pilot Project Open to Applications ****NEW****

Fund ID: S43716

In the European Union, a disease is considered rare when it affects not more than one person in 2,000. This low prevalence is the common feature shared by all rare diseases, which altogether affect all biological systems. This nevertheless means that between 6,000 and 8,000 different rare diseases affect or will affect an estimated 30 million people in the European Union.

Rare 2030 is a two-year pilot project to propose sustainable policy scenarios in the field of rare diseases for the period 2020-2030 and to address challenges and opportunities up until 2030 in a comprehensive and innovative manner, with particular emphasis on limited competences at EU level.

The methodological steps and timeline for Rare 2030 will include different work packages:

- Base research, including literature reviews and exploratory interviews to identify drivers of change and current and future challenges; - establishment of an expert / multi-stakeholder panel.
- Consensus building methods will be used to define the main drivers (political, scientific, etc.) for scenario building and will be open to large groups of stakeholders on a European level.
- An interdisciplinary and forward-looking workshop for scenario building will be used as a tool to reveal available choices and their potential consequences; the scenarios developed will take into account resources at EU level, and include options to use the existing structures better, in particular the framework of the European Reference Networks (ERN) and the Steering Group on Promotion and Prevention (SGPP).

- EU added value will be defined in options for action at EU level, both as theoretical concept and in terms of practical scenarios, with a clear distinction from actions recommended at national level.
- Extended patient consultation (survey) on the identified scenarios.
- A European 'consensus conference' to present, discuss and review results, engaging society to shape and take ownership of the outcomes.
- Identification of sustainable options for future action, bringing together the results of the scenarios and conference.
- A final report, in English, outlining the options for future action and outcomes of the project and measuring its impact.

Applicants must be legally established organisations, public authorities, public sector bodies, in particular research and health institutions, universities and higher education establishments in an EU Member State.

The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of projects is estimated at €1.3 million. The maximum possible rate of co-financing of the eligible total costs is 60%.

The deadline for applications is 15 May 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

Pilot Project on Environmental Monitoring of Pesticide Use Through Honeybees

****NEW****

Fund ID: S43715

Pilot Projects (PP) introduce new initiatives that might turn into standing EU funding programmes. A Pilot Project is an initiative of an experimental nature designed to test the feasibility of an action and its usefulness and lasts not more than two years. This Pilot Project, 'Environmental Monitoring of Pesticide Use Through Honeybees' seeks to develop a non-invasive environmental monitoring system via the collection of biweekly pollen samples during two beekeeping seasons by beekeepers from several countries in Europe.

Projects should:

- Develop a protocol, agreed between scientists and field practitioners, and following official methodological recommendations (ie the European Food Safety Authority HEALTHY-B, the EPILOBEE study).
- Identify areas at risk for bee health by putting analytical data in a geospatial context, aiming to understand the possible sources and variability of both bee food and contaminants.
- Screen for both authorised and non-authorised pesticide and veterinary products.
- Give an indication of the plant biodiversity of the landscape linked to the biology of honeybees throughout the year.
- Perform a verification of the quality of the CORINE database (or other more detailed land use dataset available in the countries participating) for landscape-level exposure modelling.

A proposal should involve independent legal entities established in two different EU Member States.

The total budget for the Call is €1.25 million. EU co-financing for projects will be calculated on the basis of eligible costs actually incurred. The maximum rate of EU co-financing is 60%.

The deadline for applications is 15 May 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Calls for Proposals Open in Enterprise M3

Fund ID: S39626

Two SME Support calls for proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

Low Carbon Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy in Enterprise M3.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable resources.
- Promote energy efficiency and renewable energy use in enterprises.

- Promote research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies.

The total budget for the call is £1.5 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Enterprise M3 area.

Research and Innovation Call

Grants from a minimum of £100,000 are available to run projects providing research and innovation in the Enterprise M3 LEP area, specifically through the promotion of business investment in research and innovation.

The total budget for the call is £100,000. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Enterprise M3 LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications to all calls is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Calls for Proposals Open in Greater Lincolnshire

Fund ID: S39499

Two calls for proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the Greater Lincolnshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

SME Support Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in Greater Lincolnshire.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators.
- Support the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development.
- Support the capacity of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes.

The total budget for the call is £4 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Greater Lincolnshire LEP area.

Low Carbon Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy in Greater Lincolnshire.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable resources.
- Promote energy efficiency and renewable energy use in enterprises.
- Support energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector.
- Promote low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas, including the promotion of sustainable multimodal urban mobility and mitigation-relevant adaptation measures.
- Promote research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies.

The total budget for the call is £2,288,263. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Greater Lincolnshire area.

The deadline for outline applications for both calls is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Calls for Proposals Open in Hertfordshire

Fund ID: S39604

Three calls for proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

Research and Innovation Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project promoting research and innovation in Hertfordshire.

This call is looking to support research and innovation, specifically:

- Enhancing research and innovation infrastructure and capacities to develop research and innovation excellence, and promoting centres of competence, in particular those of European interest.
- Promoting business investment in research and innovation.

The total budget for the call is £1 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Hertfordshire LEP area.

Low Carbon Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy in Hertfordshire.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable resources.
- Promote energy efficiency and renewable energy use in enterprises.
- Promote low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas, including the promotion of sustainable multimodal urban mobility and mitigation-relevant adaptation measures.
- Promote research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies.

The total budget for the call is £1 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Hertfordshire LEP area.

SME Support Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in Hertfordshire.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators.
- Support the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development.

The total budget for the call is £2 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Hertfordshire LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications to all calls is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Calls for Proposals Open in Leeds City Region

Fund ID: S39486

Four calls for proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the Leeds City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

Information and Communications Technology Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available for projects enhancing access to, and use and quality of, Information and Communications Technology in the Leeds City Region LEP area.

The Call is specifically focussed on developing Information and Communications Technology products and services, e-commerce, and enhancing demand for Information and Communications Technology.

The total budget for the call is £5 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Leeds City Region LEP area.

Low Carbon Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy in Leeds City Region.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable resources.
- Support energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector.
- Promote low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas, including the promotion of sustainable multimodal urban mobility and mitigation-relevant adaptation measures.
- Promote research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies.

The total budget for the call is £8 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Leeds City Region LEP area.

Research and Innovation Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run projects providing research and innovation in the Leeds City Region LEP area, specifically through the promotion of business investment in research and innovation.

The total budget for the call is £2 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Leeds City Region LEP area.

SME Support Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in Leeds City Region.

This call is looking to enhance the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises by promoting entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators.

The total budget for the call is £6 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Leeds City Region LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications to all calls is 20 April 2018.

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Calls for Proposals Open in North East

Fund ID: S39448

Three calls for proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

Low Carbon Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy in the North East.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable resources.
- Promote energy efficiency and renewable energy use in enterprises.
- Support energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector.
- Promote low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas, including the promotion of sustainable multimodal urban mobility and mitigation-relevant adaptation measures.
- Promote research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies.

The total budget for the call is £15 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the North East LEP area.

Research and Innovation Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run projects providing research and innovation in the North East LEP area, specifically through the promotion of business investment in research and innovation.

The total budget for the call is £8 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the North East LEP area.

SME Support Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in the North East.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators.
- Support the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development.
- Support the capacity of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes.

The total budget for the call is £15 million (£11 million for the Transition area and £4 million for the More Developed area). It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the North East LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications to all calls is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Calls for Proposals Open in Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Region

Fund ID: S39500

Four calls for proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

Environment and Resource Efficiency Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available for projects preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency in Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Protect and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure.
- Promote innovative technologies to improve environmental protection and resource efficiency in the waste sector, water sector and with regard to soil, or to reduce air pollution.

The total budget for the call is £1.3 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire LEP area.

Low Carbon Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy in Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable resources.
- Promote energy efficiency and renewable energy use in enterprises.
- Support energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector.
- Promote research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies.

The total budget for the call is £2.6 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire LEP area.

Research and Innovation Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project promoting research and innovation in Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire.

This call is looking to support research and innovation, specifically:

- Enhancing research and innovation infrastructure and capacities to develop research and innovation excellence, and promoting centres of competence, in particular those of European interest.
- Promoting business investment in research and innovation.

The total budget for the call is £2.4 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire LEP area.

SME Support Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in Hertfordshire.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators.
- Support the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development.
- Support the capacity of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes.

The total budget for the call is £8 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Stoke-on-Trent and Staffordshire LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications to all calls is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Calls for Proposals Open in The Marches

Fund ID: S39502

Four calls for proposals are open to applications under the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) strand of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

SME Support Call

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium sized enterprises in The Marches.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators.
- Support the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development.
- Support the capacity of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes.

The total budget for the call is £4 million (£1 million for the More Developed Region (Herefordshire) and £3 million for the Transition Region (Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin)). It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years.

Research and Innovation Call - Transition Region Only (Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin)

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project promoting research and innovation in The Marches.

This call is looking to support research and innovation, specifically:

- Enhancing research and innovation infrastructure and capacities to develop research and innovation excellence, and promoting centres of competence, in particular those of European interest.
- Promoting business investment in research and innovation.

The total budget for the call is £1 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the transition region (Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin) of The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership area.

Low Carbon Call - Transition Region Only (Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin)

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy in Coast to Capital.

The Call specifically aims to:

- Promote the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable resources.
- Promote energy efficiency and renewable energy use in enterprises.
- Support energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector.
- Promote low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas, including the promotion of sustainable multimodal urban mobility and mitigation-relevant adaptation measures.
- Promote research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies.

The total budget for the call is £1.5 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the transition region (Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin) of The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership area.

Environment and Resource Efficiency Call - Transition Region Only (Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin)

A grant of a minimum of £500,000 is available to run a project focussed on preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency in the Marches, specifically by protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure.

The total budget for the call is £500,000. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the transition region (Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin) of The Marches Local Enterprise Partnership area.

The deadline for outline applications to all calls is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Greater Cambridge and Greater Peterborough

Fund ID: S39591

A Research and Innovation Call for Proposals has been launched under the European Regional Development Fund stream of the European Structural and Investment Funds for Greater Cambridge and Greater Peterborough.

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project promoting research and innovation in the Greater Cambridge and Greater Peterborough LEP area, specifically promoting business investment in research and innovation.

Eligible activities covered by the Call include developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the Higher Education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation.

Other activities include supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advance manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies.

The total budget for the call is £500,000. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Greater Cambridge and Greater Peterborough LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Research and Innovation Call Open in Greater Birmingham and Solihull

Fund ID: S39568

A Research and Innovation Call for Proposals has been launched under the European Regional Development Fund stream of the European Structural and Investment Funds for Greater Birmingham and Solihull.

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project promoting research and innovation in the Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP area, specifically promoting business investment in research and innovation.

Eligible activities covered by the Call include developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the Higher Education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation.

Other activities include supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advance manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies.

The total budget for the call is £4 million. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Research and Innovation Call Open in New Anglia

Fund ID: S39593

A Research and Innovation Call for Proposals has been launched under the European Regional Development Fund stream of the European Structural and Investment Funds for New Anglia.

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project promoting research and innovation in the New Anglia LEP area, specifically promoting business investment in research and innovation.

Eligible activities covered by the Call include developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the Higher Education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation.

Other activities include supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advance manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies.

The total budget for the call is £500,000. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the New Anglia LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Research and Innovation Call Open in Solent

Fund ID: S39633

A Research and Innovation Call for Proposals has been launched under the European Regional Development Fund stream of the European Structural and Investment Funds for Solent.

Grants from a minimum of £100,000 are available to run a project promoting research and innovation in the Solent LEP area, specifically promoting business investment in research and innovation.

Eligible activities covered by the Call include developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the Higher Education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation.

Other activities include supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advance manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies.

The total budget for the call is £100,000. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Solent LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Research and Innovation Calls Open in Thames Valley Berkshire

Fund ID: S39623

A Research and Innovation Call for Proposals has been launched under the European Regional Development Fund stream of the European Structural and Investment Funds for Thames Valley Berkshire.

Grants from a minimum of £100,000 are available to run a project promoting research and innovation in the Thames Valley Berkshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area, specifically promoting business investment in research and innovation.

Eligible activities covered by the Call include developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the Higher Education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation.

Other activities include supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advance manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies.

The total budget for the call is £100,000. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the Thames Valley Berkshire LEP area.

The deadline for outline applications to both calls is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) - Research and Innovation Calls Open in the South East

Fund ID: S39627

A Research and Innovation Call for Proposals has been launched under the European Regional Development Fund stream of the European Structural and Investment Funds for the South East.

Grants from a minimum of £500,000 are available to run a project promoting research and innovation in the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area, specifically promoting business investment in research and innovation.

Eligible activities covered by the Call include developing links and synergies between enterprises, research and development centres and the Higher Education sector, in particular promoting investment in product and service development, technology transfer, social innovation, eco-innovation, public service applications, demand stimulation, networking, clusters and open innovation through smart specialisation.

Other activities include supporting technological and applied research, pilot lines, early product validation actions, advance manufacturing capabilities and first production, in particular in key enabling technologies and diffusion of general purpose technologies.

The total budget for the call is £500,000. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years and projects must cover the South East LEP area.

In addition to this, a separate Research and Innovation Call has been launched covering the LEP areas of Enterprise M3, Thames Valley Berkshire, Coast to Capital, Dorset, Solent and the South East. Grants from a minimum of £100,000 are available to run a project promoting research and innovation in the South East, specifically promoting business investment in research and innovation.

The total budget for the call is £600,000, with £100,000 allocated to the South East LEP area. It is anticipated that funding will be awarded for up to three years.

The deadline for outline applications to both calls is 20 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)



Rural Development and Agriculture

Welsh Government Launches New Round of Rural Business Investment Scheme - Food (RBISF)

Fund ID: S43514

The Rural Business Investment Scheme - FOOD (RBISF) is a capital investment programme designed to support projects that offer clear and quantifiable benefits to the food and drink industry in Wales. The scheme is intended to support food and drink processing or manufacturing activities currently not eligible under the Food Business Investment Scheme.

The indicative funding allocation under the current round of the scheme is: £300,000 for an expected maximum number of full applications of 15.

The minimum grant will be £2,400. The maximum grant for an individual investment project is 40% of the total eligible cost with a maximum of £50,000 for any individual investment project.

Support can cover tangible assets such as land, buildings, machinery and equipment and intangible assets such as computer software, patent rights and licences and technical and consultancy fees, including:

- the construction, acquisition, or improvement of immovable property, with land only being eligible to an extent not exceeding 10% of the total eligible costs of the investment project;
- the purchase of machinery and equipment up to the market value of the asset;
- general costs linked to expenditure such as architect, engineer and consultation fees, fees relating to advice on environmental and economic sustainability, eligible to an extent not exceeding 10% of the total eligible costs;
- acquisition or development of computer software and acquisitions of patents, licenses, copyrights, trademarks.

The scheme is open to applications from a wide range of micro and small businesses (micro enterprises employ fewer than 10 people and small enterprises fewer than 50) involved in food and drink processing and manufacture throughout Wales.

The deadline for applications is 10 April 2018.

(This report was the subject of a GRANTfinder Newsflash.)

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