

**York, North Yorkshire & East Riding LEP**  
**Local Growth Fund**  
**Call for Proposals for Investments in Skills Capital 2018**

<b>Amount of Funding Available</b>	<b>£800,000</b>
<b>Call Opens</b>	<b>Friday 3 August 2018</b>
<b>Call Closes</b>	<b>12 noon Friday 21 September 2018</b>

### **1. Introduction**

The £123.9m York, North Yorkshire and East Riding Local Growth Fund which runs until March 2021 supports infrastructure projects in the LEP area. Since its creation in April 2015 the LEP has invested £88m in a wide range of projects to support economic growth. These projects have had a transformational impact creating jobs, building homes, opening up development land, leveraging new funding streams and improving the infrastructure of colleges. £9.1m has been invested in 10 skills projects and building on this success, the LEP wishes to launch a new call for skills capital projects.

The LEP has made available a pot of £800K from the Local Growth Fund for skills capital investment in innovative technology (including ICT and digital) via this call.

### **2. Call Context**

The LEP is seeking proposals that provide good strategic fit by addressing local skills needs through investment in innovative technology (including ICT and digital) that in turn supports the economy and local businesses to grow. Applications **MUST** demonstrate how they:

- Support skills development in our priority sectors; STEM industries, the bioeconomy, construction, health and social care and the visitor economy
- Meet the needs of local learners and businesses
- Address market failure
- Provide additionality
- Do not duplicate neighbouring/nearby provision

**N.B. Applications for the provision of general estate maintenance and/or IT maintenance and upgrades will not be considered**

### 3. Strategic Fit

Applications will need to demonstrate how they support local strategic priorities as outlined in either/both of the documents below.

Strategic Economic Plan

<https://www.businessinspiredgrowth.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/SEP-Update-2016.pdf>

Recommendations of the Local Area Review

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/york-north-yorkshire-east-riding-and-hull-fe-area-review-report>

Projects must meet the HMT Green Book 5 Business Cases Assessment demonstrating the Strategic, Economic, Financial, Commercial and Management Cases

### 4. Scope of the call

Total fund allocation	£800,000
Minimum grant application level	£100,000
Duration of project activity	Projects must be financially complete by end December 2020. <b>Priority will be given to projects that can be financially completed by March 2019 (expenditure defrayed.)</b> Monitoring activity to capture project outputs will extend beyond the financial completion date.
Geographical scope	Projects must be based in the YNYER LEP area, providing support to learners and businesses in the area
Call deadline	For this specific call, applications will be assessed after the close of a single deadline. Applications received after the published call close date <b>will not</b> be considered. All applications will be assessed following closure of the call.

### 5. Outputs

Applicants will need to demonstrate how the activity will achieve specified Local Growth Fund outputs for Skills Capital Fund investment.

For this call, the Local Growth Fund output heading is:

- Number of New Learners Assisted

Your application must include details of the Number of New Learners that will be assisted as a result of the investment, and a clear methodology of how this number has been determined. You must also provide a timescale and profile for the delivery of these outputs. Output delivery will be reported and monitored via the quarterly claims process.

As well as Outputs, we would expect projects to deliver other outcomes. These may include Number of New Apprenticeships, Jobs Created or Safeguarded etc according to the local need that you are intending to address. Please detail these outcomes in your application, and again, provide details for your methodology in determining the number, and how these outcomes will be captured, a timescale and profile for delivery.

## **6. Eligibility**

Applications will be considered from:

- A Post 16 Further Education College (including delivery of higher education)
  - A Sixth Form College
  - A University Technical College (Post 16+)
  - An approved training organisation or charitable training provider (in receipt of funding from Education and Skills Funding Agency in the current academic year)
  - A specialist organisation that provides further education for students with a range of learning difficulties
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- Projects must be located within the York, North Yorkshire and East Riding LEP area, providing support to learners and businesses in the area
  - Projects must have confirmation of sources of match in place
  - Projects must be able to deliver within the timescale
  - Project costs must be clearly substantiated/evidenced
  - Funding is not available for general estate maintenance, replacement or upgrade of existing technology/ICT/digital Infrastructure
  - Projects will not be supported that are primarily for the development of the organisation's own workforce

## **7. Match funding**

Skills Capital Funding must not be used to replace existing funding sources. Skills Capital Fund investment must enable activity to take place that would not otherwise happen or to increase the scope, scale or intensity of activity. The level of Skills Capital awarded will be the minimum in order for the project to proceed.

Priority will be given to projects that can provide at least 50% of the total eligible project costs subject to State Aid regulations.

The remaining 50% or more must come from other funding sources or the applicants own funds.

## **8. Application process**

This is a two stage application process.

Stage 1 – Register of Interest

All organisations wishing to apply to this call MUST register their interest by email by 12 noon on Friday 17 August. Applications that do not register their interest by this time will NOT be considered. Registration of interest should be emailed to [Skillscapital@businessinspiredgrowth.com](mailto:Skillscapital@businessinspiredgrowth.com)

## Stage 2 – Full application form

Organisations that register their interest in applying will be sent a full application form to complete. This application form must be completed and sent to [Skillscapital@businessinspiredgrowth.com](mailto:Skillscapital@businessinspiredgrowth.com) by 12 noon on Friday 21 September. Applications submitted after this time will NOT be considered.

Following a Registration of Interest, we will assign an officer to work with all applicants on project development. Further detail will be provided after applicants have registered their interest.

### 9. Assessment process

Full applications will be assessed in two stages; 1) gateway assessment and 2) core assessment. The gateway assessment will be undertaken by the LEP and considers the eligibility criteria outlined above. (See Section 6)

Applications that fail the gateway assessment will be rejected. Applications which pass the gateway assessment will then be assessed in relation to all core assessment criteria. Applications will be assessed by an external organisation, sub contracted by the LEP.

### 10. Timetable for call

Activity	Date
Call published	Friday 3 August 2018
Registration of Interest	12 noon Friday 17 August
Project development work with applicants	Monday 20 August – Friday 21 September
Call closes	12 noon Friday 21 September
Gateway Assessment checks	Monday 24 – Friday 28 September
Applicants who have not met Gateway Assessment are informed	Monday 1 October
External Project Appraisal	Monday 1 October - Thursday 8 November
Recommended projects go to Skills & Employment Board for final decision	Thursday 15 November
Applicants notified of funding decision	Friday 16 November
Contracting	Friday 16 November – Friday 14 December
Delivery commences	Tuesday 1 January 2019
Financial Delivery complete (expenditure defrayed)	Friday 29 March

The LEP reserves the right to decrease or increase the indicative allocation, or support more or fewer projects, or extend deadlines subject to the volume and quality of proposals received.