



Community Led Local Development South & East Cornwall Local Action Group

Call for Projects (European Social Fund) - SELAG C07 COVID-19 Employment and Skills transition support Online information session 2pm 19th Jan 2021

1 Introduction

Community Led Local Development (CLLD) is funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund (ESF). This Call will provide **ESF grant funding** only.

CLLD is launching a new call to facilitate the transition of workers who were affected by COVID-19 and have lost their job or those who are looking to return to work after a period of unemployment. We recognise there are particular challenges faced by people who worked in the hospitality, arts, retail and tourism sectors and would also welcome projects with a specific focus on those who are over 50 or have a disability.

The call is for projects that offer training, confidence building, and skills development that will enable out-of-work individuals to either:

1. re-skill or up-skill in order to promptly pivot to new sectors, and/or
2. to pro-actively prepare for the new post-COVID-19 workplace

This call is relevant to you if your organisation provides support for people to increase confidence and aspiration and/or training in skills development towards employability and can support people through an individual-led approach into further training or employment. You may also have links with local employers with routes into employment.

2 South & East Cornwall LAG Local Development Strategy (LDS)

The Local Development Strategy was developed in advance of the CLLD programme going live; through extensive consultation it determined the strategic objectives and anticipated activities to be funded. A summary can be found [here](#).

The LDS for SELAG has identified the following needs which this call will aim to tackle:

- Issues of part time, seasonal, casual jobs, zero hours working
- A need to work with all employers not just those in high growth sectors
- Developing care and befriending services for the elderly which will also help tackle isolation and which could be employment opportunities



- A need to work more with local employers (including larger employers) to link and support CLLD residents into local job opportunities
- Access to digital resources and skills is needed more widely in order to support people needing to do things online and develop their skills and capacity for this
- A need to engage in a sensitive and targeted approach to building skills, confidence and helping people become more employable.

3 COVID-19 context

It is expected that the COVID-19 pandemic will have a deep impact on the Cornish economy and population (see [Estimated Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Cornwall document](#) from the Economic Growth Service, Cornwall Council, May 2020).

This call is looking for projects that will offer individuals the opportunity to gain training and allow them to move to a new career in sectors that may be more in-demand at this time such as care, customer services, health and hygiene etc. Projects can support people who have been recently made redundant or participants who have struggled to find work to re-enter a new labour market.

The projects funded through this call will also offer options for those recently made redundant to acquire new skills in order to remain in their preferred sector. It will ensure they have the right tools to operate in a post-COVID-19 world where, for example, tourism will be more localised and where hospitality will have to operate within stricter safety rules.

4 Call details

4.1 Call Summary:

LDS Priority: Making sure people can access employment and training

LDS Strategic objective 3: Developing community led initiatives/ community-based projects to work with people to build capacity, confidence and skills for progression towards employment and training

LDS Activity E: Community-led and community-based skills development, capacity building support and enabling for individuals.

Total grant funding amount available: **£161,500 (European Social Fund - ESF)**

Expected intervention rate: **80%**

Match: **to be found from non-EU sources.**

Minimum total project costs: Project total costs must be at least **£50,000** (i.e. Minimum £40,000 CLLD ESF grant per project).

4.2 What is the call for?

The objective of the call is to facilitate the transition of those workers who are affected by COVID-19 and have lost their job, including people over 50 or with a disability; and / or to support those already out of work to move closer to or into employment in the 'new' normal economy.

The call is for projects that will offer training, confidence building, and skills development to enable these now out-of-work individuals to either:

Objective 1

Re-skill or up-skill in order to promptly pivot to new sectors (for example: care, customer services etc.)

Objective 2

Pro-actively prepare for the new post-COVID-19 job opportunities (local tourism, training on sanitary measures, hygiene, Health and Safety) through training, confidence building, and skills development.

4.3 Target Participants and Areas

The CLLD grants will offer investment for projects supporting participants who may have either been affected by COVID-19 or who wish to re-enter the labour market in the post COVID-19 world. We particularly welcome projects that will support:

- a. Participants that are aged over 50**
- b. Participants that have disabilities**

CLLD funding is targeted at geographic areas that have suffered disinvestment or have longstanding deprivation issues. Therefore, participants **SHOULD be** resident in **core** areas where possible. For more details on our eligible geographic areas, please visit this page on our [website](#) (maps of specific target areas can be found towards the bottom of the page).

All projects will be considered but we would especially welcome projects focussing their delivery in the following areas: **St Austell, Victoria, Bugle Penwithick, St Dennis, Treviscoe, Foxhole and St Blazey, Liskeard and Looe.**

(NB: you, as the applicant, do not have to be based in these locations but should be engaging with participants from within these areas where possible).

4.4 Who is the call for?

The call is aimed at:

- all organisations that have experience of delivering training to support unemployed participants over 50 and/or that have disabilities, in order to develop their skills and support them towards employment and new job opportunities.

- generalist training providers can also apply but should provide their engagement methodology if planning to reach a significant number of participants over 50 and/or have a disability.

Previous experience of running an ESF project would be beneficial but is not essential. However, we do ask that you provide examples of your positive track record for delivering similar types of projects, particularly where you may have been working with hard to reach clients.

For this call, this is likely to result in work within the following economic sectors:

1. Those especially affected by the current pandemic (hospitality, tourism, retail, entertainment, etc) who would like to offer participants pro-active training and the opportunity to re-start their career.
2. Those who are experiencing a new and sudden high demand for a new skilled workforce (health and social work, professional, scientific and technical)

Note, that given the unpredictability of the current situation, applicants will need to provide a high level of flexibility in their delivery method and project timescales, and will be expected to demonstrate that they can deliver their outputs irrespective of the lockdown situation at the start of the project (Summer 2021).

4.5 What can an ESF CLLD grant pay for?

1. Salaries and overheads (overheads based on 15% of salaries)
2. Participants costs (childcare, travel)
3. Hire of premises to deliver training
4. Materials for use during the training
5. Equipment hire where it is for ESF use only
6. Marketing and publicity of the project
7. Hire of expert tutors and support workers etc to deliver the support needed

Volunteer time is possible as a source of match funding, but we expect all projects to have a minimum 10% 'cash' match funding. Support with accessing further match funding can be provided by the CLLD team.

Examples of eligible activities are included below for illustrative purposes; we welcome innovative approaches and delivery:

- Developing and encouraging aspiration and confidence building
- Developing IT skills relevant to COVID-19: video conferencing and all technologies linked to working from home
- Mental health awareness and support workshops
- Retraining, skills for employability in in-demand sectors
- Health and safety new trainings for example post COVID-19 sanitary measures, cleanliness/hygiene/sanitation and hygiene protocols
- We would encourage training with a hands-on approach, this could include: job shadowing, placements, work experience, peer-coaching, mentoring

Projects should, where appropriate, consider delivering recognised qualifications that enable some participants to access jobs above the minimum wage by the end of the project. This could include links with local college provision.

4.6 **Outputs**

Depending on the response to this call, either a single project or a combination of smaller projects will be approved to contribute towards the delivery of the following outputs as an overall target for the call.

Total number of Participants	85
Of which:	
Participants that are unemployed including long-term unemployed	55
Participants that are inactive	30

4.7 **Impact and results:**

We expect your project to deliver from one of the following results for at least 50% of your participants:

- Participants in education or training on leaving
- Unemployed participants in employment, including self-employment on leaving
- Inactive participants into employment or job search on leaving

In addition, we welcome innovative approaches and ideas that will have a wider community benefit beyond the individuals supported.

4.8 **Timeframe**

We are working in a two-stage process: the completion of an initial Expression of Interest, which will be reviewed by the Local Action group; if successful, you will then be required to complete a Full Application which will be appraised before the Local Action group make a final funding decision.

We anticipate all projects approved through this call will commence activity at the beginning of June 2021. While CLLD is currently contracted for project delivery up to the end of June 2022, it is likely that this will be extended by 6 months so projects can deliver till the end of December 2022. Therefore, we will welcome applications for projects proposing delivery activity of up to 18 months in duration.

Call launch	18 th December 2020
Information session – via EventBrite	19 th January 2021 (2pm)
EoI to be submitted to CLLD	12 th February (by 12 noon)
EoI LAG meeting	25 th February 2021
Full application to be submitted to CLLD	26 th March 2021 (by 12 noon)
Clarification and appraisal period	8 weeks
Full application LAG meeting	27 th May 2021
Earliest project start	7 th June 2021

Latest project delivery completion date	30 th June 2022 (31 st December 2022 subject to CLLD Programme extension)
Latest project financial completion date	30 th September 2022 (31 st March 2023 subject to CLLD Programme extension)

4.9 Submission and support with your application

We strongly encourage all interested parties to attend our Virtual Information Session on the 19th January as this will provide an opportunity to clarify any points relating to the call specification, eligibility, match funding and any other issues. To book a space please follow [this link](#).

To submit a project for this call please complete the Expression of Interest form which must be emailed to [CLLD](#) no later than 12noon on the 12th February. No late applications will be accepted.

Contact details:

For general enquiries on this call please contact Jon Teague

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Thank you for your interest in this Call.