

Oxfordshire European Structural Investment Fund Briefing

Nigel Tipple

Chief Executive

Friday 27 March 2015



European Union
European Structural
and Investment Funds

Our Vision

By 2030 we will have strengthened Oxfordshire's position as a vibrant, sustainable, inclusive, world leading economy, driven by innovation, enterprise and research excellence.



Strategic Economic Plan Priorities



Deliver and attract specialist and flexible skills at all levels, across all sectors, as required by our businesses, with full, inclusive employment and fulfilling jobs.



Provide a quality environment and choice of homes needed to support growth and capitalise upon the exceptional quality of life, vibrant economy and the dynamic urban and rural communities of our county.



Encourage innovation led growth, underpinned by Oxfordshire's strengths in University research and development, business collaboration and supply chain potential.



Allow people to move freely, connect easily and provide the services, environment and facilities needed by a dynamic, growing and dispersed economy.

Our Partnership for Growth





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Oxfordshire European Structural Investment Fund Information Event

John Bell
Friday 27 March 2015



Background

- Today is about the long anticipated deployment of c£19.5M European investment in Oxfordshire to 2022
- The first time Oxfordshire has had EU funds directly under its influence, and is an opportunity to contribute significantly to our goal of Growth through Innovation
- OxLEP, with its private, public and NGO partners, have been working for nearly two years on how to make best use of this investment, and the time has now arrived where for the real action to begin

EU Structural Funds

- ‘Europe 2020’:
‘smart, sustainable and inclusive growth’ – the vision for Europe’s long term prosperity
- Support for work which innovates, fills gaps, builds connections and adds to domestic programmes,
- Priorities for their use in the hands of LEPs, with programme delivery through Government agencies by competitive bidding

The Funds

- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF): support for innovation, business, SMEs and infrastructure. 20% Low Carbon transition. Managed by DCLG
- European Social Fund (ESF): employment, social inclusion, skills, training and lifelong learning. 20% social inclusion. DWP
- European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD): rural business and community development. DEFRA

Crucially, set in the local context: Oxfordshire's strategic plan priorities: Growth through innovation



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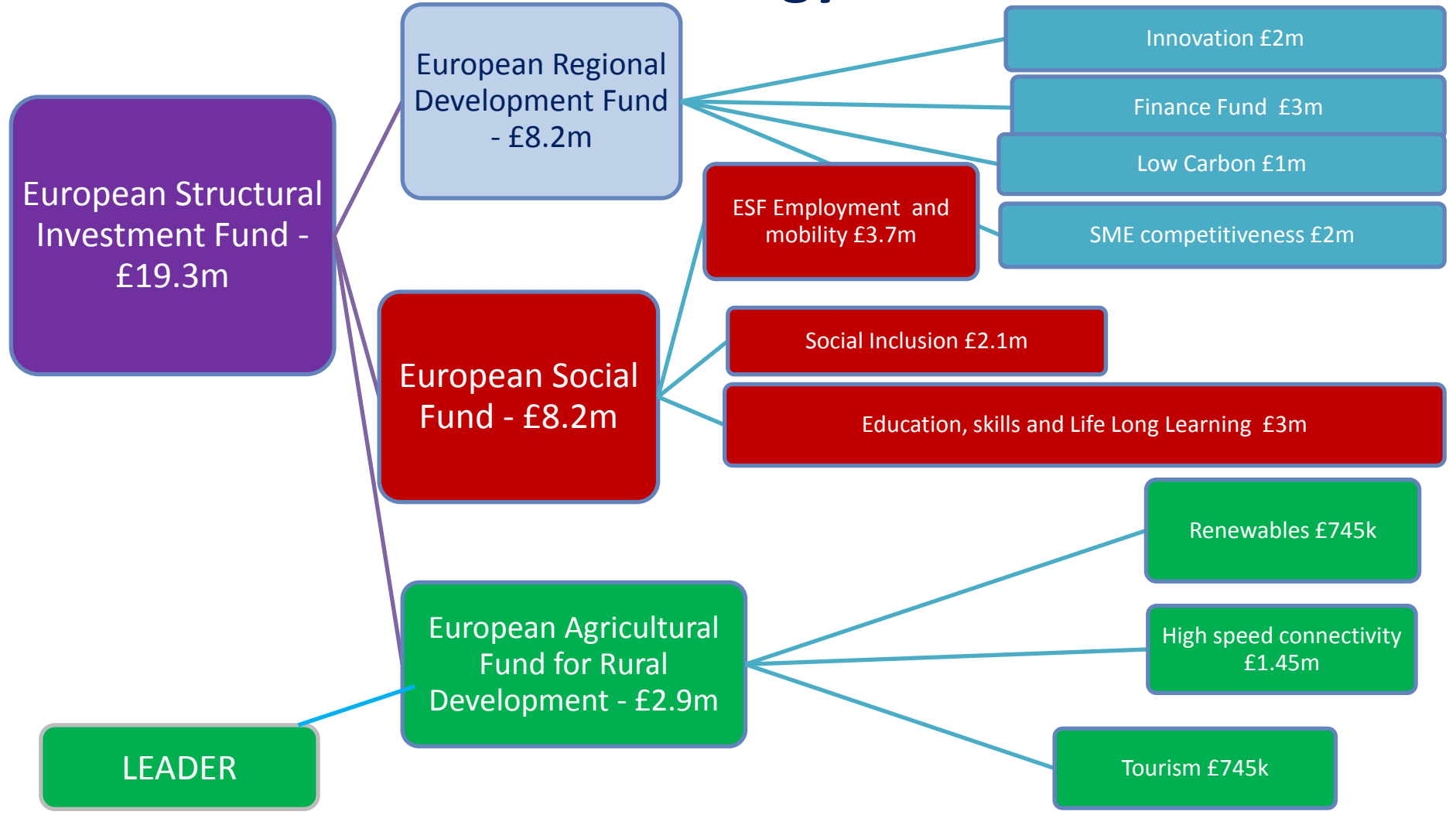
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ESIF Strategic Priorities

- ‘Growth through innovation’
- Support for key sectors – growth and jobs potential
- And supportive infrastructure for business
- Best value for money comes from demonstrating and proving, not simply buying ‘more of the same’
- Highly targeted social inclusion measures, with strong links to employment growth sectors and skills gaps
- Businesses and communities to have equal access to wider EU funds based on potential / merit – business support, finance, skills development, employment and training measures – so rural funds focused on specific needs/potential

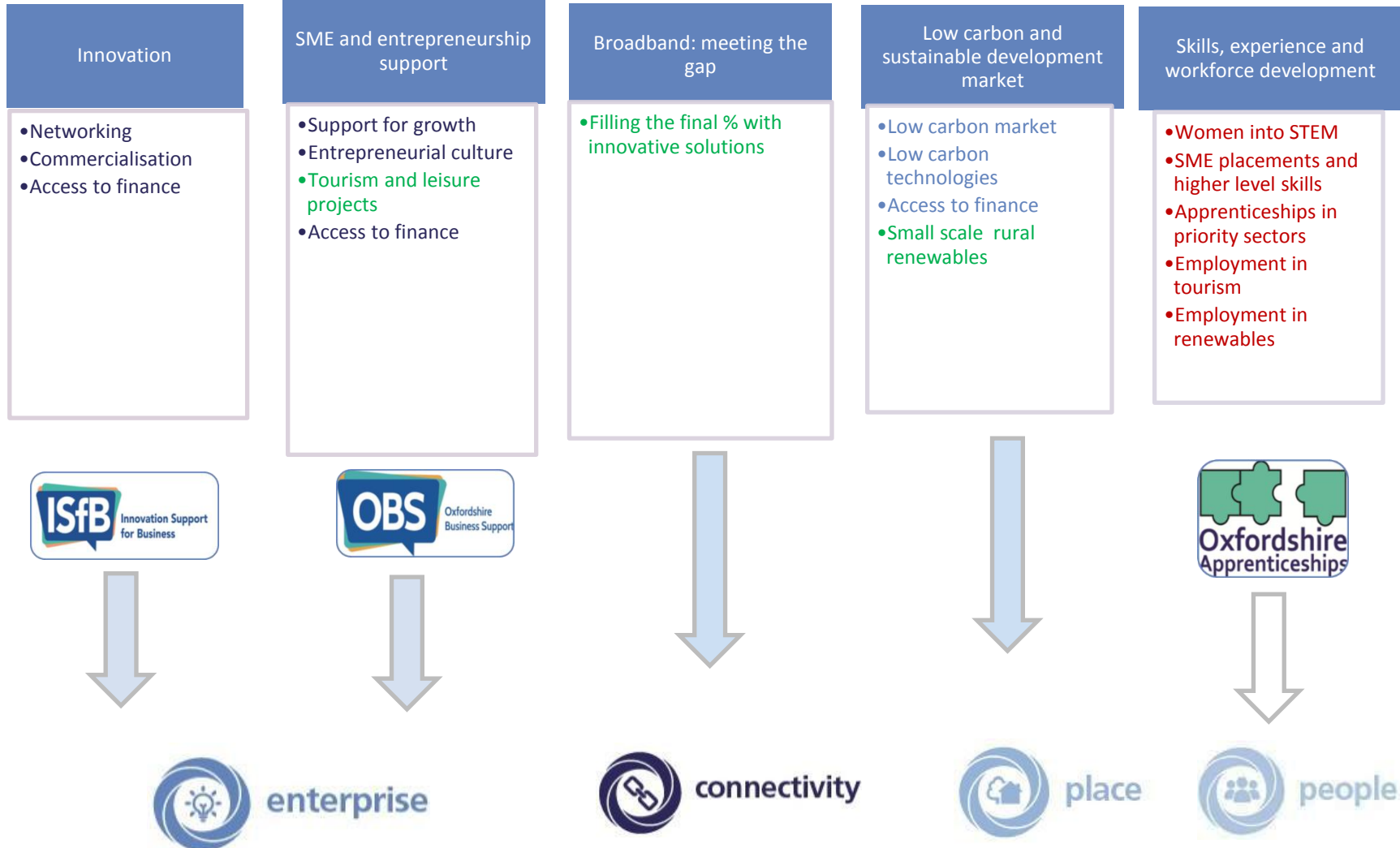
Oxfordshire European Structural Investment Fund (ESIF)

Strategy



Business Support Programme

ERDF
EAFRD
ESF



Labour Market & Community Development Programme

Employment and labour mobility

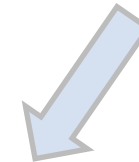
- Literacy and numeracy for young people
- Employability support for unemployed people particularly long term sick / disability benefits

Social inclusion

- Employability and brokerage for young people not in education, employment or training (NEET)
- Preventative work for young people at risk of becoming NEET
- Community Grants for people far from the labour market

Education, skills, lifelong learning

- Training and support to fill lower level skills needs
- Retraining for older workers particularly into the care sector



European Structural Investment Fund - Rules

- Must deliver in Oxfordshire (though may collaborate across LEP boundaries)
- Show clear evidence of market opportunity and convincing plans, consistent with strategy. Growth and jobs.
- Matched funding 50:50 (in ESF some provided centrally)
- Must deliver defined outputs and outcomes: jobs, enterprises supported, investments, communities benefitting
- Must deliver on time
- Not replace public services, and be additional
- Respect state aid
- Be overseen by representative LEP level ESIF Committee
- Subject to OCT: nationally managed 'calls' on behalf of LEPs

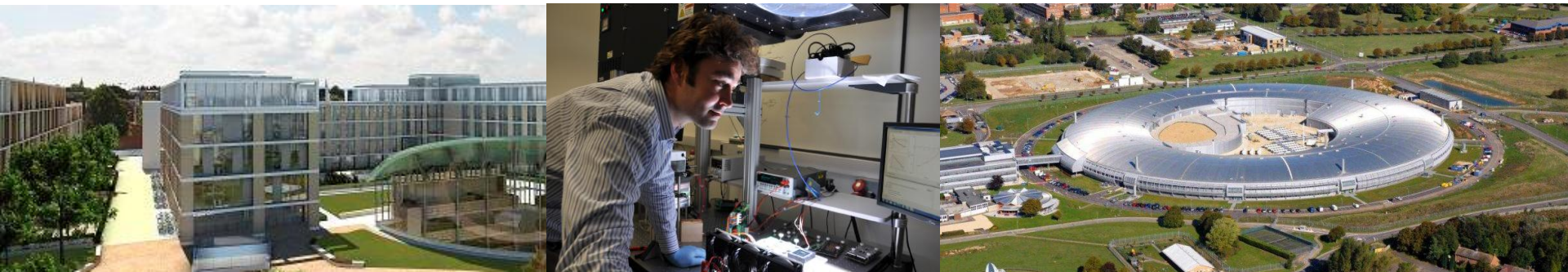


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LinkedIn: join our group



Project call timescales 2015-2018

Dawn Pettis

27 March 2015



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Project call timescales – ERDF/EAFRD

Thematic Objective	Activity	Project call published	Delivery
TO3 SME competitiveness	Supporting the creation and extension of advanced capabilities for product and service development	March 2015	Autumn/winter 2015/6
	Promoting entrepreneurship by facilitating new and fostering the creation of new businesses	June 2015	March 2016
	The Oxfordshire Business Loan Fund	2016	?
TO4 Low Carbon	Development of small scale renewable energy schemes in rural Oxfordshire – focus on wood-fuels	June 2015	March 2016
	Promoting the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable sources	September 2015	Summer 2016
	Promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy use in enterprises	September 2015	Summer 2016
TO1 Innovation	Enhancing research and innovation infrastructure and capabilities to develop R&I excellence and promoting centers of competence	September 2015	Summer 2016
	Promoting business investment in R&I	September 2015	Summer 2016
TO5 Protecting the environment and resource efficiency	Support for tourism and leisure in rural Oxfordshire	September 2015	Summer 2016

Project call timescales - ESF

Thematic objective	Activity	Project call published	Delivery
TO8 Employment, labour mobility and access to employment	Retraining older workers for the social care sector in Oxfordshire – match funding from SFA	June 2015	Autumn/winter 2015/6
	Working in communities to help the long-term unemployed move closer to the labour market – match funding from the Big Lottery Fund	June 2015	February/March 2016
	Support for job creation in small scale renewable energy projects in rural Oxfordshire	June 2015	Autumn/winter 2015/6
	Improving literacy and numeracy for young people – working in communities to engage young people to improve their literacy and numeracy – aligned with the NEET programme – match funding from the SFA	September 2015	Summer 2016
	Support for job creation through the promotion of tourism and leisure in rural Oxfordshire	September 2015	Summer 2016
TO9 social inclusion	Engagement programme to help those young people in Oxfordshire who are not in employment, education or training, and a transition programme to help young people at risk of becoming NEET – match funding from Big Lottery Fund	September 2015	Summer 2016
	Oxfordshire Community Grants Scheme	March 2016	Autumn/winter 2016/7



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

European Structural and Investment Funds Programme 2014-2020

Oxfordshire LEP Area Information Event

27th March 2015

Georgia Pritchard

South East Growth Delivery Team DCLG



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Department for
Communities and
Local Government

ESIF Growth Programme

Europe 2020 Targets

<http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020>

The EU's 10 year growth and jobs strategy launched in 2010 – creating the conditions for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

Five headline targets for EU Member States covering employment; research and development; climate/energy; education; social inclusion and poverty reduction.



Department for
Communities and
Local Government

ESIF Growth Programme

www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding

In England the European Growth Programme will invest in projects that help support innovation, business, skills and employment to improve local growth and create jobs.





ESIF Growth Programme Europe 2020 targets

Euro 2020 Target		Relevance to ERDF
Employment	75% of the 20-64 year-olds to be employed	<i>Medium</i>
Research & development	3% of the EU's GDP to be invested in R&D	<i>High. TO1</i>
Climate change & energy sustainability	Greenhouse gas emissions 20% lower than 1990. 20% of energy from renewables. 20% increase in energy efficiency.	<i>High. TO4</i>
Education	Reducing the rates of early school leaving below 10%. At least 40% of 30-34-year-olds completing third level education	<i>Low. ESF</i>
Fighting poverty & social exclusion	At least 20 million fewer people in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion	<i>Low. ESF</i>
Country Specific Recommendations for UK		
Sustainable public finances	Reduction of debt and deficit, whilst balancing this with targeted growth-enhancing expenditure.	<i>Medium.</i>
The housing market	Increase the housing supply and strengthen the rental market, whilst avoiding an imprudent mortgage lending.	<i>Low. No TO.</i>
Youth unemployment	Improve the quality of vocational training and reduce the number of young people without sufficient skills	<i>Low. ESF</i>
Support to low income households	Improve work incentives. Improve affordability and quality of childcare provision.	<i>Low. ESF</i>
Access to finance for businesses	Measures to encourage banks to lend to businesses, whilst avoiding excessive risk taking.	<i>High. TO3</i>
Investment in infrastructure energy (renewables)	Investment in energy (renewables) and transport infrastructure.	<i>Low</i>



ESIF Growth Programme

Types of European funding

The European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF):

- **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)** (€3.6bn) helps promote economic growth by supporting
 - Research and development
 - Supporting and promoting SMEs
 - Creation of a low carbon economy

- **European Social Fund (ESF)** (€3.5bn) contributes to growth by:
 - Increasing labour market participation
 - Promoting social inclusion
 - Developing the skills of the potential and existing workforce

- **European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)** €221m to grow the rural economy by:
 - Helping rural businesses to start or grow their businesses or improve skills and training
 - Investing in broadband, renewable energy and to promote rural tourism





ESIF Growth Programme ERDF Priority Axes

The ERDF **Operational Programme** sets out 10 Priority Axes:

- PA 1: Research and Innovation
- PA 2: Enhancing access to, and use and quality of, ICT
- PA 3: Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs
- PA 4: Supporting the shift towards a low carbon economy
- PA 5: Promoting climate change adaptation, risk prevention and management
- PA 6: Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency
- PA 7: Sustainable transport in Cornwall and Isles of Scilly
- PA 9: Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty and any discrimination
- PA 10: Sustainable Urban Development
- PA 11: Technical Assistance





ESIF Growth Programme Applying for ERDF

Where are we now?

- Operational Programme text agreed informally with the Commission
- Expect formal adoption in June/July
- In the meantime, launching first call for bids in the second half of March targeted on key priorities
- DCLG & DWP working with LEP areas to identify priorities for first calls
- Calls for bids will be published on www.gov.uk/european-growth-funding from the 23rd March with all the required information and guidance
- Get your LOGASnet password!



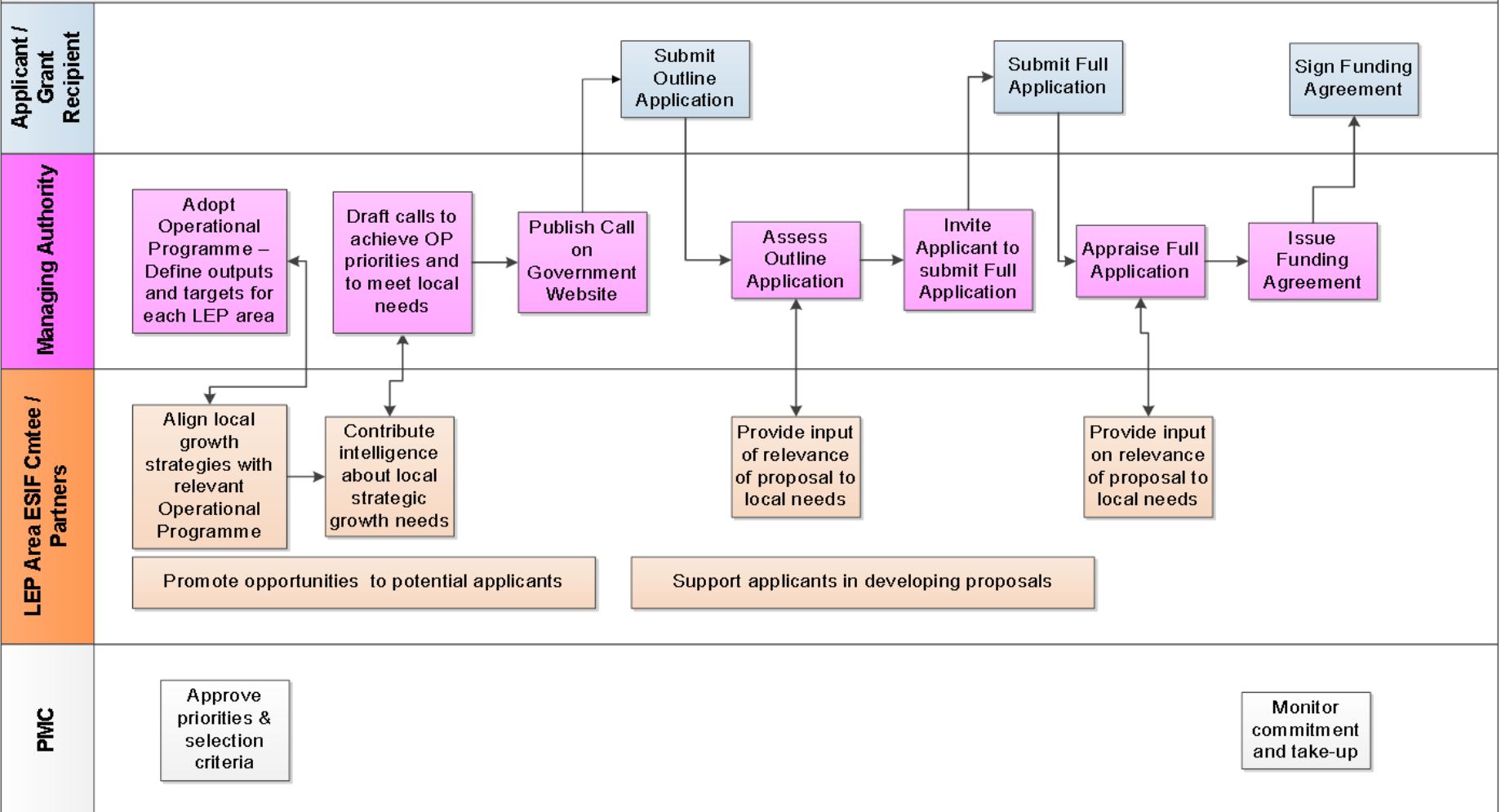
Details of the first Call for bids – Oxfordshire LEP

- One Call - Priority Axis 3: Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs
- Project proposals that support, complement and enhance the activity of Oxfordshire Business Service (OBS)
- Funding available: £350,000 ERDF
- Deadline for Outline Application: 29th May 2015
- Deadline for Full Application: To be confirmed
- Project start date: Late 2015/Early 2016



2014-2020 ESIF Business Process – Inception to Funding Agreement

Inception, Calls, Applications, Assessment, Appraisal, Funding Agreement





ESIF Growth Programme What happens next?

What happens next?

- Expressions of Interest to be submitted to DCLG – deadlines across May
- DCLG will carry out a quick check to ensure eligibility and compliance with Commission regulations
- DCLG will seek advice from local area ESIF Committee about how the Eols meet local priorities
- Invitations to submit a full application sent out
- DCLG will conduct technical appraisal
- DCLG will again seek the advice of the local area ESIF Committee on the applications
- Funding Agreements issued to successful bidders from October to December

Oxfordshire's Ambition for Business Support

Nigel Tipple

Chief Executive

Friday 27 March 2015



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Oxfordshire Business Support





www.oxfordshirebusinesssupport.co.uk

- **Relevant** to all types and stages of business
- **Supported** by telephone and email enquiry desk
- **Signposting** to national and local advice and support
- **Network Navigators:** Sector specific experts signposting to working together to build an environment that encourages and supports innovation
- **Events:** details for networking, business, key sectors, research and academia
- **Funding:** Concept to commercial viability, grants co-invested with funding from investors
- **Innovation Support Vouchers:** Access to specialised facilities and skills development/training (management and leadership etc.) to grow SMEs
- **Start-Up Success:** Structured programme for start-up businesses and entrepreneurs

- Free service, delivered on behalf of Oxfordshire County Council and the Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP).
- We support existing companies to grow in the area and help potential investors, primarily overseas, to make informed decisions about locating to the county.
- We do this by offering a comprehensive inward investment service to potential new companies to the area and an account management service to existing key companies



- O2i is a strategic approach to education business links in Oxfordshire
- Clearly positioned between the worlds of work and education, O2i will broker education business links across all O2i partners for the benefit of all
- Priorities for O2i include
 - activities and support that help develop employability skills,
 - promote local growth sectors
 - enhance careers education, information and guidance



- Oxfordshire Apprenticeships is a partnership of local councils, National Apprenticeship Service and training providers, whose aim is to help businesses ‘make sense’ of Apprenticeships
- They provide direct support for employers who are interested in how Apprentices can benefit their business, but are unsure how to get started.

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Questions and Answers



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Thank you for your time



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