

West Area People Board**13th February 2017****Community Led Local Development (CLLD) – Next steps for the West****1. Introduction**

- 1.1 CLLD overview report was presented to January People Board. The report was discussed in detail.
- 1.2 The People Board agreed to receive a further report, developing a proposal to potentially recommend to Area Committee, to align funding to support west VCS organisations who apply for CLLD funding in the future, who in turn would require match-funding to secure the CLLD grant.

2. Supporting the West

- 2.1 The final application for CLLD funding was submitted on 31st January 2017. The CLLD application seeks support to deliver the Sunderland CLLD strategy from April 2017- March 2022, requesting £3.05m of European funds:-
 - £2.15m for European Social Fund (ESF) and
 - £900k from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).
- 2.2 A further £2.75m will need to be secured as match funding from non-European funding sources, bringing the total value of the Local Development Strategy to £5.8m.
- 2.3 Approval for CLLD funding is anticipated in April/May 2017, after which time the programme will be in a position to launch its first call for projects.
- 2.4 At the West People Board in January, members considered the possibility of aligning £100k SIB funding, to ensure match-funding was in place, to support West projects who wish to deliver CLLD activities, but who are unable to secure match-funding from other sources.

3. Type of activity to be delivered for CLLD Funding

- 3.1 Following Government approval of the CLLD funding, the CLLD funding will be launched within Sunderland. West VCS organisations will then be offered the opportunity to apply for CLLD funding, to deliver projects which focus upon the three CLLD objectives:
 - **Objective 1 - Enhance employment and skills provision**
 - **Action 1.1** Projects /initiatives which support effective engagement, finding and sign-posting of clients missing out on employability and skills support (ESF £250k/£250k match required)
 - **Action 1.2** Projects/initiatives which provide beneficiaries with pre-employability support and their transition into work (ESF £900k / £900k match required)
 - **Objective 2 Boost enterprise and entrepreneurship**
 - **Action 2.1** Projects/initiatives which support enterprise awareness and develop a stronger enterprise culture (ERDF £300k/£200k match required)

- **Action 2.2** Projects/initiatives which promote community enterprise development including pre-start and start-up support (ERDF £600k/£400k match required)
- **Objective 3 Improve community capacity, partnership working and social innovation**
 - **Action 3.1** Projects that promote leadership development, volunteering, active inclusion and citizenship, and that support the sustainability of VCSE organisations (ESF - £350k/£350k match required)
 - **Action 3.2** Projects which stimulate innovation and investigate, develop and implement new opportunities, services and models, including social investment activity. (ESF £350k/£350k match required).

3.2 Projects/initiatives must address ways to fill gaps in local employment and skills provision, stimulate pilot projects and build the capacity of specific client groups, organisations, potential entrepreneurs and local enterprises.

4. Who will benefit from the West?

4.1 Our West VCS organisations who apply for CLLD funding. Their applications would be submitted, following a call for projects via the CLLD Local Action Group (LAG). The applications will be assessed by the CLLD Local Action Group and funding approved, following a robust process.

5. Match Funding

5.1 For every pound secured from CLLD funding, a pound of match-funding must be secured, prior to the CLLD funds being handed-over. To ensure the organisations with the West stand the best possible chance of securing the CLLD funding, Area Committee may wish to consider aligning £60,000 SIB funding, to enable those organisations who successfully received CLLD funding, to utilise SIB as match – subject to full Area Committee approval for each application.

5.2 For example if a West VCS organisation submitted an application to the CLLD LAG to deliver an employment project, they would need to secure the match funding before submission. The project, if successful, would then be required to submit all relevant evaluations for project delivery, to both the CLLD LAG and the West Area Committee/People Board respectively.

6. Recommendations

6.1 Consider the report and make a recommendation to West Area Committee in relation to the potential alignment of SIB to support match-funding requirements for West CLLD projects.

6.2 Continue to ensure the West Area Committee is fully involved in the delivery of the CLLD Strategy and that West residents benefit from this funding opportunity.