

**Lowlands and Uplands Scotland ERDF and ESF Programmes 2007-2013
Programme Monitoring Committee**

**CONSIDERATION OF THE CPP BIDS
REPORT BY THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT**

1. Purpose

- 1.1** To seek the Committees agreement to the proposed consideration of the CPP bids and in particular to agree indicative allocations of ESF and ERDF.

2. Introduction

- 2.1** The 13 designated local authority areas eligible to receive funding under ESF Priority 1, Progressing into Employment and ERDF Priority 3, Urban Regeneration were invited to develop strategic, coherent and integrated programmes of ESF actions and complementary and supporting ERDF activities aimed at addressing the underlying skills needs of eligible target groups and helping them enter or re-enter the labour market.
- 2.2** The resulting CPP bids represented for the greater majority of bids partnerships of key stakeholder and potential delivery organisations. They also represented comprehensive proposals which clearly involved considerable time and effort in their planning and preparation. However, due to the somewhat compressed timescale in which these bids were developed the level and degree of consultation did not always allow for full buy-in of all partners. As a consequence many of the bids comprise identified activities which have also been submitted as stand alone applications under ESF Priority 1. This twin tracking is understandable in view of the risks involved in applying solely under a CPP bid where it was understood that not all 13 bids could be funded. Also, with the relatively short time available to the IAB in undertaking the necessary technical and eligibility checks, ineligible activities were identified to lead partners but there was insufficient time to undertake the necessary changes.
- 2.3** Accordingly, there is an urgent requirement to determine the extent of duplicate applications and ineligible activities and in consultation with the CPP lead partners and individual project sponsors agree the best way forward. This will inevitably result in the current total bid level for many if not most of the CPP bids reducing in scale.
- 2.4** It is important to note in the context of these CPP bids that they all offer additional opportunities to access new Programme funds, in particular for small grant dependent voluntary sector organisations, which could deliver parts of the CPP plans either as part of a consortium of other organisations or as a contractor. Equally, under this arrangement the considerable administrative



burden of being an individual applicant is substantially removed as these organisations will either operate under contract to the CPP, or the CPP will be the lead partner responsible for claims and compliance.

3. Consideration of the CPP Bids

3.1 The 13 CPP bids represent in total grant request of £42.3m ESF under Priority 1, ESF and £17.3m ERDF under Priority 3, ERDF. All CPP bids are comprehensive proposals covering two years. These bids must also be set in the context of the total availability of Structural Funds under ESF Priority 1 and ERDF Priority 3 and the individual bids received under these respective Priorities. In addition the ESF Priority 1 Shadow Round has already committed c£8.7m of the total available allocation of c£83m.

3.2 All CPP bids were scored by the Advisory Group members using the same scoring framework and weightings as all other individual project bids. They were ranked, and then considered by the Standing Advisory Group. In view of the overall quality of the CPP bids, and notwithstanding the scale of funding requested, it is proposed to support the top ranking 8 CPP bids potentially committing up to a maximum of £25m ESF under Priority 1 with accompanying ERDF activities being supported where there is a direct linkage with ESF actions. This will require meetings with CPP representatives and Scottish Government Managing Authority and policy officials and IAB staff in order to negotiate the final awards after "stripping out" duplicate and non-eligible activity and ensuring that the remaining activity is complementary and achievable within the strict two year timespan i.e. from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2010.

3.3 It is further proposed that for the next 3 CPP bids which are above the quality threshold in the ranked list, may not be supported in full, although discrete elements may be funded where there is no duplication and where they represent eligible and innovative activities contributing to the respective Programme results in the respective ERDF and ESF Priorities. Again it is proposed to convene meetings with CPP representatives, the Scottish Government and IAB in order to negotiate and agree those project activities which might receive funding under Priorities 1 ESF and 3 ERDF. We fully expect that the activity outlined at 3.2 will reduce the overall level of ESF commitment to a figure significantly below the £25m allocation. Therefore, it is proposed that for these 3 CPP bids the Scottish Government and the IAB enter into a period of simultaneous discussions with the aim of funding eligible activity within the £25m CPP allocation..

3.4 For the remaining 2 CPP bids, and for reasons of quality, lack of coherence and viability, it is proposed to reject these bids in their entirety.



4. Recommendations

4.1 The Committee is invited to:

- 4.1.1 agree in principle to support a 8 CPP bids subject to the removal of duplicate and ineligible activity up to a maximum of £25m of ESF Priority 1 with linked ERDF activity under Priority 3
- 4.1.2 agree to the potential support of discrete elements of the next 3 CPP bids
- 4.1.3 agree to delegate to the Managing Authorities the task of negotiating final agreed settlements of the top 8 CPP bids and
- 4.1.4 agree to delegate to the Managing Authorities the task of negotiating the final agreed settlements with those CPP bids ranked 9th, 10th and 11th .

March 2008

Rank	Area	ERDF Grant Request	ESF Grant Request	Cumulative ERDF	Cumulative ESF	Total
1	Dundee	£ 902,776	£ 4,839,480	£ 902,776	£ 4,839,480	£ 5,742,256
2	North Lanarkshire	£ 2,631,004	£ 4,555,608	£ 3,533,780	£ 9,395,088	£ 12,928,868
3	West Lothian	£ 573,676	£ 1,134,372	£ 4,107,456	£ 10,529,460	£ 14,636,916
4	Edinburgh	£ 3,331,084	£ 4,521,183	£ 7,438,540	£ 15,050,643	£ 22,489,183
5	West Dunbartonshire	£ 228,114	£ 2,167,854	£ 7,666,654	£ 17,218,497	£ 24,885,151
6	Renfrewshire	£ 720,782	£ 2,317,873	£ 8,387,436	£ 19,536,370	£ 27,923,806
7	Fife	£ 1,810,199	£ 3,696,673	£ 10,197,635	£ 23,233,043	£ 33,430,678
8	Glasgow	£ 1,121,395	£ 7,305,115	£ 11,319,030	£ 30,538,158	£ 41,857,188
9	East Ayrshire	£ 1,251,092	£ 3,068,330	£ 12,570,122	£ 33,606,488	£ 46,176,610
10	North Ayrshire	£ 1,307,950	£ 1,131,719	£ 13,878,072	£ 34,738,207	£ 48,616,279
11	South Lanarkshire	£ 1,288,533	£ 3,696,444	£ 15,166,605	£ 38,434,651	£ 53,601,256
12	Inverclyde	£ 976,000	£ 1,402,528	£ 16,142,605	£ 39,837,179	£ 55,979,784
13	Clackmannanshire	£ 1,192,425	£ 2,531,131	£ 17,335,030	£ 42,368,310	£ 59,703,340
		-£ 17,335,030	-£ 42,368,310			