



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Carwyn Jones-Evans
Growth & Major Developments Service Manager
Ceredigion County Council
Canolfan Rheidol
Rhodfa Padarn
Llanbadarn Fawr
Aberystwyth
Ceredigion
SY23 3UE

28th February 2020

Dear Carwyn

Award of Funding in relation to the establishment of a Programme Office to support the management and delivery of collaborative regional economic development in Mid Wales (ref MA-P-KS/5882/19).

1. Award of Funding

- (a) We are pleased to inform you that your Application has been successful and funding of up to £140,000 (*one hundred and forty thousand pounds*) (“the Funding”) is awarded to you for the Purposes (as defined in Condition 4(a)).
- (b) The Funding relates to the period 1 November 2019 to 31 March 2021 and must be claimed in full by 31 March 2021 otherwise any unclaimed part of the Funding will cease to be available to you.
- (c) If you have any queries in relation to this award of Funding or the Conditions please contact the Welsh Government Official who will be happy to assist you.

2. Statutory authority and State Aid

- (a) This award of Funding is made on and subject to the Conditions and under the authority of the Minister for economy & Transport, one of the Welsh Ministers, acting pursuant to functions transferred under section 58A of the Government of Wales Act 2006.
- (b) You must comply with the European Commission’s State Aid Rules.

3. Interpreting the Conditions

Any reference in the Conditions to:

'you', 'your' is to Ceredigion County Council, Canolfan Rheidol, Rhodfa Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion SY23 3UE.

'we', 'us', 'our' is to the Welsh Ministers:

'Welsh Government Official' is to

Ann Watkin
Head of Strategy, Operations Alignment & Policy
Mid and South West Wales Regional Team
Welsh Government
Ladywell House
Newtown
Powys
SY16 1JB
Tel: 03000 253112
Email: ann.watkin@gov.wales

or such other Welsh Government official as we may notify you.

'Project Manager' is to

Carwyn Jones-Evans
Growth & Major Developments Service Manager
Canolfan Rheidol
Rhodfa Padarn
Llanbadarn Fawr
Aberystwyth
Ceredigion
SY23 3UE
Tel: 01545 574117
Email: carwynj@ceredigion.llyw.cymru

'Conditions' is to the terms and conditions set out in this letter and the Schedules;

'Costs Incurred' is to the cost of goods and services you have received regardless of whether you have paid for them by the date of your claim;

'Notification Event' is to any of the events listed in Schedule 3;

'Indicative Payment Profile' is to the indicative payment profile set out in Schedule 4;

'Personnel' is to your management/employees and suppliers or any other person appointed or engaged by you in relation to the Purposes;

'Schedule' is to the schedules attached to this letter;

'State Aid Rules' is to the rules set out in Articles 107 to 109 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (or in those Articles that may succeed Articles 107 to 109), secondary legislation including frameworks, guidelines and block exemptions produced by the European Commission derived from Articles 107 to 109, case law of the European Courts and decisions of the European Commission regarding the application of Articles 107 to 109; and

Any reference to any legislation whether domestic, EU or international law will include all amendments to and substitutions and re-enactments of that legislation in force from time to time.

4. Use of the Funding

- (a) You must use the Funding solely for the purposes set out in Schedule 1 (the "**Purposes**").
- (b) You must achieve the targets and outcomes set out in Schedule 2 (the "**Targets**").
- (c) Any change to the Purposes or Targets will require our written consent which must be obtained from us in advance of implementing any change. Please note that we are not obliged to give our consent but we will consider all reasonable written requests.
- (d) You must not use any part of the Funding for: (1) party political purposes; (2) the promotion of particular secular, religious or political views; (3) gambling; (4) pornography; (5) offering sexual services; (6) purchasing capital equipment (other than as specified in the Purposes); (7) your legal fees in relation to this letter; (8) Costs Incurred or costs incurred and defrayed by you in the delivery of the Purposes prior to the period referred to in Condition 1 (b); (9) any kind of illegal activities; or (10) any other kind of activity which in our opinion could bring us into disrepute.

5. Funding pre-conditions

- (a) We will not pay any of the Funding to you until you have provided us with the following information and documentation:
 - (i) this letter signed by you;
 - (ii) documentary evidence that you have put in place all staff and other resources detailed in the Application as required to commence and complete the Purposes;
 - (iii) the completed Assurance Statement.
- (b) Where you are required to provide information and documentation to us as evidence that you have satisfied a particular pre-condition, Condition or in support of a claim, the information and documentation must be in all respects acceptable to us. We reserve the right to reject any information and documentation which is for any reason not acceptable to us.

6. How to claim the Funding

- (a) The Funding will be paid to you in arrears based on Costs Incurred by you in the delivery of the Purposes as detailed in the Indicative Payment Profile.
- (b) You must claim the Funding in accordance with the dates set out in the Indicative Payment Profile. You must claim the Funding promptly. We reserve the right to withdraw any part of the Funding that you do not claim promptly.
- (c) You must submit your claims for payment of Funding to the Welsh Government Official.
- (d) You must use our claim pro-forma (which is available from the Welsh Government Official) and attach the information and documentation specified in the Indicative Payment Profile together with:
 - i) confirmation that you are operating in all respects in accordance with your constitution; and
 - ii) confirmation that you have appropriate financial, risk and control systems in place before utilising any part of the Funding to provide a grant to or procure any goods or services from third parties.
- (e) We will aim to pay all valid claims as soon as possible and typically within 28 days.

7. Your general obligations to us

You must:

- (a) safeguard the Funding against fraud generally and, in particular, fraud on the part of your Personnel and notify us immediately if you have reason to suspect that any fraud within your organisation has occurred or is occurring or is likely to occur whether or not it relates to the Funding. You must also participate in such fraud prevention initiatives as we may require from time to time.
- (b) comply with all applicable domestic, EU or international laws or regulations or official directives;
- (c) maintain adequate insurances to cover against the risks which may arise in connection with any property or any activity undertaken in delivery of the Purposes. We reserve the right to require you to provide proof of your insurance;
- (d) maintain appropriate financial, risk and control systems before utilising any part of the Funding to provide a grant to or procure any goods or services from third parties;
- (e) co-operate fully with the Welsh Government Official and with any other employee of the Welsh Government or consultant appointed by us to monitor your use of the Funding and your compliance with the Conditions;
- (f) inform us immediately if any of the declarations made in Condition 8 is incorrect in any respect or, if repeated at any time with reference to the facts and circumstances then existing, would be incorrect.

8. Declarations

You declare that:

- (a) you have the power to enter into and to perform the obligations set out in the Conditions and you have taken all necessary action to authorise the entry into and performance of the obligations under the Conditions;
- (b) no litigation or arbitration is current or pending or, so far as you are aware, threatened, which has or could have an adverse effect on your ability to perform and comply with any of the Conditions;
- (c) the information contained in your Application is complete, true and accurate;
- (d) you have disclosed to us all material facts or circumstances which need to be disclosed to enable us to obtain a true and correct view of your business and affairs (both current and prospective) or which

ought to be provided to any person who is considering providing funding to you;

- (e) you have discussed and agreed the Targets with us and you are confident that they are realistic and achievable.

9. Notification Events and their consequences

- (a) You must notify us immediately if a Notification Event has occurred or is likely to occur but we also reserve the right to notify you where we believe a Notification Event has occurred or is likely to occur.
- (b) We will either (i) notify you that we consider the Notification Event is not capable of remedy or (ii) if we consider the Notification Event is capable of being remedied seek to discuss the Notification Event with you with a view to agreeing a course of action to be taken to address the Notification Event.
- (c) We will be entitled to take any of the actions listed in Condition 9(d) if:
 - (i) despite our reasonable efforts we have been unable to discuss the Notification Event with you; or
 - (ii) we notify you that the Notification Event is not capable of remedy; or
 - (iii) a course of action to address the Notification Event is not agreed with you; or
 - (iv) a course of action to address the Notification Event is agreed with you but you fail to follow it, or any conditions attached to it are not met (including without limitation the timescale for such course of action); or
 - (v) the course of action fails to remedy the Notification Event to our satisfaction.
- (d) If any of the circumstances set out in Condition 9(c) occurs we may by notice to you:
 - (i) withdraw the award of Funding; and/or
 - (ii) require you to repay all or part of the Funding; and/or
 - (iii) suspend or cease all further payment of Funding; and/or
 - (iv) make all further payments of Funding subject to such conditions as we may specify; and/or
 - (v) deduct all amounts owed to us under the Conditions from any other funding that we have awarded or may award to you; and/or
 - (vi) exercise any other rights against you which we may have in respect of the Funding.

- (e) All repayments of Funding must be made to us within 28 days of the date of our demand. If applicable, you must pay interest on any overdue repayments (on a compound basis) in accordance with the State Aid Rules.

10. Monitoring requirements

You must:

- (a) provide us with such documents, information and reports which we may reasonably require from time to time in order for us to monitor your compliance with the Conditions;
- (b) meet with the Welsh Government Official and such other of our representatives as we may from time to time reasonably require;
- (c) ensure that the Project Manager (or such other person as we may agree) together with any other person we may require attends all meetings with the Welsh Government Official.

11. Audit Requirements

- (a) You must:
 - (i) maintain complete and accurate accounting records identifying all income and expenditure in relation to the Purposes;
 - (ii) without charge, permit any officer or officers of the Welsh Government, Wales Audit Office or European Commission at any reasonable time and on reasonable notice (in exceptional circumstances, such as the prevention or detection of fraud, it may not be practicable to provide you with reasonable notice) being given to you to visit your premises and/or to inspect any of your activities and/or to examine and take copies of your books of account and such other documents or records howsoever stored as in such officer's reasonable view may relate in any way to your use of the Funding. This undertaking is without prejudice and subject to any other statutory rights and powers exercisable by the Welsh Government, Wales Audit Office or the European Commission or any officer, servant or agent of any of the above;
 - (iii) retain this letter and all original documents relating to the Funding until we inform you in writing that it is safe to destroy them.

- (b) Under paragraph 17 of Schedule 8 to the Government of Wales Act 2006 the Auditor General for Wales has extensive rights of access to documents and information relating to monies provided by the Welsh Government. They and their officials have the power to require relevant persons who control or hold documents to give any assistance, information and explanation that they may require; and to require those persons to attend before them for such a purpose. The Auditor General and their staff may exercise this right at all reasonable times.

12. Third party obligations

- (a) Nothing in the Conditions imposes any liability on us in respect of any liability incurred by you to any third party (including, without limit, employees and contractors).
- (b) You must indemnify us against any liabilities, claims, proceedings, demands, losses, costs and expenses suffered or incurred by us directly or indirectly arising as a result of or in connection with any failure by you to perform fully or in part any obligation you may have to a third party.

13. Intellectual property rights and publicity

- (a) Nothing in the Conditions transfers to us any rights in any intellectual property created by you as a result of the Purposes.
- (b) You must acknowledge our support in relation to the Purposes. Such acknowledgement(s) must be in a form approved by us and must comply with the Welsh Government's branding guidelines.
- (c) You agree that from the date of this letter until 5 years from the date of the final payment of Funding we may include details about your organisation and business, the Funding and the Purposes in Welsh Government promotional materials and you further agree to cooperate with our reasonable requests to achieve the production of such materials.

14. Information

- (a) You acknowledge that we are subject to the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the "FOIA"), the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (the "EIR"), the Data Protection Act 2018 (the "DPA") and the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679) (the "GDPR").

- (b) You acknowledge that we are responsible for determining in our absolute discretion whether:
 - (i) to disclose any information which we have obtained under or in connection with the Funding to the extent that we are required to disclose such information to a person making a disclosure request under the FOIA or the EIR; and/or
 - (ii) any information is exempt from disclosure under the FOIA or the EIR.
- (c) You acknowledge that we may share any data you provide to us with fraud prevention agencies and third parties for the purposes of preventing and detecting fraud. Any personal data we collect will be managed in accordance with our Privacy Notice which is available to view here <://beta.gov.wales/privacy-notice-welsh-government-grants>

15. Buying goods and services

If you decide to buy any goods and/or services to deliver the Purposes, they must be purchased in a competitive and sustainable way so as to demonstrate that you have achieved best value in the use of public funds.

16. Giving notice

- (a) Where notice is required to be given under the Conditions it must be in writing (this does not include email but may include a letter attached to an email) and must prominently display the following heading:

“Notice in relation to the Award of funding for the establishment of a Programme Office to support the management and delivery of collaborative regional economic development in Mid Wales (ref MA-P-KS/5882/19)”.

- (b) The address and contact details for the purposes of serving notice under the Conditions are as follows

You: the Project Manager at the address stated in Condition 3.

Us: the Welsh Government Official at the address stated in Condition 3.

- (c) A notice will be deemed to have been properly given as follows:-

Prepaid first class post:	on the second working day after the date of posting.
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By hand: upon delivery to the address or the next working day if after 4pm or on a weekend or public holiday.

By email attachment: upon transmission or the next working day if after 4pm or on a weekend or public holiday.

17. Equal opportunities

You must apply a policy of equal opportunities as employers, as users of volunteers, and as providers of services, regardless of race, gender/gender identification, sexual orientation, religion and belief, age or any disability.

18. Welsh language

- (a) Where the Purposes include or relate to the provision of services in Wales they must be provided in Welsh and English unless it would be unreasonable or disproportionate to do so. Where they are provided in both Welsh and English they must be provided in such a way as to not treat the Welsh language less favourably than English, in accordance with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.
- (b) For advice on providing services bilingually and in accordance with the Conditions please contact the Welsh Language Commissioner's Hybu team:
<http://www.comisiynyddygydraeg.cymru/hybu/en/home/Pages/home.aspx>

19. Sustainable development

Your use of the Funding must contribute to the achievement of the Welsh Government's well-being objectives contained in the Welsh Government's Programme for Government. You must work in a sustainable way (sustainable development principle) in delivering the Purposes so as to ensure you are working in a preventative, integrated, long-term and collaborative way that involves people that reflect the diversity of Wales. Please refer to Schedule 1 for further information.

20. Welsh Ministers' functions

You acknowledge that the Welsh Ministers have a range of functions which will continue to accrue and be amended and that decisions in

relation to each such function are obliged to be taken in the light of all relevant and to the exclusion of all irrelevant considerations. You agree that nothing contained or implied in, or arising under or in connection with, the Conditions will in any way prejudice, fetter or affect the functions of the Welsh Ministers or any of them nor oblige the Welsh Ministers or any of them to exercise, or refrain from exercising, any of their functions in any particular way.

21. General

- (a) If at any time any of the Conditions are deemed to be or become invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect under any law, the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions will not in any way be affected or impaired.
- (b) No failure or delay on our part to exercise any power, right or remedy under the Conditions will operate as a waiver of any such power, right or remedy or preclude its further exercise or the exercise of any other power, right or remedy. The powers, rights or remedies hereby provided are cumulative and not exclusive of any powers, rights or remedies provided by law.
- (c) Any amendment or variation to the Conditions must be in writing and signed by us and you in the same manner as this letter.
- (d) You may not assign or otherwise dispose of in any way your rights, benefits, obligations or duties under the Conditions.
- (e) Conditions 7, 9, 11, 13, 14, and 21(e) and such other Conditions which by implication need to continue in force beyond the final payment of Funding will so continue in full force and effect.
- (f) The award of the Funding is to you alone and no one else is entitled to make any claim in respect of the Funding or seek to rely on or enforce any of the Conditions.
- (g) In circumstances where you comprise two or more persons or bodies, the liabilities of such persons or bodies shall be joint and several and the default of one of such persons or bodies shall be deemed to be the default of all.
- (h) The Conditions are to be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Wales and England as applied in Wales and the parties hereto submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Wales and England.

22. How to accept this award of Funding

- (a) To accept this award of Funding you must sign and return a copy of this letter to the Welsh Government Official. None of the Funding will be paid to you until we have received your signed letter.
- (b) We must receive your signed letter within 28 days of the date of this letter, or this award of Funding will automatically be withdrawn.

Yours faithfully

Signed by Rhodri Griffiths, Chief Regional Officer for Mid and South West wales, under authority of the Minister for Economy & Transport, one of the Welsh Ministers

SCHEDULE 1

The Purposes

The provision of a grant of up to £140,000 (**pound for pound match funding**) in total during 2019/20 and 2020/21 (approximately £45,000 in 2019/20 and £95,000 2020/21) to a maximum of 50% of total planned expenditure to Ceredigion Council, on behalf of the Growing Mid Wales Board. The funding is required to establish a Programme Office for collaborative regional economic development.

Funding will be paid in arrears, subject to satisfactory progress against key milestones and deliverables and will be utilised for the initial phase of a regional Programme Office to establish its core functions, including:

- Provision of additional resource for the Growing Mid Wales Board to support effective regional collaborative working
- Programme Development - Co-ordination of work-streams, project development aligned to cross region working and economic development.
- Communication & Stakeholder Engagement
- Co-ordination and engagement with wider strategic regional activity e.g. Skills, Regeneration, Tourism and Transport.
- Procurement of bespoke and specialist advice to support development on Growth Deal business cases and the integration of appropriate assurance systems, processes and processes

The Welsh Government grant award will be allocated to deliver specific tasks to be undertaken to establish the initial phase of establishing the Programme Office including;

- Working with Business Wales to ascertain the best VFM in delivery of the proposed website. This would support pace and functionality as well as ensure VFM.
- Development of the Business Cases in a form that can be used to support in negotiation with WG and HMT for development of the Growth Deal and which evolves from this initial funding
- Development of the Growth Deal business cases to meet treasury green book standards in readiness for Growth Deal negotiation as well as the integration of appropriate assurance systems, processes and procedures
- Stakeholder engagement focussed on wider stakeholder groups (e.g. FE/HE), private sector intervention and commercial viability of Growth Deal programmes and projects.

- Implementation of project capability within the authority, for example technical and investment skills.

In provision of funding the authority should be clear that;

- The provision of grant is on the basis of pound for pound match funding
- Funding is to provide additional resource to the Growing Mid Wales Board and not to support existing posts
- This is a seed one off fund and no expectation should be set for additional and future funding although we understand the region is currently progressing an application via WEFO for ESF P5 funding
- The Welsh Government element is to support the bespoke and commercial skills as well as engagement with the wider stakeholder groups.
- Funding is conditioned on key milestones and the delivery of the outputs, as outlined above.
- Wherever possible work should be cognisant of the emerging activity aligned to the Local Government Bill and CJsCs.

The Purpose of the Funding is to support:

Cost	Value (£)
The establishment of a Programme Office to support the management and delivery of collaborative regional economic development in Mid Wales.	£140,000 (to be expended during the financial years 2019-20 and 2020-21)

SCHEDULE 2 The Targets

Description of the Target	Date by when it should be achieved?	Evidence required
Work with Business Wales to ascertain the best VFM in delivery of the proposed website. This would support pace and functionality as well as ensure VFM.	Q2 2020	Progress Report
Development of the Business Case for potential ESF support in a form that can be used to support in negotiation with HMT for development of the Growth Deal and which evolves from this initial funding	Q2 2020	Progress Report
Development of the Growth Deal business cases to meet treasury green book standards in readiness for deal negotiation as well as the integration of appropriate assurance systems, processes and procedures	From Q1 2020 onwards	Progress Report
Stakeholder engagement focussed on wider stakeholder groups (e.g. FE/HE), private sector intervention and commercial viability of the deal projects.	Ongoing	Progress Report
Implementation of project capability within the authority, for example technical and investment skills.	From Q3 2020 onwards	Progress Report

SCHEDULE 3

Notification Events

The Notification Events referred to in Condition 9 are listed below:

1. repayment of any part of the Funding is required under European Law (whether under State Aid Rules or otherwise);
2. you fail to comply with any of the Conditions;
3. the Funding, in full or in part, is not being used for the Purposes;
4. you fail to achieve any or all of the Targets;
5. there is unsatisfactory progress towards completing the Purposes, including meeting the Targets;
6. you fail to provide information about the Purposes requested by us, the European Commission or the European Court of Auditors, or any of their auditors, agents or representatives;
7. we have reason to believe that you and/or any of your Personnel are involved in fraudulent activity or have been involved in fraudulent activity [whilst the Purposes are/were being carried out];
8. we have made an overpayment of Funding to you;
9. any declaration made in Condition 8 is incorrect in any respect or, if repeated at any time with reference to the facts and circumstances then existing, would be incorrect;
10. there has been a modification (qualification, adverse or disclaimer) to the auditor's opinion on your financial statements;
11. any petition is presented or resolution passed or other action taken for your bankruptcy or winding-up or a petition is presented for an administration order against you;
12. a receiver or an administrative receiver is appointed in respect of you or in respect of all or any part of your assets;
13. a moratorium in respect of all or any of your debts or a composition or an agreement with your creditors is agreed, applied for, ordered or declared;
14. you are unable, or admit in writing your inability, to pay your debts as they fall due;

15. any distress, execution, attachment or other process affects any of your assets;
16. a statutory demand is issued against you;
17. you cease, or threaten to cease, to carry on all or a substantial part of your business;
18. there is a change in your constitution, status, control or ownership and/or your external auditors resign;
19. there is any change, whether permanent or temporary, in your shareholders, directors, trustees or partners and/or Personnel which may affect your ability to deliver the Purposes;
20. any event occurs or circumstances arise which in our opinion gives reasonable grounds for believing that you may not, or may be unable, to perform or comply with any of your obligations under the Conditions.

SCHEDULE 4
Indicative Payment Profile
(refer to Conditions 5(b), 6(a) and (b))

Instalment number	Maximum amount of instalment	Earliest date for claim	Last date for claim	Documents which must accompany claim pro-forma
1	£45,000	XX February 2020	31 March 2020	Progress Report
2	£95,000	01 April 2020	31 March 2021	Progress Report

TWO SIGNATORIES ARE REQUIRED

We declare we are duly authorised to accept the award of Funding for the establishment of a Programme Office to support the management and delivery of collaborative regional economic development in Mid Wales (ref MA-P-KS/5882/19) and the Conditions relating to the Funding.

_____ Signature
An authorised signatory of Ceredigion County Council

_____ Name

_____ Job Title

_____ Date

_____ Signature
An authorised signatory of Ceredigion County Council

_____ Name

_____ Job Title

_____ Date