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UK Shared Prosperity Fund: Economic inactivity competition

Economic inactivity competition information
December 2022



UK Shared Prosperity Fund: The announcement

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF or the Fund) is a central pillar of the UK government's ambitious Levelling Up agenda. It provides £2.6 billion of new funding for local investment across the UK by March 2025.

In Northern Ireland, the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) are responsible for delivery of the Fund's £127m Northern Ireland allocation.

Over the Summer and Autumn we worked closely with key partners and stakeholders in NI to develop the [UKSPF Investment Plan for Northern Ireland](#), which has now been published. The Plan sets out how we will support interventions under Communities and Place, Supporting Local Business, and People and Skills.

Through engagement, People and Skills was identified as a key investment priority for NI, with a **particular focus on supporting those furthest from the labour market into sustainable employment.**

In line with this DLUHC has launched a **competition for economic inactivity projects**, in recognition of the importance of this provision to people across all parts of NI.



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Economic inactivity competition Q&A

What is the economic inactivity competition?

This competition is seeking applicants to deliver a range of holistic support for people who are economically inactive to take steps to secure employment or self-employment. This can include adult numeracy support funded through Multiply. Information on the competition and supporting documents can be found [here](#).

Who can apply to the economic inactivity competition?

DLUHC is seeking bids from organisations who wish to support individuals who are economically inactive into sustainable employment. Delivery in community settings and with trusted intermediaries will be critical to accessing and supporting economically inactive people. We are also interested in collaborations between delivery organisations and encourage new collaborations with employers/sector bodies. Close alignment with start up support will be required.

How can organisations apply for this funding?

Applications will be submitted via Citizen Space. This [online portal](#) is now open for applications. An [offline version of the application form](#) is available for reference on gov.uk. In addition to the application form, the following documents are required:

- A fully completed supplementary information form (annex A – E)
- A customer journey flowchart
- A copy of latest accounts, including management accounts for the current year (Private and Voluntary Sector applicants Only)
- Evidence of secured match funding (where this forms part of the funding package)
- Support form for each partner organisation (relevant for joint bids)

These documents must be submitted by email to UKSPFNIApplcations@levellingup.gov.uk.

When can organisations apply?

The competition is launching on **14 December 2022**, and the application portal will close at **4pm on 27 January 2023**.



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Further information

We have published comprehensive application guidance alongside the competition documents. We will be providing an overview of the competition and a walk through of the application form via a pre-recorded briefing, which will be published on gov.uk in the coming days.

For enquiries

For any technical application queries please contact:

UKSPFNIApplications@levellingup.gov.uk