

Berkeley Low Carbon Training Centre

Gloucestershire Business Rates Pool – SEDF Funding Assessment

Gloucestershire Economic Growth Senior Officer Group’s consideration of SEDF application against eligibility criteria

The bid is from a ‘sponsoring’ partner authority of the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee (‘Joint Committee’) or the Gloucestershire Local Economic Partnership
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• South Gloucestershire and Stroud (SGS) College (Sponsor Local Authority: Stroud District Council)
The bid relates to one off or fixed term funding
One off payment of £450,000 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• £300,000 capital investment for the installation of training rigs and redevelopment of room works• £150,000 revenue requirement for 2-year project manager staffing resource including on costs
The bid relates to revenue support for enabling activity which: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support economic growth projects, partnership support or• Enable the commissioning of economic research, intelligence, predevelopment work or feasibility studies or• Provide pump priming funding contributions or• Provide essential leverage match funding to support the delivery of broader local economic projects or programmes.
Senior Officer Group assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support economic growth projects, partnership support
The bid provides evidence of clearly demonstrating the economic benefits and contribution it is likely to make in supporting the delivery of growth of the local economy and communities, as well as planned outcomes.
Feedback from the Senior Officer Group on the report presented: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The funding ask needs to be made clear from the outset of the report. A short one page covering report that succinctly outlines the project would aid member understanding.• The project looks to be undervalued. Need to understand SGS investment so the total funding package is clearly identified. This could include in-kind contributions• There is a need for the paper to be more assertive highlighting the regional role it will play• Need to strengthen links to Local Partnership groups• There is a need to highlight clear links to target outputs.• What are the links to partners – i.e., development industry?• There should be a focus on the end users – are there links to apprentices that could be made• The exit strategy needs to be made clear given the revenue support is for only two years.• The report needs to outline if the SEDF funding will be recycled – this is an important element to give members confidence that the project is self-funding.

- The site is in a remote part of the county – how will the facility support access arrangements – especially those people with out access to a car?

Further conditions if the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee approve the bid:

Section 151 Officer’s confirmation that sufficient funds are available in the Strategic Economic Development Fund during the relevant financial year.

The S151 officer will provide an update on the available SEDF funding verbally at GEGJC on 19th May

Local Strategic Fit Scoring Criteria - Assessment of the ranking of the bid in terms of alignment against ‘Strategic Fit’ (as outlined in Annex A)

Terms and conditions of the approved bid (to include any binding conditions to any approved funding to which the applicant body will be required to agreed before any release of funding, plus reporting requirements)

Recommendations to the Gloucestershire Economic Growth Joint Committee

The Gloucestershire Economic Growth Senior Officer Group recommend that the Berkeley Low Carbon Training Centre SEDF application be supported.