

PROGRAMMES FUNDING NEWSLETTER

April 2017

This month's newsletter contains 21 external funding opportunities totalling over

£238 Million



Business



**Communities
& Culture**



Environment



**Health &
Wellbeing**



Housing



**Education &
Young People**



**Science &
Technology**



**Sports &
Leisure**



Transport

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Launch of €150,000 Factory1 Start-up Accelerator

[Press Ctrl and Click here for more information](#)

Factory1 is an accelerator programme aimed at start-ups that are building technological innovations and solutions with potential for developing new/joint business opportunities in the fields of:



- Connected & Autonomous Driving
- Big Data Analytics & Deep Learning
- Smart Mobility
- Security & Privacy
- Infrastructure
- Payment & Transaction Processes

The programme provides financial resources, mentoring and opportunities to collaborate with partners through a six-month accelerator in Europe. Selected companies may collaborate with Kapsch TrafficCom on business and technology development.

The programme will support five start-ups over a period of six months' of business development. The overall programme budget is €150,000. This will be provided as equity-free support.

Proof-of-concept projects that help to develop eligible products and services will be funded.

The deadline for receipt of applications is 10 April 2017.

Community Radio Fund 2017/18

[Press Ctrl and click here for more information](#)

The Community Radio Fund, managed by Ofcom with funding from the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, offers two funding rounds each year. The first funding round for 2017/18 will open on 12 April 2017 to radio stations that are not-for-profit, run by local people for local people about local issues.



Each funding round will make approximately £200,000 available in grants. There is no set level of funding. Grants will be made as a single lump sum and are to cover a one-year period only.

The funding is intended for community radio licensees broadcasting under a community radio licence in the UK to cover costs including:

- Fundraising to support the station.
- Management.
- Administration.
- Financial management and reporting.
- Community outreach.
- Volunteer organisation and support.

Priority will be given to licensees that have not been awarded a grant in previous funding rounds and to newly-licensed stations.

The Awarding Panel considers promoting long-term sustainability a critical, core activity and thus priority will be given to applications that focus on posts that promote long-term financial security and may become self-sustaining.

Round 1 will accept applications from 12 April 2017 to 10 May 2017.

Masonic Charitable Foundation's Community Support Large Grants - April Deadline Reminder

[Press Ctrl and click here for
more information](#)



Funded entirely through the generosity of Freemasons and their families, the Masonic Charitable Foundation is one of the largest grant-making charities in the country. In addition to providing a wide range of grants to Freemasons and their families, the Foundation also makes significant financial grants to charities which help people to live happy, fulfilling lives and to participate actively in society.

The Community Support scheme offers large and small grants to charities registered in England and Wales that are working in the areas of financial hardship, health and disability, education and employability, and social exclusion and disadvantage.

Large Grants of more than £5,000 are awarded to charities with an annual turnover of more than £500,000 or a specific purpose only. Reasons to apply for a Large Grant can include funding salary costs, specific project costs and refurbishment costs. (Please note that new build or large scale capital development projects will not be considered.) Funding may be granted for up to three years, where there is evidence of an on-going need for funding.

Small grants of up to £5,000 are also available and can be used for core expenditure such as general running or overhead costs of the charity. Small Grants applications can be submitted at any time but should reach the Foundation by the third Friday of each month for consideration.

There is a two-step application process for Large Grants. The first step is to complete an Enquiry Form. Those who are successful at this stage will be sent a formal application form.

The deadlines for Large Grants enquiry forms are 13 April 2017, 14 July 2017, and 13 October 2017.

Sport England Announces New Funding to Tackle Inactivity and Economic Disadvantage

[Press Ctrl and click here for more information](#)



From April 2017 Sport England will be accepting applications for the second round of its inactivity fund. The £3 million Tackling Inactivity and Economic Disadvantage fund will be available for projects which use sport and physical activity to improve lives and communities.

Research has shown that 32% of people in semi-routine and routine occupations, such as shop assistants and waitresses, are inactive. That compares to 17% of people in managerial and professional occupations. The Tackling Inactivity and Economic Disadvantage fund will support inactive people who have little income and are therefore economically disadvantaged. This group make up a third of the population in England aged 16 to 74 (14.6 million people).

Applications will be accepted from a wide range of community organisations, including non-sport organisations.

Two pots of funding will be available:

- **Pot One** – A £2 million fund which will support larger projects with funding of up to £500,000. This funding will be given to projects which target those who have little disposable income. Beneficiaries will likely live very ordered lives but find it hard to find time for physical activity or feel that being active is just not for them.
- **Pot Two** – A £1 million fund for projects seeking funding of between £10,000 and £100,000. This funding will focus on those who are far less likely to have a steady income, or any income at all, living more chaotic lives with additional challenges. For example, they may have an offending background, be dealing with alcohol or drug misuse, or facing mental health issues.

Applications are expected to open in mid-April 2017.

Digital News Initiative (DNI) Innovation Fund

[Press Ctrl and click here for more information](#)



The aim Digital News Initiative is to encourage a more sustainable news ecosystem and promote innovation in digital journalism; through ongoing collaboration and dialogue between the tech and news sectors.

The programme focuses on three key pillars:



- **Product development:** Google and news publishers will establish a 'product working group' to enable a close, ongoing dialogue exploring product developments to increase revenue, traffic and audience engagement.
- **Supporting Innovation:** Google will support and stimulate innovation in digital news journalism over the next three years by creating an innovation fund to support and stimulate innovation in digital news journalism over the next three years.
- **Training & research:** Google will invest in new training and development resources for journalists and newsrooms across Europe, and will fund research into the changing media landscape.

The ambition and intent of the Fund is bold: to help incentivise innovation and spark new thinking, which could come from anywhere in the news ecosystem, to give news organisations - of all sizes - the space to try some new things. Google has set aside up to €150 million for that purpose, which it will make available in the form of awards over the next three years.

There are three categories of funding available:

- **Prototype projects:** open to organisations - and to individuals, and to organisations comprised of one individual - that meet the eligibility criteria, and require up to €50,000 of funding over a short period of time to design and test a prototype. These projects should be very early stage, with ideas yet to be designed and assumptions yet to be tested. Google will fast-track such projects and will fund 100% of the total cost.
- **Medium projects:** open to organisations that meet the eligibility criteria and require up to €300,000 of funding. Google will accept funding requests up to 70% of the total cost of the project.
- **Large projects:** open to organisations that meet the eligibility criteria and require more than €300,000 of funding. Google will accept funding requests up to 70% of the total cost of the project. Funding is capped at €1 million.

Applications will be allocated to funding tracks according to the amount of funding requested. The funding tracks are as follows: a) up to (and including) €50,000: fast track for prototypes; b) above €50,000 up to (and including) €300,000: medium track; and c) above €300,000 up to (and including) €1 million: large track.

Eligible expenses include editorial costs (for example, on staff or freelance employees), asset creation cost (such as licenses), engineering costs (eg product development, project management, user experience design, database build and maintenance, and hosting) and marketing expenses. Note: marketing expenses will only be covered up to 20% of the total funding awarded.

The DNI Innovation Fund is open to organisations and individuals that aim to produce original journalism and to enlighten citizens with trustworthy journalistic content, whose projects focus on encouraging

a more sustainable news ecosystem. Established publishers, online-only players, news start-ups, publisher consortia, national or international associations, companies and individuals are all eligible to apply. Collaborative applications with other industry players are also welcome.

The third application round is now open with a deadline for the receipt of applications of 20 April 2017.

Sport England's Potentials Fund

Sport England's Potentials Fund will test bold new approaches to getting young people involved in social action that includes sport and physical activity, especially those who might not have been involved in sport before. It will focus on engaging young people aged 10-20 into social action by providing grants of between £50,000 and £150,000 over a three year period.

The funding is provided in partnership between Sport England, Big Lottery Fund and the Department for Culture Media and Sport.

Applications will be accepted from a wide and diverse range of both sports organisations and non-sports organisations including charities, community interest companies (CICs), local authorities, universities and companies limited by guarantee.

Sport England is particularly interested in funding projects which can engage:

- 10 to 14 year olds.
- Young people whose mental and emotional wellbeing may be vulnerable.

Eligible projects must target young people who are interested in doing some (or more) social action.

The deadline for expressions of interest (stage one) applications is 24 April 2017.

Lloyds Banking Group Social Entrepreneurs Programme - 2017

Lloyds Banking Group has launched a new round of its Social Entrepreneurs Programme which aims to support community-focused businesspeople across the UK to start or expand their projects.

This year the programme comprises the following support strands:

[Press Ctrl and click here for more information](#)



[Press Ctrl and click here for more information](#)



- **Start Up** - For those who are in the early stage development of a project or organisation. This programme will support personal development and business skills development to help turn projects or project ideas into a reality.
- **Scale Up** - For established organisations that are looking to take their operations to the next level. This programme will equip applicants with the tools to develop their enterprise further and maximise its social impact.
- **Trade Up** - For established organisations tackling a social or environmental issue.

Each strand provides successful enterprises with a free learning programme, mentoring and a community of people who run social and environmental projects. This is coupled with grant support at the following levels: Start Up - £3,000; Scale Up - £10,000; and Trade Up - £5,000.

Individuals who are leading or planning to set up a project or social enterprise organisation which will create social change in the UK may apply.

The deadline for applications is 26 April 2017.

Launch of 2017 Digital DNA upSTART with £50,000 Prize Package for New Entrepreneurs

[Press Ctrl and Click here for more information](#)



Digital DNA upSTART encourages entrepreneurs from across Europe to travel to Belfast and take part in a Pitch Event. The event provides an opportunity for participants to pitch in front of a panel of business experts, in order to potentially secure a business support package, including funding.

The key areas of industry interest for upSTART 2017 have been established and applications are especially welcomed in the following categories:

- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Data
- Cyber Security
- Fintech
- Software as a Service (SaaS)
- Internet of Things (IoT) / Wearable Tech
- Wildcard (Innovative start-ups from other specialists' verticals)

The overall winner will receive a cash prize of £10,000, plus an additional £40,000 worth of prizes including a one day strategy session with Deloitte Ventures team in London; a business license to deploy the integrated KX platform within a business, worth \$25,000;

consultancy and lead generation support worth up to \$25,000; a Deloitte Technology Consulting Package; Exhibition space and two VIP passes to Digital DNA 2018, and a Startacus business case study.

High potential start-ups from across Europe may apply. Start-ups can be at the concept, MVP or launched and trading stage. Both pre-investment and post-investment start-ups that have raised under £1 Million will be suitable to apply.

'Start-ups' are defined as those that have been trading for fewer than 36 months.

The deadline for receipt of applications is Friday 28 April 2017.

Lloyds Banking Group Credit Union Development Fund (UK)

[Press Ctrl and click here for more information](#)

The Credit Union Development Fund is currently accepting applications from existing credit unions in the UK for the final year of the four-year funding programme.

Lloyds Banking Group is providing a total of £1 million for 2017 as part of its financial commitment to credit unions as set out in its 2014 'Prosper Plan'.

Applications can be made for the following funding:

Large awards (of £50,000, £75,000 or £100,000) which will:

- 'Top-up' a credit union's reserves and provide the opportunity for them to build their business to ensure sustained growth without capital constraints. Note that these are not revenue grants, so must be accounted for as capital and shown on the balance sheet appropriately, or
- Capital activities that would enable a credit union to purchase an asset of equivalent value such as premises, a vehicle or computer equipment. Applications will need to demonstrate how the capital asset will support the growth and development of the credit union.

Seed funding awards (of between £10,000 and £20,000). There will be a very small number of these awards, totalling less than 10% of the total fund, either for:

- Credit unions that are able to demonstrate good strategic planning and ambitions for growth but need to make a step change in their operations to do so, or
- For assisting with the costs of a merger that is agreed in principle where the newly created credit union will be anticipating sustained growth and serving a wider community than was previously possible. The grant may be used towards



the legal, governance or other professional advisor costs that are required to ensure a satisfactory merger goes ahead.

Existing credit unions that have recently merged or that are considering a merger in the future can apply as long as they are registered in England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland or Isle of Man and are fully compliant with all FCA and PRA regulations (including complying with all capital requirements).

The funding is not available for credit unions that have already received a large grant from the programme.

The deadline for Stage One applications is 28 April 2017.

Comic Relief's Community Cash Grants Programmes UK

[Press Ctrl and click here for more information](#)



Comic Relief and Community Foundations across the UK are working together to distribute Comic Relief Community Cash funds to small groups working with vulnerable and disadvantaged communities.

The funding is available to support community groups that are undertaking work that helps people of all ages feel more included in their community, builds their skills and increases their sense of achievement.

Small local groups with an income of less than £100,000 that are run by local people and that are working in a disadvantaged or deprived area can apply.

This includes:

- Constituted voluntary and community groups.
- Charities.
- Social enterprises.
- Co-operatives.
- Community interest companies.

Groups which have been established for less than 12 months are eligible to apply.

Grants of up between £500 and £1,000 are available and could be used to fund the following sorts of activities:

- Foodbanks.
- Counselling and advice services.
- Disability sports clubs/activities.
- Training, skill building and volunteering projects.
- Community groups and set up costs for new groups.
- Support groups.

Full details about a specific area, including the application deadline, can be found on the websites of the individual community

foundations. A list of the community foundations across the UK can be found on the UK Community Foundations [website](#).

Most community foundations have an application deadline of 5 May 2017.

Countryside Stewardship - 2017 Mid & Higher Tier Support Grants (England)

[Press Ctrl and Click here for more information](#)



Countryside Stewardship grants are being offered to those who propose to make the best environmental improvements within their local area. The Mid-Tier of Countryside Stewardship offers agreements for environmental improvements in the wider countryside, such as reducing diffuse water pollution or improving the environment for birds, pollinators and farm wildlife.

Higher Tier specifically focuses on environmentally important sites, including commons and woodlands, where the more complex management requires support from Natural England or the Forestry Commission, including tailoring of options.

Higher Tier is open for applications that include: agri-environment options (with or without woodland support).

The scheme includes multi annual and/or capital support for Woodland Improvement that are:

- suitable for many types of land use (eg conventional and organic farmland, coastal areas, uplands and woodlands);
- competitive; and
- scored against local priority targets to maximise environmental benefit.

Funding levels vary according to demonstrated need. Applications for capital items can be in excess of £500,000.

The Mid-Tier element of CS offers options and capital items to achieve simple, but effective environmental benefit. There are no options or capital items for woodland or educational access in the Mid-Tier. The Higher Tier element of CS covers the most environmentally significant sites, commons and woodlands.

The scheme is open to all eligible farmers, woodland owners, foresters and other land managers in England. Both Mid and Higher Tier Countryside Stewardship is open to all of the following land managers: Owner occupiers; Tenants (including farmers); Landlords; and Licensors.

[Mid Tier](#) is open for applications until **30 September 2017**.

[Higher Tier](#) applications are open until **5 May 2017** for applications that include agri-environment options (with or without woodland support) (applications requested by 30 April) and until 31 May for applications that include woodland support options only.

IUK Launches £9 Million Accelerating Innovation in Rail Round 4 Funding Competition

[Press Ctrl and Click here for more information](#)



The Accelerating Innovation in Rail Round 4 Funding Competition will support growth in national and international rail markets. The focus is on improving the potential that exists in UK industry to innovate in the rail and light-rail domains. Innovate UK (IUK) is particularly looking for novel approaches that have potential for exploitation in the near-term, and innovations that will deliver real benefits to the travelling public.

IUK has allocated up to £9 million to fund collaborative research and development (R&D) projects addressing the competition's technical challenge. IUK expects to distribute:

- up to £4.5 million for projects on 'high-value, low-cost railway innovation'; and
- up to £4.5 million for projects on 'improving customer experience through stations'.

This is a single-stage competition. Projects should last between three and 12 months. IUK expects the total cost of projects to range from £150,000 to £1 million. It may consider larger projects, but these should be discussed with IUK before making an application.

The funding can be used for collaborative R&D projects addressing the technical challenges outlined in the scope. The specific competition themes are:

- High-value, low-cost railway innovations
- Improving customer experience through stations

Proposals must be collaborative, business-led and involve a UK small or medium-sized enterprise (SME). Projects must also clearly present the benefits to business and the impact on UK and international rail.

The competition is now open with a deadline for registrations of 10 May 2017.

Erasmus+ Programme - Launch of Social Inclusion through Education, Training and Youth Call

[Press Ctrl and Click here for more information](#)



This call for proposals under Key Action 3: Support for Policy Reform will support transnational cooperation projects in the fields of education, training and youth. The call comprises two lots, one for education and training (Lot 1) and one for youth (Lot 2).

Projects submitted under both lots should aim at:

- Disseminating and/or scaling up good practices on inclusive learning initiated in particular at local level; or
- Developing and implementing innovative methods and practices to foster inclusive education and/or youth environments in specific contexts.

Lot 1 - Education and Training

The call aims at paving the way for a future alliance of schools for inclusion by creating/developing learning communities among different actors (educational institutions and learning providers, public authorities, stakeholder and civil society organisations, business, etc.) in the field of inclusive learning.

Lot 2 - Youth

The specific objectives of the call are:

- Promoting civic participation of young people by developing the role of volunteering for social inclusion.
- Preventing radicalisation leading to violent extremism of young people by reaching out to those at risk of marginalisation or social exclusion.

Eligible applicants are public and private organisations active in the field of education, training and youth or other socio-economic sectors organisations carrying out cross-sector activities (eg recognition centres, chambers of commerce, trade organisations, civil society, sport and cultural organisations etc.) in the areas covered by the Declaration on promoting citizenship and the common values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education (Paris Declaration).

Eligible applicants include:

- Educational institutions and other learning providers.
- Public authorities at national/regional/local level responsible for education, training and youth.
- Non-profit organisations (NGOs).
- Research institutions.
- Trade organisations and social partners.
- Guidance and recognition centres.

- International organisations.
- Private companies.
- Networks of the organisations listed above are also eligible as long as they have legal personality.

The total budget available for the co-financing of projects under the call is €10 million allocated as follows:

- Lot 1 - Education and training: €8 million.
- Lot 2 - Youth: €2 million.

The maximum grant per project will be €500,000 for up to 80% of the total eligible project costs. The project duration must be between 24 and 36 months.

The deadline for applications is 22 May 2017.

Sport England - Core Market Fund

[Press Ctrl and click here for more information](#)



Sport England is seeking applications from a range of organisations for projects which aim to reach those people within the core market (those who already build physical activity into their daily lives) who are outside the reach of sport's national governing bodies.

Sport England expects to make individual awards of between £50,000 and £500,000. In exceptional circumstances, investments of up to £1 million may be made. Applicants may apply for less than £50,000 if they are confident that their project can make a significant, measurable contribution towards keeping active people active.

The new fund aims to:

- **Keep active people active (the 'core market')** - Regularly active people are an important audience. Sport England believe that the habits of active people enhances their quality of life, giving them confidence, improving their wellbeing and helping to connect them to other people.
- **Focus on life changes** - Changes in life are unavoidable, but what is important is that when circumstances change, people are supported to find the next opportunity that meets their new needs.
- **Help support those who are more prone to drop out (under-represented groups)** - Those who are in lower socio-economic groups, women, people with a limiting disability and people aged 55 and over are the most likely to stop exercising regularly. Under-representation in the sector is a priority target for Sport England. Sport England wants to develop a sport sector that welcomes everyone, meets their needs, treats them as individuals and values them as customers.

Sport England is looking to work with a range of providers who can help people stay active when their lives change, not just sports bodies and activity providers.

Examples of eligible applicants include:

- Health professionals supporting those with an injury or illness to find activity that fits their current situation.
- Colleges and universities supporting those starting a new phase of education.
- Estate agents supporting those moving house to find new activities in their local area.

The deadline for expressions of interest is 22 May 2017.

Postcode Lottery Green Challenge

[Press Ctrl and click here for more information](#)

The Postcode Lottery Green Challenge is a contest that rewards inventions that successfully combine sustainability, entrepreneurship and creativity. The jury looks for products and services that contribute to an eco-friendly lifestyle, directly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and score highly on convenience, quality and design.



The competition aims to elicit promising, creative ideas that will encourage and aid the invention of great new green products and services and combat CO2 emissions and can be put on the market within two years.

The first prize is for more than £440,000 (€500,000). It will be presented to the entrant with the best idea to execute his or her business plan. A further £175,000 (€200,000) will be available to the runner up.

Would-be entrepreneurs aged 18 years or older with a well-thought-out idea are invited to participate in the Green Challenge.

The deadline for the 2017 competition is 1 June 2017.

Mslexia Women's Poetry Competition 2017 Open to Female Poets

[Press Ctrl and click here for more information](#)

This annual competition is held by Mslexia, a publication with a focus on women's writing, in order to shine a light on the work of new and established female poets. Poems are welcome in any style, length or subject and may be submitted from anywhere in the world.



The first prize winner will receive £2,000 and will have the chance to participate in a week-long writing retreat at Cove Park, Scotland's International Artist Residency Centre. They will also have the option to attend a mentoring session with Amy Wack, Poetry Editor at Seren Books. The second and third place winners will receive a prize worth £400 and £200 respectively and 17 other finalists will each receive prizes of £25. There will also be a special prize worth £500 for the best poem from a previously-unpublished poet.

Any number of poems may be published however only one may win a prize and the entry fee is £7 for up to three pieces of poetry. Sequences of differently-titled poems should be entered separately and a poem that is structured in various parts may be entered as one, singular poem.

The next deadline for this competition is 19 June 2017.

Horizon 2020 Clean Sky 2: Sixth Call

[Press Ctrl and Click here
for more information](#)

Clean Sky 2 is a Joint Technology Initiative, a public-private partnership which brings together companies, universities, public laboratories, innovative SMEs and the European Commission to develop and demonstrate breakthrough technologies for the civil aircraft market and to cut aircraft emissions and noise.



Clean Sky 2 will demonstrate and validate the technology necessary to make major steps towards the environmental goals sets by ACARE - Advisory Council for Aeronautics Research in Europe - the European Technology Platform for Aeronautics & Air Transport and to be reached in 2020:

- 50% reduction of CO2 emissions through drastic reduction of fuel consumption.
- 80% reduction of NOx (nitrogen oxide) emissions.
- 50% reduction of external noise.
- A green product life cycle: design, manufacturing, maintenance and disposal/recycling.

The Sixth Clean Sky 2 Call is comprised of 23 individual Research and Innovation Actions and 51 individual Innovation Actions with a total budget of €68.8 million available.

The deadline for submissions to the Sixth Call is 21 June 2017.

Greggs Foundation's Local Community Projects Fund

[Press Ctrl and click here
for more information](#)

The Local Community Projects Fund helps not-for-profit organisations based in local communities to deliver projects or provide equipment to people in need at the heart of local communities in England, Scotland and Wales. Preference is likely to be given to local organisations based near a Greggs shop.



Grants of up to £2,000 are available for projects or for providing equipment for 'a community of interest'. This refers to people who are:

- Disabled or suffering chronic illness.
- Living in poverty.
- Voluntary carers.

- Homeless.
- Isolated older people.
- Living with other demonstrable significant needs.

The funding is for projects that improve resilience within a community of interest and can include sessional activities/respice support, equipment for sessional activities, trips and residential breaks.

The Foundation is also interested in new approaches and innovative ideas as well as sustainable approaches to supporting the community of interest.

Eligible projects should also be able to demonstrate that they have achieved at least one of the following Key Performance Targets for their beneficiaries:

- Decreased social isolation.
- Improved health and wellbeing.
- Improved resilience/coping mechanisms.
- Improved life skills.
- Improved opportunities.

The Local Community Projects Fund is administered by seven charity committees throughout Great Britain.

This is a highly competitive grant scheme with only 30% of eligible applicants receiving funding in 2016.

There are two funding rounds per year.

Please note that the Greggs Foundation is highly over-subscribed and reserves the right to close the application window if it receives more good quality applications than it is able to fund. Groups will be notified if the Foundation is unable to accept applications.

The deadline for round two applications is 24 June 2017.

INTERREG Europe - Third Call for Project Proposals

[Press Ctrl and click here for more information](#)

The Third Call for Proposals under the Interreg Europe Programme is now open. The Call is for interregional cooperation projects.

Applications must be submitted under one of the specific programme objectives, which fall under the following Priority axes of the Programme:

- Priority 1 - Strengthening research, technological development and innovation.
- Priority 2 - Enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs.
- Priority 3 - Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors.



- Priority 4 - Protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency.

The first two calls for proposals resulted in a significant number of applications approved under priority 1 compared with the three other priority and in particular with priority 4. Therefore, the ERDF budget available for priority 1 is limited, as 75% of this budget is already allocated to projects.

Topics such as renewable energy or water management are so far poorly represented among the 130 approved projects. The issue of financial instruments is also not sufficiently addressed across the different priority axis of the programme; therefore, applications dealing with these topics are encouraged. Applications are also particularly encouraged under priority axis 4, including unsuccessful applications from previous calls.

The following organisations are eligible to apply:

- Public authorities.
- Public law bodies (bodies governed by public law).
- Private non-profit bodies (but cannot be a lead partner).

The total ERDF budget after the first two calls for proposal (approximately €145 million) of the Interreg Europe programme is available for the third call for proposals. Eligible project activities are co-financed by the ERDF at a rate of either 75% or 85% depending on the legal status of the project partner.

The deadline for applications is 30 June 2017.

The Business Booster Will Help to Recognise and Support SME's in Yorkshire and the Humber

[Press Ctrl and click here for more information](#)



The purpose of this scheme is to recognise and support local companies that have demonstrated excellence. Hull and the surrounding area increasingly being seen to be a good place to live and do business. CITY law firm James Legal views Hull City of Culture 2017 as being a unique opportunity to bring together local organisations and experts who may collaborate, sharing views and insights.

According to Managing Director at James Legal Nick Miller: "We've seen a wealth of new opportunities arising for businesses as a knock-on effect of Hull City of Culture 2017. Therefore, collaborating with trusted partners to create this catalyst for growth seemed an appropriate focus for this year and beyond".

This competition is open to applications from Yorkshire and the Humber based small and medium sized-enterprises (SMEs) that are prepared for the next stage of their growth. Applicant businesses

must have a turnover under £5 million per annum. There is the chance to win one of two prizes worth more than £15,000 each.

Winners will be chosen during September 2017.

The deadline for this competition is 31 July 2017.

2017 Baldwins Kick Start Award Offers £20,000 to Young Entrepreneurs in the UK

Baldwins Kick Start is an annual award programme for young entrepreneurs who have a good idea and would like to start their own business. The programme was established by Baldwins Accountants to find and develop the 'Youth Entrepreneurs' of the future.

Baldwins hopes to reach those young people who have talent, drive, ambition and ideas but who lack access to the necessary funding and business support needed to start up in enterprise.

The programme has a total budget of £300,000, running over ten years.

The winner of the award will be given a grant of £10,000 coupled with £10,000 worth of mentoring and accountancy advice. Two runners-up will be presented with £5,000 worth of accountancy advice and mentoring fees over a period of one year.

The scheme was previously open only across the Midlands region. For 2017 it has been widened to the whole of the UK. It is open to young people aged between 18 and 25 who either have an idea and a business plan but are yet to start trading, or a newly founded start-up businesses where trading commenced on or after 31 August 2016.

Applications for the current round close on 31 August 2017.

[Press Ctrl and click here for more information](#)

