



UK Government

UK Community Renewal Fund

GEDC Cabinet Committee – 1 July

Context:

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UK Shared Prosperity Fund

£1.5bn per annum

Context:

The UK Community Renewal Fund is a UK Government programme for **2021/22**.



This aims to support people and communities **most in need** across the UK to **pilot programmes and new approaches** to prepare for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

It is a 90% revenue fund

Priority Places

To ensure the UK Community Renewal Fund funding reaches the most in need, the UK Government has identified 100 priority places for investment based on an index of economic resilience across Great Britain.

In Kent, the UK Government has designated these four districts as priority places:

- Canterbury
- Gravesham
- Swale
- Thanet

The Government will prioritise bids that target the top 100 places, however bids targeting other places can be submitted.

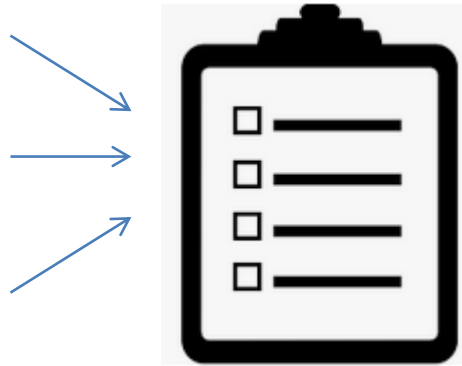
Investment Priorities

Projects must deliver activity that is in line with the UK Community Renewal Fund Prospectus and align with **one or more** of these investment priorities:

- Investment in skills
- Investment for local business
- Investment in communities and place
- Supporting people into employment

There are no financial allocations to these priorities.

Projects should also be able to demonstrate the extent of contribution to net-zero carbon objectives or wider environmental considerations. *(This is not applicable to interventions focused on supporting people into employment).*



Bid Value - £0 to £3m
Bids £0.5m+ encouraged

£3m per place shortlist

Funding award

Assessment Criteria

Strategic Fit Sub-Criteria:

- Aligns with local need & evidence of local support
- Aligns to the investment priorities
- Contributes to the net-zero agenda
- Produces transferable learning
- Is innovative

Deliverability, Effectiveness & Efficiency Sub-Criteria:

- Can meet 31 March 22 deadline
- Appropriate risk mitigation
- Offers good value for money
- Has a need for intervention
- Has effective evaluation strategy

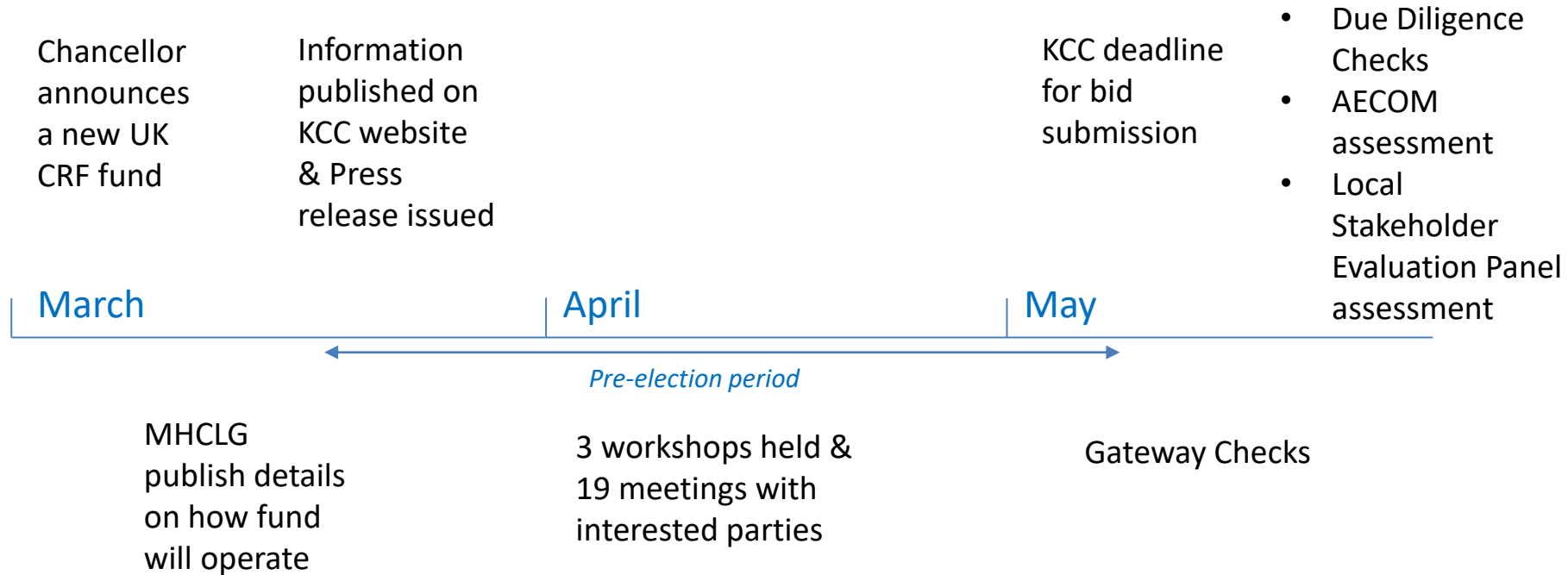
Band A – Projects scoring 80% in strategic fit and in the deliverability criteria, and 51% of activity in the priority place(s).

Band B – Projects scoring 80% in strategic fit and in the deliverability criteria, and 51% of activity in other place(s).

Band C – Projects scoring 50% in strategic fit and in the deliverability criteria, and 51% of activity in the priority place(s).

+ Ministerial Discretion

Timeline



Timeline

Cabinet Members met to discuss feedback

Call-in period

MHCLG to make decision in “late July 2021 onwards”.

KCC enter into back-to-back funding agreement with project promoters.

June



July

August

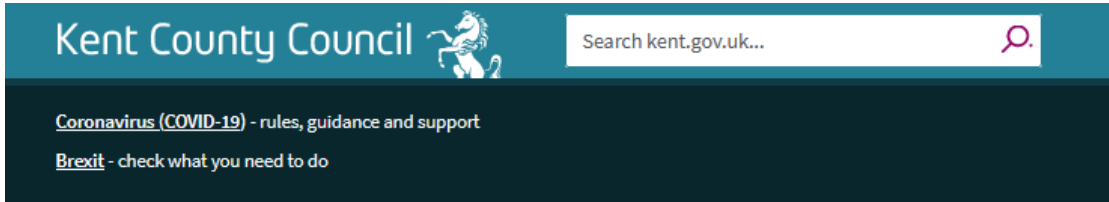
KCC leader takes formal decision

Submission to MHCLG

KCC enter into funding agreement with Government

Project Inception

Website & Workshops:



[Home](#) > [Leisure and community](#) > [Community grants and funding](#) >

UK Community Renewal Fund

The UK Community Renewal Fund is a UK Government programme. It aims to support people and communities most in need across the UK to pilot programmes and new approaches to prepare for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. This is a government funding programme that will begin in 2022.

This £220 million fund will invest in skills, community and place, local business, and supporting people into employment.

We are seeking bids from organisations wishing to deliver activity in Kent as part of the UK Community Renewal Fund.

- Grants of up to £3 million are available for project activity in 2021/22.
- 90% of funding available through the UK Community Renewal Fund is revenue funding.

The deadline for applications is **9am on Tuesday 4 May**. Early submission is encouraged.

Information for applicants

[Apply](#) ▼

[Workshops](#) ▼

[Privacy notices](#) ▼

If you are interested in applying, please read:

- [invitation to bid document \(PDF, 293.3 KB\)](#)
- [the assessment criteria document.](#)

[Visit the GOV.UK website for more details about the UK Community Renewal Fund.](#)



[UK Community Renewal Fund: prospectus 2021-22](#)

HTML



[UK Community Renewal Fund: assessment criteria](#)

PDF, 236KB, 17 pages



[UK Community Renewal Fund: technical note for project applicants and deliverers](#)

PDF, 326KB, 17 pages

BIDS

Gateway Checks (in-house)

Due Diligence Checks by S151

All private-sector bidders were asked to submit a copy of the last three years of their accounts, so a credit check could be undertaken on the applicant.

Two officers in KCC's finance team used this financial information to ascertain if each bid passed this gateway criteria:

- Project proposal will be delivered by a **legally constituted organisation that can receive public funds.**

Local Stakeholder Evaluation Panels

The Government said *“lead authorities may choose to involve other organisation to provide advice during the assessment and prioritisation process, e.g. on alignment with local priorities or links to existing activity. CMM in March agreed to this approach.*

Thus 12 district panels were arranged in May to which MPs, District, Skills, Business, and Community representatives were invited. Panel Members were asked to score each bid against these two criteria:

- Project contributes to **local needs** and has **evidence of local support**
- Project contributes to an **investment priority**

Consultancy Checks

The Government said *“Lead Authorities must ensure that all applicants are assessed in the same way and conflicts of interest are avoided”*. To aid independent assessment and help with resource management, CMM in March agreed that some of the UK CRF capacity funding should be used to procure consultants to score each bid against the **5 deliverability, effectiveness, and efficiency sub-criteria**, and the remaining **3 strategic fit sub-criteria**.

GET had an existing framework agreement, which allowed KCC to contract with AECOM to complete this work in the short timescale.

KCC Leader decided shortlist
Informed by earlier assessment activity

Local Stakeholder Evaluation Panels

- Constituency MP(s)
- District Leader
- District Chief Executive
- Skills Representative
- 2 x Business Representative
- Community Representative
- Kent Environment Board Representative

Appendix A: Kent-based projects shortlisted for submission to the Government

Proposal Name	Activity within which district or unitary areas	UK CRF requested		
<i>In alphabetical order:</i>	<i>(PP) = Priority Place</i>			
Breaking Barriers – Inclusive Employability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canterbury (PP) • Thanet (PP) • Folkestone & Hythe 	£437,938	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swale (PP) • Thanet (PP) 	£83,260
Bridge the Gap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canterbury (PP) • Swale (PP) • Thanet (PP) 	£561,618	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canterbury (PP) • Swale (PP) • Thanet (PP) 	£500,000
Canterbury & Folkestone Skills Renewal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canterbury (PP) • Folkestone & Hythe 	£998,668	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canterbury (PP) • Swale (PP) • Thanet (PP) 	£983,577
Canterbury's Creative Exchange	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canterbury (PP) 	£815,895	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swale (PP) • Ashford 	£998,668
Cohesive Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gravesham (PP) • Dartford 	£1,629,172	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thanet (PP) • Dover 	£998,668
Creative Tunbridge Wells	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tunbridge Wells 	£425,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swale (PP) • Thanet (PP) • Dartford 	£79,440
Diversity House: Centre for Innovation and Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swale (PP) 	£423,631	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swale (PP) • Thanet (PP) 	£500,000
Employment and Support Hub - Canterbury & Thanet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canterbury (PP) • Thanet (PP) 	£640,556	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gravesham (PP) • Swale (PP) • Medway* <p>*Medway is its own lead authority and this project is recommended for shortlisting by their officers.</p>	£500,000
Employment and Support Hub - Gravesham & Swale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gravesham (PP) • Swale (PP) 	£1,363,023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sevenoaks • Tunbridge Wells 	£412,778
GreenCore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canterbury (PP) • Thanet (PP) • Medway* <p>*Medway is its own lead authority and this project is recommended for shortlisting by their officers.</p>	£726,650	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashford 	£51,557
Growing Green: A net-zero innovation pathway for micro and SME businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swale (PP) • Thanet (PP) • Tonbridge & Malling 	£513,122	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth National Seaside Heritage Centre 	£192,168
Growing Regional Innovation by Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canterbury (PP) • Thanet (PP) • Dover 	£662,763		
Growth Gurus – Community Hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sevenoaks (specifically Swanley) 	£552,500		
Ignition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gravesham (PP) • Thanet (PP) 	£545,120		
Kent and Medway Partnership for Enterprise, Food and Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gravesham (PP) • Swale (PP) • Medway* <p>*Medway is its own lead authority and this project is recommended for shortlisting by their officers.</p>	£528,714		
Net Zero Pathway for Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canterbury (PP) • Gravesham (PP) • Thanet (PP) 	£625,603		
Pop Up Digital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashford • Dover • Folkestone and Hythe 	£1,586,896		
Recover. Rebuild. Restart.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dartford • Folkestone and Hythe • Maidstone 	£49,680		
Runway Futures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ashford • Maidstone • Tonbridge & Malling 	£521,119		
Community Renewal and Decarbonisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maidstone 	£500,000		

Q&A