

Kent Regeneration Fund Application Criteria

The following criteria set out the type of projects eligible for funding and the terms of the Kent Regeneration Fund, which must also be fulfilled if proposals are to be approved.

Eligible Proposals

1. Proposals will need to demonstrate links to projects, programmes and/or policy statements in the 'Vision for Kent' or 'Towards 2010' (from June 2006), the Supporting Independence Programme and 'Kent – What Price Growth?'
2. Proposals will be welcomed which support development in deprived areas and/or promote technical innovation and raising quality standards in relation to construction methods, environmental management, energy production/consumption and design. Support will also be considered for proposals attracting appropriate national pilots or demonstration projects to Kent.
3. Scoping studies and other forms of preparatory work will be usually agreed only where the substantive project has been identified as a priority and where the study is considering options for implementation rather than basic feasibility.
4. The Kent Regeneration Fund can be used to purchase expertise not available within KCC. KCC staffing costs will not normally be supported from the fund, although fixed-term contracts will be considered where this is more appropriate than using an external contractor.

Terms of the Kent Regeneration Fund

1. The Kent Regeneration Fund cannot be used to substitute existing budgets. It can be used for time-limited expenditure only, with no ongoing adverse financial implications for KCC base budgets.
2. Proposals should explore options to lever in other funding. Proposals should demonstrate a target 'gearing' of 1:5, either as a result of this money acting as the KCC contribution to directly match external funding, or as a result of initial investment unlocking subsequent development.
3. The Kent Regeneration Fund can be used to make upfront investment in a scheme, the cost of which is then recovered from others subsequently so that the Fund is reimbursed for the original investment.
4. Partners may submit proposals only if they match (1:1 or better) the KCC contribution being sought from the Kent Regeneration Fund and the 1:5 gearing then applies to that joint total.
5. No more than 15% of the Kent Regeneration Fund in any one year can be used for small-scale projects (those of £20k or less).
6. All project underspends will be returned to the Kent Regeneration Fund for allocation to new projects.