



Mid Devon Prosperity Programme Growth and Innovation Funding Guidance for Round 4

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WELCOME

Opportunities for your business

Mid Devon District Council has successfully secured just over £1.8M from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and the Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) for delivery between January 2023 and March 2025.

National Picture

Overseen by the Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (DLUHC), the UKSPF is aimed at levelling up opportunity, prosperity and pride in place. The funding covers three main areas – pillars – of support with specific objectives:

Communities and Place

- **Strengthening our social fabric and fostering a sense of local pride and belonging, through investment in activities that enhance physical, cultural and social ties and amenities, such as community infrastructure and local green space, and community-led projects.**
- **Building resilient, safe and healthy neighbourhoods, through investment in quality places that people want to live, work, play and learn in, through targeted improvements to the built environment and innovative approaches to crime prevention.**

Supporting Business

- **Creating jobs and boosting community cohesion, through investments that build on existing industries and institutions, and range from support for starting businesses to visible improvements to local retail, hospitality and leisure sector facilities.**
- **Promoting networking and collaboration, through interventions that bring together businesses and partners within and across sectors to share knowledge, expertise and resources, and stimulate innovation and growth.**
- **Increasing private sector investment in growth-enhancing activities, through targeted support for small and medium-sized businesses to undertake new-to-firm innovation, adopt productivity-enhancing, energy efficient and low carbon technologies and techniques, and start or grow their exports.**

People and Skills

- **Boosting core skills and support adults to progress in work, by targeting adults with no or low level qualifications and skills in maths, and upskill the working population, yielding personal and societal economic impact, and by encouraging innovative approaches to reducing adult learning barriers.**
- **Reducing levels of economic inactivity through investment in bespoke intensive life and employment support tailored to local need. Investment should facilitate the join-up of mainstream provision and local services within an area for participants, through the use of one-to-one keyworker support, improving employment outcomes for specific cohorts who face labour market barriers.**
- **Supporting people furthest from the labour market to overcome barriers to work by providing cohesive, locally tailored support, including access to basic skills.**

Local Picture

Mid Devon has developed an Investment Plan that responds to local business and community needs and opportunities. This investment is being delivered through grant schemes.

GRANT SCHEMES

Apply for grant funding through the Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund to support your business, with opportunities available through the following themes:



Field to Fork

Grants towards equipment needed to support **non-farm owned businesses** to develop, produce and market local food and drink products and its direct supply to consumers.

Objectives

Support new and existing small and micro rural businesses to develop new products and facilities that will be of wider benefit to the local economy



Business Growth and Innovation

A mixed grants programme targeting micro and small businesses and social enterprises with innovative ideas and high growth potential to help them buy new equipment, improve processes, buy in specialist support so they can take the next step towards ‘transformational’ change within their business, increase jobs and support de-carbonisation where this directly links to improved productivity/turnover.

This includes capital funding for net zero infrastructure for rural businesses, and diversification of farm businesses outside of agriculture to encourage starting up, expanding or scaling those businesses where this involves converting farm buildings to other commercial or business uses.

Objectives

1. Create jobs and boost community cohesion.
2. Increase private sector investment in growth-enhancing activities, through targeted support for businesses to:
 - undertake innovation
 - adopt productivity enhancing, energy efficient and low carbon technologies and techniques

Visitor Economy (Sustainable Tourism)

Grants towards the development of quality visitor attractions and experiences to expand or enhance the tourism offer and support farm diversification.

This includes local attractions, trails and tourism products more generally.

Objectives

1. Create jobs and boost community cohesion.
2. Enhance rural visitor economy and rural leisure opportunities.





Work Hub Development Scheme

Grants for local businesses to support incubator space and work hub development to create small flexible office and workshop space for start-up and growing micro-businesses.

Objectives

1. Create jobs and boosting community cohesion.
2. Promote networking and collaboration.
3. Increase private sector investment in growth-enhancing activities.
4. Strengthen our social fabric and foster a sense of local pride and belonging.



Please note: Funding for projects under the Social Economy theme will not be available until 2024/25 but applicants may complete Expressions of Interest for this scheme in 2022/23.

Investment in the Social Economy

Grants to support community businesses such as community shops, community pubs, and community energy organisations, will increase access to key services, support community infrastructure, and facilitate community-level de-carbonisation projects.

Objectives

Strengthen our social fabric and foster a sense of local pride and belonging, through investment in activities that enhance physical, cultural and social ties and amenities. This includes:

- community infrastructure and local green space
- community-led projects

WHO?

We welcome a range of applications, particularly from organisations we haven't supported through our previous Small Business Recovery Grants Scheme or who propose innovative projects. This could be a business, registered charity, town or parish council, community interest company, or other social enterprise. We would like to see applications from across our District.

Prosperity grants are available to organisations in the public, private, charity or social enterprise sectors.

APPLICANTS MUST

To be considered for a grant, organisations must:

- **Primarily operate and trade in Mid Devon and based within eligible rural areas (DEFRA considers all areas of Mid Devon to be ‘rural’ apart from small parts of Clayhidon next to Smeatharpe). A map of eligible rural areas can be found at <https://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx> (once open expand ‘Administrative Geographies’, then expand ‘Other Administrative Boundaries’ and tick the box titled ‘Rural England Prosperity Fund’. Tick the box titled ‘Aerial Photography’ to view when zoomed in. The areas outlined in red within the district of Mid Devon are ineligible for Rural England Prosperity Funding).**
- **Have legal status ie:**
 - **Be a registered business or social enterprise with HMRC or Companies House; or**
 - **Be a registered charity or voluntary organisation with the Charity Commission; or**
 - **Be an arms-length body of government, public sector organisation, local authority or higher and further education institution.**
- **Be prepared to cooperate with any due-diligence checks and to comply with the terms and conditions of the grant.**
- **Have a UK-based bank account in the name of the business and not have unmanageable debt.**

Start-up businesses (less than two years old) may apply for a small grant of up to £5,000. However, for larger grants, businesses must be active and trading for a minimum of two years.

The ‘Field to Fork’ and ‘Business Growth and Innovation’ themes are specifically aimed at small and micro enterprises (this includes enterprises without employees such as sole traders and partnerships). Please see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/beis-small-and-medium-enterprises-sme-action-plan-2022-to-2025/beis-small-and-medium-enterprises-smes-action-plan-2022-to-2025-accessible-webpage#definition-of-an-sme> for the Government’s definition of SMEs.

Businesses can only make one application under the Mid Devon Prosperity Programme. If an applicant is a director/owner/major shareholder of more than one enterprise registered/trading at a particular address, only one of those enterprises can receive Prosperity Funding.

Applications from faith groups are eligible as long as the project/activity meets an identified need in and it concentrates on what the project delivers (such as what a religious building may be used for). The Fund cannot finance religious activities. For applications from faith groups, we follow the same principles as those applied to the Big Lottery Fund; please see <https://bigblogscotland.org.uk/2022/03/23/funding-for-faith-based-organisations-a-quick-guide-2/> for more detailed information.

For grants relating to properties (such as the work hub theme), applicants must also:

- **Own the property or have a secure lease on the property (or the evidenced clear prospect thereof).**
- **Be responsible for ensuring that all necessary permissions are obtained, such as planning permission, building regulation consent and leaseholder/landlord consents before project work can commence.**

APPLICANTS MUST NOT

Businesses insolvent, in administration or without legal status are not eligible for Funding.

WHAT?

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

We are looking for projects that deliver against at least one of the following:

- **Small scale investment in micro and small enterprises**
- **Growth of the local social economy and innovation support**
- **Development of the visitor economy**
- **Investment and support for digital connectivity for local community facilities**
- **Capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups**
- **Community and neighbourhood infrastructure**
- **Enterprise infrastructure and employment / innovation sites**
- **Innovative product and service development (research and development and/or adoption)**

To support businesses in the current cost-of-living crisis, we also seek to support innovative projects that reduce the enterprise's running costs.

EXAMPLE PROJECTS:

Field to Fork

- 1. Purchase of equipment for food processing for non-farmer-owned businesses. For example:**
 - **purchasing new process and packaging machinery such as apple presses, brewing equipment and bottling equipment.**
 - **equipping development kitchens or modernising existing kitchen equipment for increased energy efficiency or increased productivity through automation.**
 - **equipment and construction costs to support the direct supply of products, for example onsite vending machines, box schemes, local markets, local food co-operatives.**
 - **equipment to showcase local food and drink products.**
 - **food processing equipment to scale up from domestic to commercial kitchens (non-farming businesses only).**
- 2. Capital grants for kitchens in community hubs which are capable of supporting food and drink entrepreneurs get accreditation for food production.**

Business Growth & Innovation

- 3. Wraparound support to help SME manufacturers adopt industrial digital technology solutions such as AI and robotics**
 - **Impartial, expert advice to support business planning and digital roadmapping**
 - **Specialist leadership and management training focused on industrial digitalisation with an emphasis on peer learning, network building and collaboration**
- 4. Research and development grants for new product, services and markets**
 - **External expertise such as design, development, coaching or consultancy support to help facilitate innovation, research and development**
- 5. Innovation 'Made Smarter' Adoption grants to enable businesses to buy and implement new-to-business technologies or processes including digital technology solutions, other software or equipment. This can also support training sessions where needed.**

- 6. The purchase of equipment that will enable the business to expand and create new higher paid jobs or will allow the business to diversify or create a new innovative product.**
- 7. The capital costs of adopting new processes to increase productivity.**
- 8. Adoption of new technologies that will allow the business to become carbon neutral or negative.**
- 9. The conversion or restructuring of buildings to support business expansion and the adoption of technology and innovation.**

Visitor Economy

- 10. Creation and expansion of rural leisure and tourism businesses. For example:**
 - **creating event venues or farm tourism facilities such as accommodation, wedding venues, farm shops and leisure facilities**
 - **provision of facilities for pet and equines such as kennels, livery and pet health venues.**
- 11. Development of local visitor trails and tours and infrastructure to support this, such as:**
 - **information boards**
 - **visitor centres**
 - **Tours/experiences at producer sites**
- 12. Grants for the development of local tourist attractions (including creating a new tourism experience, product or offer in Mid Devon such as new tourism attractions or an enhanced offer at existing attractions).**
- 13. Development of local visitor experiences based on the local offer.**
- 14. Improving the night-time economy.**

Work Hub Development Scheme

- 15. Creation of multi-functional rural business hubs providing shared workspace and networking opportunities for rural businesses. For example:**
 - **flexible access to commercial kitchens**
 - **co-working spaces including flexible office and workshop space**
 - **accelerator and/or incubator provision**
 - **maker units**
 - **business infrastructure such as broadband and electric vehicle (EV) charging points**

- conversion of agricultural building into rural work hub (flexible workspace).
16. Utilise existing community-owned facilities including community halls and other facilities to develop community, work and learning business hubs.
17. Capital grants to enable rural community businesses to accommodate other business services. For example:
- support the provision of multi-use premises such as village pubs creating rural business hubs or expanding to host community shop, banking or postal services.

Social Economy

18. Capital grants for provision of gigabit capable digital infrastructure at rural hubs for community use. For example:
- village halls
 - pubs
 - post offices
19. Capital grants for provision of net zero infrastructure for rural communities and to support rural tourism activity. For example:
- EV charging points
 - community energy schemes such as scaled up biomass, heat pumps or solar

WHAT FUNDING IS AVAILABLE?

We are looking to support one or two big projects of up to £50k* and a cluster of small to medium projects circa £1k-£20k. The funding is limited and as such, applications for smaller projects may be more successful than applications for larger projects.

Funding Available (£)

Scheme	Match Funding	Capital Funding 23/24	Revenue Funding 23/24	Capital Funding 24/25	Revenue Funding 24/25
Field to Fork	Desired	50,000	4,000	100,000	0.00
Business Growth & Innovation	Desired	54,168	0.00	161,674	54,436
Visitor Economy	Desired	50,000	0.00	100,000	0.00

Scheme	Match Funding	Capital Funding 23/24	Revenue Funding 23/24	Capital Funding 24/25	Revenue Funding 24/25
Work Hub Development	30%	40,000	0.00	106,647	25,134
Social Economy	Desired	0.00	0.00	150,000	0.00

PROJECTS MUST

To be considered for a grant, projects must meet the following conditions:

- Be deliverable by 31 December 2024
- Deliver at least one of the identified outputs (see list of impacts under [Scoring Guidance](#)) by 31 March 2025
- Investments should demonstrate value for money and additionality and comply with the UKSPF rules on [procurement](#).

Digital infrastructure projects must align with the Government's [Project Gigabit programme](#).

PROJECTS MUST NOT

The funding cannot be used towards the following:

- VAT that is recoverable from HMRC;
- Payments for works or activities that the project deliverer has a statutory duty to undertake or that are fully funded by other sources;
- Projects that have already commenced or completed (applicants should not start any work before receiving a grant offer);
- Secondhand items;
- Grants that seek to substitute lost income/turnover or to cover operational costs and overheads such as employees' wages, dividends, pension contributions, rent, bills, insurances and utility costs;
- Payments for the project or purchases that have already happened / prior to a Grant Funding Agreement or repeat funding for the same project (ie a project that has already been funded from other sources or an application that you have already applied for funding from elsewhere);
- Fundraising activities, gifts or payments for gifts or donations;

- **Interest payments, service charge payments for finance leases or to cover bad debts;**
- **Legal expenses in respect of litigation including (but not limited to) statutory fines, criminal fines, penalties or payments for unfair dismissal or other compensation;**
- **Costs resulting from the deferral of payments to creditors, depreciation / amortisation costs or costs involved in winding up a company;**
- **Payments that breach or are contrary to the funding agreement or UK legislation;**
- **Payments for promotion or activities of a political or exclusively religious nature;**
- **Any business that has already received subsidy support (grant funding / support) totalling £315,000 (subject to exchange rates) from public funds over any period of 3 years over a rolling three-year period at the time of application (this includes any business support grants received as a result of the COVID19 pandemic);**
- **Ongoing financial support once the project has ended;**
- **Agricultural equipment or improvements, or farm or food-processing equipment or improvements for farm-owned businesses where this is ancillary to the agricultural business;**
- **Anything identified as ineligible within the Shared Prosperity Fund Prospectus <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus> or the Rural England Fund Prospectus <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rural-england-prosperity-fund-prospectus>;**
- **Projects that have a negative impact on the environment or on equality and diversity;**
- **Grants must be for business or community purposes. You cannot use grants to fund domestic property improvements or to buy private vehicles.**

We cannot support projects that have either received funding from other Defra schemes. This includes:

- [The Farming in Protected Landscapes Programme](#) - funding for farmers and land managers to work in partnership with National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty bodies to deliver projects on climate, nature, people and place
- [The Farming Investment Fund](#) - grants to improve productivity and bring environmental benefits, covering 2 funds - the Farming Equipment and Technology Fund and the Farming Transformation Fund
- [The Platinum Jubilee Village Hall Improvement Grant Fund](#) - grant funding over 3 years (to 2025) to support capital improvement projects for village halls, covering extending buildings and modernising facilities.

PROJECTS COULD

- Be less than £1,000 in value – it would be great to see a variety of small-scale projects providing a local benefit.
- Have match funding; for most of our schemes, this is favourable but not essential (the Work Hub Development Scheme requires 30% match-funding). Any supporting funding should be clear about conditions associated and whether this has already been committed.
- You should also consider how investments contribute to net zero and nature recovery objectives. To support green growth, think about how your project can work with the natural environment to achieve objectives. At a minimum, you need to consider the project's impact on our natural assets and nature.

Projects can cross more than one theme under the Prosperity Programme; we will determine the best fit under the aims of the scheme when making funding decisions.

FUNDING BREAKDOWN

Capital Spend

Definition of capital items: those items having long term effects on business (with a lasting asset; normally more than one year)

Examples of capital costs:

- **Building work (including internal refurbishment or external infrastructure and fit-out costs)**
- **Equipment and machinery**
- **Furniture and signage**
- **Technology and software purchased (owned outright) and identifiable for tax purposes as capital as if it were a tangible asset (this does not include hired purchases).**

Revenue Spend

Definition of revenue items: those items having short term effects on business (where there is no lasting asset; normally less than one year)

Examples of revenue costs:

- **Contractors and consultants procured to deliver project activity such as undertake evaluation work, audit work, feasibility studies and/or market research to inform potential future projects**
- **Marketing and publicity costs**
- **Professional advice and services (eg legal, architect)**
- **Training and support services (eg training on how to use new technology/equipment)**
- **Hire or maintenance fees eg for equipment, furniture, technology or software (including upgrades and website hosting)**

Capital funding can only be used to support capital projects. Repairs and maintenance for like-for-like work is classed as revenue.

HOW?

Projects funded under the REPF programme will be selected by a two-staged competitive grants process, involving a short Expression of Interest form, to ensure projects meet the basic criteria for the scheme, followed by an invitation to submit a full application form.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Please send an email to Diverse Regeneration Company at MDDCgrants@drcompany.co.uk to express an interest in the Prosperity Programme Grant Scheme. You will then receive an Expression of

Interest Form to complete (see [timescales](#) for deadlines). The Expression of Interest Form will include questions on:

Headline Summary

- **The name of your activity or project and brief summary about your project proposal/request (what you want to do)**
- **How much the whole project will cost**
- **How much you are asking for from the Mid Devon Prosperity Programme**

Business

- **Business applying for the funding**
- **Business trading address in Mid Devon**
- **For applications relating to improvements to properties, full address of premises (new or existing) where the proposed work will be carried out.**
- **Company Number or Unique Tax Reference Number (UTRN)**
- **Business Rates Number (if applicable)**
- **Trading start date**
- **VAT number (if registered)**
- **Principal activity of business / SIC code**
- **Number of employees and full-time equivalents**
- **Annual turnover (for most recent financial year)**

Applicant

- **Name of person making the application and your role within the business**
- **Contact details – contact name, telephone number and email**

Business Case

You will need to provide:

- **A brief background of your business and how it has developed and how the need for the project has been identified (what problem will it solve) (max 300 words).**
- **Outline project costs: How much funding is needed for the project (£)? How much are you applying for (£)? (please provide a breakdown of costs).**
- **If the total project costs exceed the amount of funding request, how will the balance in funding be filled (match funding)?**

- **What the funding will be spent on? What specific elements of your project are you looking for us to support? (max 300 words)**
- **Set out how the grant will help improve your business/community and/or facilitate growth. (max 300 words)**
- **Will your project need planning permission or other consents/permissions? If yes, when will you apply for it or do you already have it? (please provide planning application reference)**
- **When do you expect to deliver the project? (ie when you expect the work to be completed by)**
- **What new offer would this project support (economic impact) if granted funding? (see list provided in the guidance)**
- **Confirmation as to whether you have applied to other Defra funding schemes and their status (in progress, successful, unsuccessful).**

Where a word limit is specified, you do not have to write this many words. If you can adequately explain your answer in considerably fewer words this will be welcomed. The word limit is the upper limit to ensure that the applications can be assessed within a prompt timescale.

Please note: the Expression of Interest and Application Form template is in Microsoft Excel. If you use a Mac book Mac, iPhone or iPad:

- **Open the excel spreadsheet and click on the share icon at the bottom of the screen. Select copy it to numbers. Bypass the formatting message (not critical) and click done in the top right.**
- **Click edit (top right) on tab 1 and edit, go into the first box and select the small green keyboard icon at the bottom of the page. Type in or use numbers as required.**
- **When you have completed the form, go to the top of the page and select the 3 dots icon, then select export, then select excel. Select save to files, with the name of your business/organisation, and save in your usual folders.**

FULL APPLICATION

Shortlisted expressions of interest will be invited to the next stage and sent a full application form to complete.

Applicants will be required to provide supporting paperwork and payment information, including:

- **A recent bank statement (within 3 months) to verify the payment information and trading activity (the bank statement must show the business name, sort code and bank account number).**
- **A recent utility bill (within 3 months) to verify trading address.**

- **Breakdown of project costs (tip: if your project requires legal or regulatory permissions (eg Planning, Licensing, Highways), don't forget to include this in your project plan and costs).**
- **A copy of your most recent tax return / company accounts showing a breakdown for the previous two financial/trading years. This should include information on your business turnover in the last financial year and estimated turnover for this financial year.**
- **Recent comparable quotes/prices (within the last 3 months) for the service and/or purchases of equipment/technology to be funded in line with the UKSPF requirements.**
- **Schedule of works to verify deliverability.**
- **Copies of any required permissions/consents as applicable.**
- **Completed subsidy declaration form.**

Please note: we may request additional evidence if required.

Without the supporting documents, your application will not be considered.

Once we have received your completed application, it will be reviewed and considered for funding by a Funding Panel.

SCORING OF APPLICATIONS

We expect to receive a lot of high-quality bids. As this is a limited funding pot, we may not be able to support them all with the funds available. All bids will be scored on the below criteria and there will be a review process to ensure projects are distributed across the District.

Eligibility

Any application (project or applicant) that fails to meet the eligibility criteria at any stage of the application process (eg stops trading) will automatically be disqualified from this scheme. Applications that have not provided the required supporting information will not be considered.

Mid Devon District Council reserves the right to offer either a reduced or zero grant award where projects have alternative funding sources available.

Need and Deliverability

There is a clear business case and rationale for the project in terms of addressing a market failure or need and the project is unlikely to happen in the same way, to the same timescale or extent without funding support.

Bids should have clear realistic objectives and a plan of action outlining how the objectives will be met and how the project will be delivered within the funding period. Applicants must demonstrate viability and likely success of projects.

Match Funding

Bids that have secured or identified match funding of 30% will be prioritised for funding. Match-funding can be through internal funds, another external funding source (not Defra) or through in-kind support.

Alignment

- **The project aligns with the aims of the UKSPF and REPF programmes.**
- **The project delivers value for money and additionality.**

Impact

Impact will be determined based on how many of the UKSPF and REPF outputs a project intends to deliver. These are:

- **Work Hub Development**
 - **Creates or improves commercial buildings**
 - **Increases users of facilities/amenities**
 - **Increases investment**
 - **Improves digital connectivity of premises**
 - **Supports farm diversification**
- **Growth and Innovation**
 - **Improves productivity**
 - **Increases business turnover**
 - **Creates and/or safeguards jobs**
 - **Supports farm diversification**
 - **Introduces a new product to the firm**
 - **Causes an enterprise to engage in new market(s)**
 - **Adopts new to the firm technologies or processes**
 - **Results in people attending training sessions**
 - **Causes an enterprise to engage in a new knowledge transfer activity**
- **Visitor Economy**
 - **Improves productivity**
 - **Increases business turnover**
 - **Creates and/or safeguards jobs**
 - **Supports farm diversification**

- **Creates or improves commercial buildings**
- **Supports visitor experiences**

- **Field to Fork**
 - **Improves productivity**
 - **Increases business turnover**
 - **Creates and/or safeguards jobs**
 - **Introduces a new product to the firm**
 - **Causes an enterprise to engage in new market(s)**
 - **Adopts new to the firm technologies or processes**

- **Social Economy**
 - **Increases users of facilities/amenities**
 - **Improves digital connectivity of premises**
 - **Increases number of EV charging points or community energy points**
 - **Supports, improves and/or creates amenities/facilities**
 - **Creates and/or safeguards jobs**
 - **Improves perception and/or experience of accessibility**

- **Additional Impacts**
 - **Assists potential entrepreneurs to be enterprise ready**
 - **Creates a new enterprise/business**
 - **Creates and/or improves cultural, heritage or tourism assets**
 - **Improves engagement**
 - **Increases awareness (reach)**
 - **Increases export capability**
 - **Increases visitor numbers / footfall**
 - **Increases visitor spending**
 - **Supports local events and/or activities**

As part of impact, consideration will also be given to potential displacement effects e.g. the diversion of economic activity from another business locally, or where relevant the impact nationally on the sector or supplies to the sector.

We will prioritise funding to projects that deliver the greatest impact including economic, environmental and social benefits.

FUNDING DECISIONS

Projects will be classified as:

- **Successful (full):** the project is one we would like to fund. We will send you a **Grant Funding Agreement**, which must be signed before we can release the funding.
- **Successful (part):** the project is one we would like to fund. However, we are not able to offer the full funding requested. Therefore, a grant of partial funding will be offered and if accepted, we will send you a **Grant Funding Agreement**, which must be signed before we can release the funding.
- **Potential:** we like the project, however we either need more information or we have insufficient funds to support it from the current round and recommend it for consideration in a future (named) round. **Please note: this does not guarantee an application's success at a future round.**
- **Unsuccessful:** the project is not successful. We will try and tell you this quickly and explain why we could not support your application.

We will contact applicants as soon as possible after the deadline. This may take up to four weeks. We may need to arrange a visit to site, ask for more information or clarifications to help with the funding process.

Funding decisions will consider any payment terms, which, depending on the project and the value of funding investment, may include phased payments against delivery of set project milestones. Grant Offer Letters will outline any terms and conditions of a grant award.

Successful applicants will need to sign a funding agreement with Mid Devon District Council, provide payment information and provide updates on delivery during the project and a project completion summary.

TIMESCALES

Applications will be assessed in four rounds, subject to funding availability. Expressions of Interest can be submitted at any time up until 31/05/2024 or until the funding is fully committed (whichever is sooner). However, in order to meet Funding Panel dates, we've set the following closing dates for each round:

Round	EOI Closes	Full App Closes	Funding Notifications
Round 1	CLOSED 23/07/2023	CLOSED 31/08/2023	NOTIFIED

Round	EOI Closes	Full App Closes	Funding Notifications
Round 2a	CLOSED 07/11/2023	CLOSED 17/12/2023	NOTIFIED
Round 2b	CLOSED 10/01/2024	CLOSED 31/10/2024	NOTIFIED
Round 3	CLOSED 21/02/2024	CLOSED 31/03/2024	NOTIFIED
Round 4a	CLOSED 30/04/2024	16/06/2024	31/07/2024
Round 4b	26/05/2024	23/06/2024	31/07/2024

Applications received after a round's closing date will not be considered at that Funding Panel but will be deferred to the next round. Round 4b is the Final Round and applications received after this closing date will not be considered.

As 75% of the funding for these schemes will be available in 2024/25, we encourage early expressions of interest in 2023/24 for projects to be delivered and funded in 2024/25.

CONTACT

For general questions about the grant scheme or an informal chat about your project idea, please contact: businessgrants@middevon.gov.uk

To express an interest in the grant scheme or for any questions about the grant application process or paperwork, please contact:

MDDCgrants@drcompany.co.uk

PRIVACY NOTICE

The Diverse Regeneration Company CIC (The DR Company) is supporting Mid Devon District Council to administer this fund. All information gathered in relation to Expressions of Interest/Applications may be held by both parties for the duration of the programme.

We will process the information provided on your Expression of Interest/Application in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (Data Protection Act 2018) for the sole purpose of administering the Prosperity Programme. The information provided will be stored securely and successful applications will be retained for the duration of the project plus three financial years. Unsuccessful applications will be destroyed upon closure of the Programme. The information provided will be subject to the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act, but personal information (names and contact details) will not be released in response to FOI requests. Data will be shared internally within MDDC and with the Funding Panel for the purposes of administering the Fund and making funding decisions. Details of applications (including name of organisation, project description and amount awarded) are published / reported on our website. Personal details are not included in this information. Successful applications will be reported to Government Departments including the Department for Levelling Up, Homes and Communities and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (as the Funders) for their monitoring purposes. We will not share your data with any other organisation unless required by law.

We may edit this information from time to time. If we make any substantial changes, we will notify you by either email or text and by posting a prominent announcement on our website.

For further information regarding Data Protection and the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) please visit the following page on our website: <https://www.middevon.gov.uk/privacy-notice/>