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**Call Definition**

**Green Growth Skills**

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# Introduction

The purpose of this document is to provide potential applicants with the information needed to submit **first stage expression of interest** proposals for employer led skills projects and activities related to green growth.

The North of Tyne Combine Authority (NTCA) has allocated an indicative amount of £2m of its Skills for Growth funding to support the development of Green Growth Skills. This funding forms part of our wider green growth strategy and aligns with [NTCA’s Strategic Skills Plan.](https://www.northoftyne-ca.gov.uk/documents/strategic-skills-plan/)

We are interested in innovative proposals that equip people with the skills they need to capitalise on the growing employment opportunities in the Low Carbon and Renewable Energy Economy in our region.

Projects may also support the transition to a green economy, with provision designed to support businesses or sectors with the skills needed to operate in a more resource-efficient way, minimising carbon emissions and preparing for climate change.

Applicants are encouraged to pay close attention to the content of this call document, including specific requirements and priorities.

# Background & Strategic Context

Energy and low carbon are a key pri­ority in the [North of Tyne Devolution Deal](https://www.northoftyne-ca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/North_Of_Tyne_Devolution_Document.pdf), highlighting our commitment to work with partners and the government to take forward our considerable ambitions around low carbon energy, creating low carbon projects and services which align to national and local policy.

In the [North of Tyne Corporate Plan 2021-2022 - 'Jobs, Skills and A Post-COVID Economy'](https://www.northoftyne-ca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Jobs-skills-and-a-post-covid-economy-Corporate-Plan-2021-2022.pdf) sustainable and low carbon futures is identified as an important priority. The Mayor’s Manifesto has made clean growth and climate change a high priority – citing both the economic and wider societal benefits of acting early and at scale.

NTCA and its three constituent Local Authorities all declared a climate emergency in 2019 and recognise the significant opportunity green economic growth and good green job creation represents for the region. Newcastle City Council, North Tyneside Council and Northumberland County Council all have ambitious carbon reduction targets for their local areas, and all have approved climate emergency plans.

Since March 2020, NTCA has worked collaboratively with the constituent Local Authorities and wider regional stakeholders in delivering a bold programme of activity detailed in NTCA’s Energy, Green Growth and Climate Change Blueprint. This blueprint sets out our goal to create the conditions for radical innovation across our industries and public services supporting collaborative interventions that stimulate the market to create jobs and growth.

The NTCA has a convening role – enabling conversations between citizens, communities and sectors about the type of economy and society they want in the future, and what can collectively be done make it happen. On that basis, funding was made available to deliver a Citizens’ Assembly on Climate Change. This provided an opportunity to hear the views of our citizens about the type of economy and society they want in the future, and what we can collectively do to make this happen - building upon existing Local Authority consultations and engagement. The comprehensive recommendations of the Citizens’ Assembly are detailed in the full [Citizens Assembly Report](https://www.northoftyne-ca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/NTCA-Citizens-Assembly-on-Climate-Change-report.pdf).

Through investment, convening and working collaboratively with the three constituent Local Authorities and wider regional stakeholders including the North East LEP, we can ensure this region leads the transition to net zero; and that we embed the voice of citizens, business and society in the way we do this – themes which were developed further in the recent Green Economy Summit, hosted by Newcastle University and the North of Tyne Combined Authority.

The £2m funding allocated to this call forms part of our wider Skills for Growth fund to grow our capacity as a region to build the skills base to support new job opportunities and the transition to cleaner ways of working.

# The Green Economy

The green economy is defined as one in which value and growth are maximised across the whole economy, while natural assets are managed sustainably. Such an economy would be supported and enabled by a thriving low carbon and environmental goods and services sector. Environmental damage would be reduced, while energy security, resource efficiency and resilience to climate change would all be increased[[1]](#footnote-1).

Investment in the green economy has increased in recent years driven by rising concern about climate change from scientists, policymakers, and activists, and a recognition of the economic opportunities that new technologies and services will provide. The booming green economy is recognised as a global megatrend that will develop over the coming years as the world comes together to tackle dangerous climate change.

The UK Climate Change Act sets a legally binding target to achieve net zero greenhouse gas emissions across the UK economy by 2050. In November, the UK will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP26) in Glasgow, where heads of state, climate experts and campaigners will come together to agree coordinated action to tackle climate change.

The legal commitment to delivering net zero emissions by 2050 and ambitions for a green recovery not only requires policies to drive low carbon economic activity, but also investment in human capital and skills. The low carbon economy is predicted to grow four times faster than the rest of the economy over this decade[[2]](#footnote-2) and the transition to this green economy provides a real opportunity for driving the economic recovery from the COVID-19 crisis in the North of Tyne region.

# Green Growth Skills

It is widely acknowledged that the green economy has a huge, long term potential in terms of both environmental stability and financial growth. It is equally acknowledged that seizing these opportunities will present challenges during the transition phase to the government, businesses and all in the UK. One of these challenges is ensuring there is a workforce with the right skills so that business is in the strongest position possible to take advantage of opportunities in the future.

Sectors will see a change in the profile of skills required and a significant potential to deliver new jobs, revised job roles/functions and upskilling of the existing workforce. Research by the Local Government Association has shown that in our region, where many workers are specialists in power generation, storage and low carbon technology and processes, the wind, nuclear, hydrogen and carbon capture and storage industries could create over 84,000 potential jobs by 2050[[3]](#footnote-3). There is also huge potential for job creation through the low carbon transition in other sectors of the economy including buildings, energy, manufacturing, transport and digital.

These jobs will require a diverse range of skills and expertise to support the production and deployment of clean technologies. Some of these jobs could involve installing heat pumps, manufacturing wind turbines, engineers with renewable energy skills and installers of electric vehicle (EV) charge points.

Skills gaps are already recognized as a major bottleneck in a number of sectors, such as renewable energy, energy and resource efficiency, renovation of buildings, construction, environmental services and manufacturing. The demand for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) skills in low carbon and environmental industries is expected to increase greatly over the next decade. In addition, low carbon and environmental sectors will have to compete for these STEM skills with other industries and this will exacerbate the issue.

A skilled workforce is necessary if we are fully to realise the opportunities a green economy offers and to support green growth. Clearly this means a focus on skills in environmental and low carbon industries, but that alone is not sufficient. A traditional manufacturing business for example must also be planning the processes and the skills it needs for operating in a more resource-efficient way, minimising carbon emissions and preparing for climate change. In fact, any business today – from a Small Medium Enterprise (SME) to a large business should be thinking about the generic skills required to use resources efficiently and sustainably as well as what innovations, working practices and processes can be adopted to help green the business.

Developing the skills to support these sectors will require close collaboration between businesses at the forefront of low carbon developments and education and training providers. Such collaboration will ensure that a ‘green curriculum offer’ is designed and aligned to regional specialisms and identified need, and that the delivery capability and capacity exist.

# A Just Transition

A ‘just transition’ is rapidly emerging as an essential element in the successful transition to a resilient zero-carbon economy. The need for a just transition emerged from the recognition that jobs in carbon intensive sectors may be at risk from the transition to a low carbon economy.

As we look to transition to net zero, more workers, particularly in energy-intensive industries, may be vulnerable to the transition. Where workplaces can be decarbonised, retooled, and transitioned, the negative impacts on working people and local communities can be reduced, existing skills can be maintained and enhanced, and local economies can adapt most rapidly to the net zero transition.

From a skills perspective, this means that no worker should be left behind, employers and skills providers should work together to ensure that provision is available to meet the challenge of the transition to net zero. This includes being responsive to local demand and supporting workers in high carbon sectors to take opportunities in the green economy.

# Call Details: Overarching Principles

This funding call presents an opportunity for a range of organisations and partnerships to come forward with ideas for projects, collaborations and proposals for co-investment in skills interventions that recognise the economic growth opportunity arising from the transition away from carbon intensive processes, the need for a just transition, and the focus needed on skills to support green and decent jobs.

The overarching principles for this call are that proposals submitted should be:

* Evidence led and clearly demonstrate need, complementarity to existing support/investment, and strong strategic fit with local and national policy objectives related to green growth.
* Linked to the inward investment and job opportunities in the NTCA region. We aim to invest in skills and training projects that are designed in collaboration with project developers and existing local firms operating in our region.
* Collaborative, partnership based and, where possible, employer led or backed. This might, for example, include formalised consortia approaches where appropriate.

* Promoting just transition and equality of access to green careers and professions with regard to creating opportunities for the unemployed and/or upskilling of the existing workforce.
* Providing skills/training in areas for which there is anticipated demand. The transition to net zero requires forward planning by employers and skills providers, so that there is a clear picture of anticipated demand, and that skills are developed in time for their application.
* Ensuring green jobs are open to all, promoting diversity and addressing economic inclusion issues. Proposals should tackle barriers to retraining and upskilling so that no worker is left behind by the transition to net zero.
* Adding value to a wide range of other support and not duplicating existing activity. Levering other funding where possible.
* Consistent with wider NTCA values, including around a Social and inclusive economy and sustainability objectives.

**Note:** **For further detail on the funding parameters please refer to Annex A.**

# Funding priorities

We are interested in proposals for innovative projects that equip people with the skills they need to capitalise on inward investment opportunities in our area and to support the skills needs of an increasingly green economy.  (Key Sectors for this funding opportunity are detailed in Annex B of this document).

This funding will support skills/training activity that is explicitly **employer-led** and co-invested in by businesses. We are seeking innovation in provision; this could include non-accredited training and support and/or accredited programmes to address the high-level and technical skills needs of the key sectors.

Any proposals submitted should clearly contribute to one or more of the following:

* **Secure better outcomes for young people**

We would welcome proposals that target young people without formal qualifications who are over-represented in low paid, low quality jobs. There is a huge opportunity to break this cycle by supporting more young people to train for a green career through projects that support young people to gain valuable technical skills and on the job training which provide entry to green jobs in our area.

Consideration will be given to proposals that are co-designed with employers at the helm to provide local training academies with insight into the new demands for novel skills and the evolving skills gap in important sectors such as offshore wind and retrofit.

* **Investment in skills to support the local economy**

We would welcome innovative proposals that demonstrate collaboration between employers and skills providers to address skills shortages in the Low Carbon and Renewable Energy Economy in our region.

Projects may support retraining, upskilling or reskilling members of the workforce to meet the needs of a local employer or sector. Developing curricula to reinforce both specialist and transferable skills, aligned with existing training systems and capacities.

Provision may also be designed to address future and current skills gaps, providing the skills, knowledge, and behaviours required for people to move into green jobs.

* **Help people progress into work**

NTCA is interested in skills and training proposals that maximise opportunities for unemployed residents to access the growing proportion of ‘green jobs’ across our region. Projects targeting people who have been unemployed for three or more months, building on unemployment schemes to help more people into ‘green’ jobs.

We welcome proposals tackling the barriers which stop women and other underrepresented groups from accessing green jobs.

**Note:** There are many definitions of a ‘green job’, for the purpose of this funding call NTCA uses the definition outlined in the [Green Jobs Taskforce Report](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1003570/gjtf-report.pdf)*. ‘A ‘green job’ is used to signify employment in an activity that directly contributes to - or indirectly supports - the achievement of the UK's net zero emissions target and other environmental goals, such as nature restoration and mitigation against climate risks’.*

# Outcomes

The following are examples of **outcomes** that the NTCA expects as a result of activity funded through this call:

* The primary intent of the investment will be to directly support skills and training provision related to the Green Economy for residents of North of Tyne – therefore significant outcomes in relation to skills and employment gained (or safeguarded or progression secured) are expected.
* A small proportion of activity (~<20%) could relate to improvements in the responsiveness or quality of the skills system in North of Tyne to the Green Economy. Therefore, have limited direct outputs using NTCA standard definitions. Should business cases for this type of activity come forward they will be expected to clearly articulate their rationale, impact, and value for money.

# Outputs

Proposals should deliver against several of the following NTCA Outputs and performance Indicators[[4]](#footnote-4):

* 007 – Number of residents Supported
* 008 – Participants in Education/Training upon leaving
* 009 – Participants in employment/self-employment upon leaving
* 012 – Participants gaining level 3 qualification and above
* 015 – Number of apprenticeship/traineeship opportunities achieved
* 003 – Direct Jobs Safeguarded

# Submission of Proposals

First stage Expression of Interest application forms for this funding opportunity are available by emailing [Skillsforgrowth@northoftyne-ca.gov.uk](mailto:Skillsforgrowth@northoftyne-ca.gov.uk)

Queries from applicants should be sent to [Skillsforgrowth@northoftyne-ca.gov.uk](mailto:Skillsforgrowth@northoftyne-ca.gov.uk). Applicants should be aware that queries may be anonymised and responded to publicly through a Q&A Log on the NTCA website.

Please consider the following strategic documents that may help you with your application.

* [North of Tyne Corporate Plan 2021-2022 - 'Jobs, Skills and A Post-COVID Economy'](https://www.northoftyne-ca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Jobs-skills-and-a-post-covid-economy-Corporate-Plan-2021-2022.pdf)
* [NTCA Inclusive Economy Policy Statement June 2021](https://www.northoftyne-ca.gov.uk/documents/ie-policy-statement-june-2021/)
* [NTCA’s Strategic Skills Plan and Adult Education Budget funded activities](https://www.northoftyne-ca.gov.uk/projects/adult-education-budget-devolution/)

Completed applications should be sent to [Skillsforgrowth@northoftyne-ca.gov.uk](mailto:Skillsforgrowth@northoftyne-ca.gov.uk) by Friday 5th November 2021. Before doing so, please ensure that you have followed the guidance, completed all questions and entered an electronic signature.

# Assessment & Selection Process

This funding opportunity will be developed through a two-stage process. First Stage Expression of Interest and Second Stage Full Business Case.

**First stage Expressions of Interest** should be submitted on the form provided and will be scored against the following criteria. Applicants should note that, in line with the overarching principles of the call, strategic fit and delivery of desired outcomes criteria are **pass/fail**.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Consideration** | **Available marks** |
| **Strategic Fit** | * The proposed fit with NTCA Corporate Plan, Inclusive Economy Statement and call focus area. * The proposal is effective and will lead to innovation in the Green Economy; and * The proposal is developed in adherence with the overarching principles for the call and where appropriate evidence is provided in relation to stakeholder support, value added, etc. | **Pass (10-15) or Fail** |
| **Delivery of desired outcomes** | * Demonstration of clear knowledge of the Low Carbon and Renewable Energy Economy in the NTCA area; and * Clear alignment of proposals with the overarching principles and funding priorities set out in the call definition document. | **Pass (7-15) or Fail** |
| **Value for Money** | * The value for money associated with proposals. | 5 |
| **Intensity of Grant Request** | * The overall proportion of funding requested from the NTCA as a proportion of total eligible project costs (intensity of grant request) will be assessed. * Projects requesting a lower proportion of funding from the NTCA will score more highly. | 5 |
| **Status of Match Funding** | * The degree to which match funding that is confirmed will be assessed. * Applicants must carefully consider the status of match funding and intensity | 5 |
| **Subsidy Control Risk** | * Subsidy Control risk will be established through an assessment of the applicant’s understanding of the relevant Subsidy Control principles and solutions and the degree to which they have taken and provided evidence of appropriate legal advice. | 5 |
| **Deliverability risk** | * Robust assessment of deliverability, capacity and risks. Clear explanation of delivery routes, timeframes, and key milestones. * Evidence of partnership strength, commitment (as appropriate) and strategic backing. | 15 |
| **Inclusive Economy Fit** | * Robust assessment of the inclusive economy implications of proposals and the ability of the project to make a proactive and targeted impact on the inclusive economy ambitions of the NTCA and to have a positive impact on residents. | 10 |
| Marks Available | | 75 |

Project proposals will be scored against the selection criteria in this document. Scoring will be undertaken by a panel made up of Officers of the NTCA and other relevant external members. Clarifications may be sought by NTCA throughout the assessment process.

Strategic fit and Delivery of Desired Outcomes are Pass/Fail, as indicated in the scoring guidance and matrix.

**NOTE:** a detailed scoring Matrix is provided at Annex C.

**Stage 2 – Full Business Case**

Following this, project proposals that pass both pass/fail criteria and have a scored a minimum of 45 points out of 75 will be considered by the NTCA Investment Panel. If the combined value of projects meeting this threshold exceeds the funding available, the NTCA Investment Panel will have sole discretion to decide which proposals are invited to submit a Full Business Case. Acceptance of a project proposal to progress to full business case stage does not in any way indicate or constitute an offer of grant from NTCA.

Each Full Business Case submitted following a successful first stage Expression of Interest will be processed in line with the NTCA’s Assurance Framework and will be appraised against the HM Treasury ‘five case’ model and NTCA’s additional Inclusive Economy Case prior to being considered for approval by NTCA’s Technical Officers Group and Investment Panel and NTCA Cabinet.

Projects which fail to secure support at the Full Business Case stage will be considered as a part of NTCA’s longer-term pipeline in preparation for other sources of funding.

NTCA may enter into dialogue with applicants and seek clarification at any point in the application process. This may result in revisions to propositions between the first stage expression of interest and the Full Application and potentially lead to proposals being changed, withdrawn, or combined with the of proposals submitted by other applicants in a new partnership arrangement.

# Subsidy Control

Following the UK’s departure from the European Union on 31st December 2020, a new subsidy control regime is now in place. As such, NTCA require all applicants for funding to seek advice setting out how projects are compliant with the new UK Subsidy regime. The application includes a specific section for applicants to respond. This is a requirement under the new regime, as set out in the BEIS Technical Guidance (which can be accessed here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/complying-with-the-uks-international-obligations-on-subsidy-control-guidance-for-public-authorities/technical-guidance-on-the-uks-international-subsidy-control-commitments-from-1-january-2021>).

Please note the advice should cover both receipt of the Funding from NTCA and the subsequent transfer of that Funding to third parties.

To comply with new subsidy control regulations, all awards that are considered ‘subsidies’, and with a value of over £300,000, will be published on the new BEIS transparency database. All awards will be monitored for their ongoing compliance with subsidy control rules.

# Other information

**Fraud, Liability and Payment Terms**

NTCA will take swift action against any recipients who have deliberately manipulated records or have committed fraud. Any beneficiaries caught falsifying their records to gain grant funding will face prosecution and any funding or grants paid in error will be subject to claw back.

NTCA does not accept any liability for any issues that may arise for applicants under this scheme, whether they are successful or not.

Following a grant award, the applicant will be required to submit claims to draw down the grant. Only claims which can demonstrate evidence of expenditure will be eligible for payment. Payments will be made directly to the applicant’s bank account by electronic transfer, normally within 5 working days of a claim being accepted. Grant awards will be subject to the availability of funds. There will be no appeals process following determination. Beneficiaries will receive written confirmation stating that by accepting the grant payment, they confirm that they are eligible for the grant scheme, and that any payments accepted will be subject to state aid requirements.

# Annex A - Funding Parameters

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Funding Priorities** | We are interested in proposals for innovative projects that equip people with the skills they need to capitalise on inward investment opportunities in our area and to support the skills needs of an increasingly green economy.  (See Section 7 of this call document) |
| **Focus** | This funding will support skills/training activity that is explicitly **employer-led** and co-invested in by businesses. We are seeking innovation in provision; this could include non-accredited training and support and/or accredited programmes to address the high-level and technical skills needs of the key sectors. |
| **Geographical Scope** | All interventions should be focused on activity within the North of Tyne Combined Authority area. |
| **Dates & Deadlines** | The first stage Expression of Interest (EOI) will open week commencing (13/09/21). EOI’s will be accepted up to the closing date of (05/11/21).  EOI’s received after closing date will not be considered. |
| **Indicative Fund Allocation:** | NTCA has agreed an indicative budget of £2m from its Investment Fund to support Green Growth Skills  NTCA intends to select multiple projects though may not allocate all of the available funding though this call. The total funding available is inclusive of any fund administration costs which should be costed into the overall programme budget at a flat rate of 15%.  NTCA reserves the right to decrease or increase the indicative budget allocation or support more or fewer proposals, subject to the volume and quality of proposals received. NTCA does not provide any guarantees of funding and all proposals developed are at the applicant’s own risk. |
| **Minimum Application Values and project durations** | The minimum project value for this call is £400,000.  All activity and spend must up to 3 years in length from the date of commencement. |
| **Eligible match funding** | Proposals will be expected to demonstrate how they will maximise value for money and leverage against NTCA investment. This includes demonstrating that the funding requested is the minimum required; and that opportunities for match funding have been maximised including though public and private sources. |
| **Added Value** | Applicants are expected to submit proposals which demonstrate impact and additionality. NTCA funding is not intended to replace existing funding. |
| **Application selection** | Applications for will be scored in line with the NTCA assessment criteria set out in section 5 and Annex C. |
| **Procurement** | All procurement must be undertaken in line with UK regulations or where European Funding is included European and UK Regulations. |
| **Eligible Applicants** | Applicants must be legally constituted at the point of signing a Funding Agreement and be able to enter into a legally binding Funding Agreement. The Applicant will be the organisation that, if the application is successful, enters a contract with the NTCA and therefore carries the liability for ensuring that the terms of the Funding Agreement are met by them and to all delivery partners. |
| **Desired Impact** | The primary intent of the investment will be to directly fund skills & training for residents of North of Tyne – therefore significant outcomes in relation to skills and employment gained (or safeguarded or progression secured) are expected. |

Annex B - Key sectors for this funding opportunity **include (but are not limited to):**

|  |
| --- |
| **Energy** - including renewables (such as wind, solar and hydropower), grid infrastructure, energy storage and smart systems technology.  NTCA identifies energy as a sectoral strength for the North of Tyne area, with significant energy technology and low-carbon expertise centred around the Tyne North Bank and Blyth sites. The North of Tyne area is strategically located to benefit from offshore wind turbine installation at Dogger Bank and the region benefits from a rich mix of local enterprises and global organisations across many stages of the supply chain.  The continued development of the sector will require a broad range of skills, including asset management, project management, engineering and technical skills. Many of these skill gaps could be covered by workers currently in the oil and gas sector, given the transferability of their skills to offshore wind. |
| **Homes and buildings** – including retrofit, building new energy-efficient homes, heat pumps, smart devices and controls, heat networks and hydrogen boilers.  In the North of Tyne area, over 40% of domestic properties do not meet the standard of energy efficiency recommended for all homes by 2030, less than 1% of homes have installed low carbon heating systems and fewer than 4% of homes have installed solar PV. Improving the energy efficiency of buildings is vital to meeting climate change obligations, eradicating fuel poverty, and lowering energy bills.  UK-wide the buildings retrofit sector is expected to grow in the short to medium term. To meet net zero, most buildings in the UK must be retrofitted in the next three decades. Currently, there is a critical shortage of retrofit designers and co-ordinators, coupled with education and training being mostly focussed on new build using traditional onsite techniques, and insufficient emphasis on low carbon systems.  A similar transformation is expected in heating and cooling. At present, approximately 85% of heating in the UK is from natural gas, with about 26 million domestic boilers currently in place. To respond to a growing consumer demand for greener solutions, the majority of the current heating system installers will need to upskill to be able to install heat pumps. |
| **Transport** – including low or zero emission vehicles, rail, public transport and walking or cycling.  Reducing carbon emissions in the transport network provides significant opportunities for jobs growth – with opportunities for associated business expansion and innovation development. This could include supporting the growth of electric vehicles (EV) manufacturing, including components and batteries. There are already significant EV capabilities in the North of Tyne and a strong supply chain linked to wider North East capabilities.  The government has announced the end of the sale of new petrol and diesel cars and vans in the UK by 2030, and all new cars and vans must be zero emissions from 2035. To achieve this and enable the transition to electric vehicles (EVs), there are gaps in the automotive sector workforce that will need to be overcome at a relatively fast pace, with a focus on retraining and upskilling of the current workers, and a push in new recruitment. |
| **Enabling decarbonisation** – including science and innovation for climate change, green finance, circular economy, and energy networks.  Investing in decarbonisation improves the bottom line and protects companies from rising energy costs, including carbon taxes. As we look to transition to net zero, more workers, particularly in energy-intensive industries, may be vulnerable to the transition. Where workplaces can be decarbonised, retooled, and transitioned, the negative impacts on working people and local communities can be reduced, existing skills can be maintained and enhanced, and local economies can adapt most rapidly to the net zero transition |
| **Natural resources** – including nature restoration, tree planting and decarbonising agriculture, waste management and recycling.  Afforestation, reforestation and other land-management practices such as peatland restoration, absorb carbon from the atmosphere and are therefore critical in the scenario to reaching net zero by 2050. The forestry sector is also a regional asset that can deliver not only substantial carbon reductions but also sustainable economic development. |

# Annex C – Detailed Scoring Criteria

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Assessment of Project** | | | | | | | |
| **Strategic fit**  Fit with NTCA Corporate Plan, Inclusive Economy Statement and call focus area.  The proposal is effective and will lead to innovation in the Green Economy; and  The proposal is developed in adherence with the overarching principles for the call and where appropriate evidence is provided in relation to stakeholder support, value added, etc. | **[PASS]:**  **15-13** | **[PASS]: 12-10** | **[FAIL]:**  **9-7** | **[FAIL]:**  **6-4** | **[FAIL]:**  **3-1** | **[FAIL]:**  **0** | Pass (10-15) or Fail (0-9) |
| Very strong fit and strong evidence of need and rationale for intervention |  | Moderate fit with limited evidence of need or rationale for intervention |  | Low fit with poor evidence of need and rationale for the intervention. | No fit with no evidence of need or rationale. |
| **Delivery of desired outcomes**  Demonstration of clear knowledge of the Low Carbon and Renewable Energy Economy in the NTCA area; and  Clear alignment of proposals with the overarching principles and funding priorities set out in the call definition document. | **[PASS]:**  **15-13** | **[PASS]:**  **12-10** | **[PASS]:**  **9-7** | **[FAIL]:**  **6-4** | **[FAIL]:**  **3-1** | **[FAIL]:**  **0** | Pass (15-7) or Fail (0-6) |
| Very likely to deliver exceptional and relevant outcomes |  | Likely to deliver a reasonable level of relevant outcomes |  | Likely to provide limited outcomes | Unlikely to meet any of defined outcomes |
| **Value for Money** | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| Exceptional value for money | potentially very good value for money | represents reasonable value for money | 4-3 | Offers less favourable value for money. | Unlikely to offer any value for money. |
| **Intensity of grant request** (% of total funding requested from NTCA) | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| 1-20% | 21-40% | 41- 60% | 61-70% | 71-80% | 80-100% |
| **Status of the match funding** | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| Fully confirmed |  | Most match funding in place |  | Little match funding in place | No source of match funding identified |
| **Subsidy Control Risk** | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 5 |
| Independent legal opinion supports compliant route or confirm no Subsidy. | Applicant identifies a compliant Subsidy route. | Relevant Subsidy Control issues understood and clarified | Relevant Subsidy Control issues understood but currently unable to be clarified | No appropriate consideration of Subsidy Control provided | Request not compliant with UK Subsidy Control. |
| **Deliverability Risk**  Clear explanation of delivery routes, timeframes, and key milestones.  Evidence of partnership strength, commitment (as appropriate) and strategic backing. | 15-13 | 12-10 | 9-7 | 6-4 | 3-1 | 0 | 15 |
| Considered to be have a high chance of success & completion by the timescales indicated - risks well managed.  Likely to have a significant and immediate impact. |  | Moderately likely to succeed and be delivered by the timescales indicated, some risks with strategies to mitigate in place. |  | Management and delivery arrangements considered to be weak. High risk of failure with limited mitigation considered.  Impact unlikely to be significant or speed of delivery slow. | Considered to have a very low likelihood of successful completion by the timescales indicated / multiple high-level risks with no clear management |
| **Inclusive Economy fit**  The ability of the project to make a proactive and targeted impact on the inclusive economy ambitions of the NTCA and to have a positive impact on residents. | 10-9 | 8-7 | 6-5 | 4-3 | 2-1 | 0 | 10 |
| Very strong fit |  | Moderate fit |  | Low fit | No fit |
|  | | | | | | Score | /75 |

1. [Skills for a Green Economy (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/32373/11-1315-skills-for-a-green-economy.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (October 2017) Clean Growth Strategy [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Local Government Association (June 2020) Local green jobs – accelerating a sustainable economic recovery [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://www.northoftyne-ca.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/North-of-Tyne-Combined-Authority-Outputs-Guidance.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)