



Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

**Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local
Government**

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8 May 2018

Dear John,

HIF/FF/67 Aylesbury Garden Town Growth Enabling Infrastructure Programme

Following the recent Housing Infrastructure Fund announcement of the 45 places progressing to the next stage of the Forward Funding process, we are writing to provide further information on co-development and set out next steps.

Timeline

Co-development will take place over an 11-month period from May 2018 to March 2019, but we recognise that not all projects will require the full amount of time to be ready to submit a business case. We have therefore allocated three submission deadlines to give you the flexibility to submit your business case when you are ready. These deadlines are:

- 10 September 2018 – funding decisions expected from Nov 2018
- 3 December 2018 – funding decisions expected from Feb 2019
- 1 March 2019 – funding decisions expected from May 2019

You will be able to submit your business case at any time during the process, but in the early stages of co-development, we will discuss which deadline you are aiming to meet. Please note that funding will be available at each of the three assessment points with no advantage given to those who choose to submit a business case by the first deadline. We will ensure that longer-term strategic projects submitting their business cases later in the process will have the same level of opportunity as those which are ready to go sooner.

Co-development support

Through co-development we will support and challenge you to develop your project and business case. Our support may include:

- Providing access to specialist advice to help develop your project
- Providing guidance on completing the business case
- Providing support to produce the economic and financial cases

Co-development support will be allocated proportionately based on the ambition, scale and complexity of projects.

Participating in co-development does not guarantee HIF funding and any decision is subject to the assessment of the business case and Ministerial decision.

During co-development, we may decide to withdraw support if a project no longer meets the criteria of HIF (as detailed in the prospectus and supporting documents) or is deemed undeliverable within the spending window of HIF. Local authorities who still wish to submit their business case can do so at their own risk.

Business case questions

The structure of the business case submission will be similar to that of the initial Expression of Interest form. You will be asked to respond to a number of questions, based on HMG's Five Case Model. Your business case will be submitted via the Homes England portal. We will be sending you a copy of the business case questions in the coming days so you can proceed with the work to develop your project.

Process / next steps

To help us determine how we can best support you through co-development, we would like to meet with you to discuss your project. We will be writing to you in the next few months to arrange this meeting and to set out some areas for discussion on the basis of the information you provided at EOI.

This meeting is intended to discuss what is required to enable your project to submit a business case. Once this is known, and a business case submission deadline agreed, a support plan from HMG can be established.

During co-development, Homes England will be your primary point of contact and will coordinate any specialist support allocated to your project. Accordingly, you will be allocated a Homes England lead contact.

Finally, if you have not already responded to our request for any transport modelling or WebTAG analysis undertaken to date, please do so as soon as possible.

We look forward to working with you in co-development.

Kind regards,

The HIF team