

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ESIF

Sajeeda Rose,
Chief Operating Officer, NEP

Strategic Economic Plan

To increase the prosperity of Northamptonshire's people and businesses by creating high skilled employment opportunities within the most connected, safe and vibrant place to live, work and do business.

ESIF: Focus

- **Innovation**
- **SME Competitiveness**
- **Skills and Training**

Northamptonshire ESIF Programme

Strand	Allocation
ERDF	£23 M
ESF	£23 M
EAFRD	£2.2M
TOTAL	£48.2 M

ESIF Targets

ERDF Specific

- 1,200 enterprises supported
- 640 new enterprises supported
- 1,394 jobs created

ESF Specific

- 5,112 unemployed people supported
- 5,785 inactive people supported
- 4,742 employed people trained
- 1,428 young people trained

Northamptonshire ERDF

	Activity	Total allocation £m	Allocation to 2018 £m
ERDF			
TO1:Innovation	Northamptonshire Innovation Programme	4.9	2.5
TO2:ICT	SME Digital Improvement	1.5	0.75
TO3:SME Competitiveness	TOTAL	12.0	4.0
	SME Competitiveness	5.0	2.5
	International Trade	1.0	0.5
	High Growth	1.0	0.5
	Manufacturing Growth	1.0	0.5
	Access to Finance Fund	4.0	N/A
TO4:Low Carbon	TOTAL	4.6	2.3
	SME Resource Efficiency	1.6	0.8
	Low Carbon and Energy Revolving Fund	3.0	1.5
ERDF total		23.0	11.5

PA 1 - Innovation

ERDF Operational Programme Priorities

- **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 1.1:** Increase investment in research and innovation by small and medium enterprises, particularly in sectors and technologies identified through smart specialisation
- **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 1.2:** Increase the number of SMEs engaged in knowledge exchange, collaborative and contract research and innovation with research institutions, public institutions or large enterprises in order to help bring new products and processes to market

PA 1 Innovation – Northamptonshire ESIF Priorities

Local ESIF Priorities:

- Support for **smart specialisation collaborative research** between enterprises, universities/research institutions, and public institutions across a pan LEP geography
- Support for the **commercialisation and enterprise** of new products and business processes

Innovation – Northamptonshire ESIF Priorities

The key aims and objectives:

- Facilitating businesses to shift into higher value activities through increasing innovation and better use of ICT with greater foresight and leadership and more effective exploitation of Intellectual Property
- Extending the market reach of businesses so they can improve their competitive edge outside of the county through better management, commitment to innovation and increased focus on international trade
- Improving access to the Pan LEP R&D base and Higher Education Institutions to ensure a strong supply of higher value commercially viable ideas leading to new products, new processes and new customers and markets

PA 2 - ICT

ERDF Operational Programme Priorities

The Digital Agenda for Europe includes the following goals:

- The entire EU to be covered by broadband above 30 Mbps by 2020
- 50 % of the EU to subscribe to broadband above 100 Mbps by 2020

The support provided through this specific objective will improve ICT connections, so they are no longer a barrier to growth for businesses and will help them to improve their productivity, growth and create jobs, in turn increasing the percentage of businesses which use superfast broadband.

ICT - Northamptonshire ESIF Priorities

- Encourage SMEs to take up the opportunities and exploitation for commercialisation of ICT.
- Provide intensive support to target those individuals and businesses that either live or trade within Northamptonshire.

PA 3 – SME Competitiveness

ERDF Operational Programme Priorities:

Investment priority 3a -Promoting entrepreneurship, in particular by facilitating the economic exploitation of new ideas and fostering the creation of new firms, including through business incubators.

Specific objective: Increase entrepreneurship, particularly in areas with low levels of enterprise activity and amongst under-represented groups

Investment priority 3c - Supporting the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development.

Specific objective: Increase the growth capacity of SMEs

Investment priority: 3d - Supporting the capacity of small and medium sized enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes

Specific objective: Increase growth capability of SMEs

SME Competitiveness – Northamptonshire ESIF Objectives

- To increase GVA and employment through the provision of tailored and highly targeted support to businesses and supply chains. Involving supporting activity to increase market share, extend customer base beyond Northamptonshire (especially internationally) and strengthen competitive position.
- To increase GVA and employment by developing new high value enterprises through the provision of a range of interventions for high value start-ups to establish and grow.

SME Competitiveness –

Specific ESIF Investment Priorities

- Targeted Entrepreneurship Programme to support new start ups
- Extension of support for established companies through the Northamptonshire Growth Hub;
- Sector specific support to address barriers to growth for priority sectors – HPT, Logistics, Food & Drink, Creative and Cultural Industries

SME Manufacturing Growth

ERDF Operational Programme Priorities

3c) supporting the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development

3d) Supporting the capacity of small and medium sized enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes

Local ESIF Priorities:

- **Smart Specialisation** - focussing pro-active public investment on key SME market segments
- **Stimulating and supporting SME manufacturers to innovate** more effectively to improve competitiveness and drive business growth
- **Facilitating more growth support for Rurally based manufacturing businesses**
- **Supporting SME manufacturers to grow**, create jobs/GVA and expand into larger premises within the LEP area

ERDF Operational Programme Priorities

3c) supporting the creation and the extension of advanced capacities for products, services and development

3d) Supporting the capacity of small and medium sized enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes

Local ESIF Priorities:

- Raise awareness of growth opportunities within target sectors
- Identify and target growth potential companies
- Intensive Growth Coaching for growth potential companies

International Trade

ERDF Operational Programme Priorities

3d) Supporting the capacity of small and medium sized enterprises to grow in regional, national and international markets and to engage in innovation processes

Specific Local ESIF Priorities:

- **Stimulation activity:** business engagement activity targeting companies that could but currently don't export stimulating them to consider and pursue an internationalisation strategy as a mechanism for growth.
- **Early Stage Coaching:** provision of intensive support to work with early stage companies supporting them with 'export readiness'
- **Additional advisory resource** specialising in key sectors that are important to the local economy

PA 4 – Low Carbon

- **Investment priority 4a:** Promoting the production and distribution of energy derived from renewable sources.
- **Investment priority 4b:** Promoting energy efficiency and renewable energy use in enterprises
- **Investment Priority 4c:** Supporting energy efficiency, smart energy management and renewable energy use in public infrastructure, including in public buildings, and in the housing sector.
- **Investment Priority 4e:** Promoting low-carbon strategies for all types of territories, in particular for urban areas, including the promotion of sustainable multimodal urban mobility and mitigation-relevant adaptation measures
- **Investment Priority 4f:** Promoting research and innovation in, and adoption of, low-carbon technologies

PA4- Northamptonshire ESIF Priorities

- Voucher schemes to support SMEs to research and implement practical resource use planning/energy efficiency improvements.
- Energy efficiency in enterprises including industrial processes, designing out waste, recovery of 'waste' heat energy and CHP.
- Helping SMEs to move to renewable and low carbon fuels to generate heat and power.
- Structural retrofit for energy efficiency of commercial buildings
- For non-domestic retrofit, demonstrator projects for whole building solutions exemplifying technologies which are near-to-market