

HERTFORDSHIRE WORKS PARTNERSHIP – PERFORMANCE REWARD GRANT

BIDDING OPPORTUNITY FOR £500,000 CAPITAL FUNDING

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST DEADLINE 27TH NOVEMBER 2009

This is to inform all Hertfordshire District Councils and District LSPs about an opportunity to bid for up to £500,000 capital to support local shopping centres.

Part of the Performance Reward Grant (PRG) to be received by Hertfordshire Forward for success in achieving a number of LAA1 targets has been allocated to the new economic partnership, Hertfordshire Works for a 'Recession to Recovery' programme.

Within this programme, Hertfordshire Works has been allocated £500,000 capital funding for a 'local shopping centres improvement fund'. This will be administered by the Partnerships' Vibrant Towns Group,

Within the criteria set down by Hertfordshire Forward, the Group has developed a two-stage bidding process comprising (1) expressions of interest and (2) full bids. Invitations to submit Expressions of Interest will be invited shortly and will be accompanied by an explanatory note. In order that District Councils and LSPs may start to develop their proposals, the main criteria are as follows

- £500K capital funding is available for innovative projects that will improve the vibrancy and vitality of Hertfordshire town centres and local shopping parades, increase footfall and reduce vandalism and crime. This funding seeks to encourage innovative solutions to the problems affecting town and local centres, not to replace mainstream funding;
- Applications must be submitted by district councils and they will be responsible for ensuring that successful schemes are implemented;
- District councils are encouraged to work in partnership with town and parish councils, local traders, town centre managers and VCS organisations where appropriate. Joint bids are also welcome from two or more districts. Any funding allocated must be spent by 31.03.2011
- There is no set limit on the amount of money that individual projects can bid for up to the £500,000 maximum. However match funding will be expected to be identified.
- Bids will be assessed on the following criteria: Innovation, Additionality, Partnership Working, Match Funding and Deliverability.
- Expressions of Interest and final bids will be judged by a panel including practitioners from outside Hertfordshire and HCC;
- The deadline for expressions of interest is 27th November 2009 and forms will be sent out w/b 19th October 2009;
- Successful bidders will be expected to comply with HCC financial and auditing requirements. Bids will be signed off by Jan Hayes-Griffin on behalf of Hertfordshire Works and may be reported to the Hertfordshire Works Board for consideration and approval.

For further information please contact [REDACTED] or David Hughes ([REDACTED])