

Consultation on the Marches LEP European Structural and Investment Funds Strategy 2014 – 2020: Five Strategic Priorities.

Consultation Response Form.

The responses to the consultation questions set out below will play an important part in the preparation of the Final Strategy, which will be submitted to Government on 31 January 2014.

The LEP will hold a series of stakeholder workshops following the submission of the final strategy, to develop the strategic activities in more detail.

Your name: Karen Calder – Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board

Organisation: Health and Wellbeing Board

Position in organisation: Chair

Email/telephone number: Karen.calder@shropshire.gov.uk/ penny.bason@shropshire.gov.uk

Your address: 5th Floor, Shirehall, Shrewsbury, SY26ND

As agreed with Gary Spence we are submitting this response from the Health and Wellbeing Board on Friday, 24th January, 2014

Our Contact Details

Please send your completed Consultation Response Form to:

Gary Spence
Priority 5 Technical Assistance Officer
Marches LEP
Shropshire Council
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
SY2 6ND

Alternatively please return your completed Consultation Response Form by email to:
gary.spence@shropshire.gov.uk

Responses are sought by **12 noon Wednesday 22 January 2014**. We regret that late responses cannot be considered.

If you have any queries, please contact Gary Spence on 01743 252271.

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Consultation Response Form

The following questions are designed to help structure the responses to this Consultation Document.

Five Strategic Priorities - Overview

1. Are the five Strategic Activities clearly explained?

Yes

No

Please add in any reasons for your response in the box below:

Supporting Business

Physical Infrastructure

Skills Enhancement

New Business Investment

Low Carbon Economy

2. Do you think the five Strategic Activities will help to deliver the vision of the Marches LEP?

Yes

No

Please add in any reasons for your response in the box below:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is supportive of the five strategic activities in the main, however below we have indicated areas where we feel there could be improvement.

THE STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES

Strategic Activity 1: Enhancing Competitiveness, Research and Innovation and Enabling Technology

3. Are there any further opportunities that relate to this strategic activity that have not been included?

Yes

No

If so, what are these opportunities and what evidence of need is there to support them?

The Health and Wellbeing Board would like to see more **explicit** information and actions in this strategic activity about:

- Reducing inequalities and fair wages;
- Supporting local community schemes such as bulk buying of fuel, car share schemes and the like
- The development of the range of financial instruments to include the development of community led schemes such as cooperatives and credit unions
- The role of the public sector as market developers, commissioners, and contractors in supporting research, innovation and enabling technology.

Strategic Activity 2: Supporting The Shift Towards A Low Carbon Economy

4. Are there any further opportunities that relate to this strategic activity that have not been included?

Yes

No

If so, what are these opportunities and what evidence of need is there to support them?

The Health and Wellbeing Board supports significant effort to improve our natural environment and supports investment into creating innovative ways to deliver on this priority.

Strategic Activity 3: Supporting The Environment

5. Are there any further opportunities that relate to this strategic activity that have not been included?

Yes

No

If so, what are these opportunities and what evidence of need is there to support them?

The Health and Wellbeing Board are fully supportive of an emphasis on protecting our natural environment to ensure business and economic development but also to ensure that people who live in the Marches can use the natural environment to enhance their mental wellbeing and to maintain or improve an active lifestyle. There is no reference here to supporting the Health of the population and therefore promoting people's ability to work.

Strategic Activity 4: Employment and Skills

6. Are there any further opportunities that relate to this strategic activity that have not been included?

Yes

No

If so, what are these opportunities and what evidence of need is there to support them?

The Health and Wellbeing Board is very supportive of this strategic priority. An access to, and taking up, employment opportunity provides significant health benefits to the population. As such, the Board also believes that the priority should include:

- More emphasis on reducing inequalities and creating fair wages;
- More emphasis on profitable businesses taking a lead role in supporting the communities where they are located. This could include sponsoring local cooperatives/ schemes, offering local access to services/products;
- The public sector must also take a lead role as market creators, commissioners, and contractors to enforce a social value framework within contracting practices. This process will encourage investment in a local workforce;
- More explicit links with regard to the development and access to higher education locally (Shropshire) and jobs and apprenticeships;
- Care Leavers included alongside NEETS as a targeted group (sub priority 4.3).

Strategic Activity 5: Social Inclusion

7. Are there any further opportunities that relate to this strategic activity that have not been included?

Yes

No

If so, what are these opportunities and what evidence of need is there to support them?

The Health and Wellbeing Board are keen to see that all sectors and all people living in the Marches are able to contribute to the social and economic growth and vibrancy of the area. There is an opportunity here for emphasis on a public /private/ community partnership that supports all people to be involved in their community socially and economically. While the strategic activity suggests a partnership approach and lists a number of interventions and proposals, it is not clear on the role of either the private, public and voluntary/ community sectors. More could be done here.

- 8. We have asked a number of specific questions relating to the strategic priorities. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them:**

Responses to consultations may be made public – on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to be kept confidential, please tick here.

THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE