

Resilience & Innovation grant and Growing Innovation fund Frequently Asked Questions

Last Updated 31 August 2023

If a company exceeds the £315,000 subsidy control threshold for GIF will they be rejected? What is the process?

If you exceed the £315,000 subsidy control threshold you will not be rejected at the EOI stage but you will need to indicate that you will seek independent legal advice. If you are invited to complete an application after the EOI submission an Independent Subsidy Control report will need to be submitted at that stage.

Does the match funding need to be ready before an EOI is submitted or at grant application stage.

Match funding needs to be in place before the grant application is submitted as we will need evidence of this.

Can a Sainsbury's grant be used towards match funding?

You will need to submit the funding agreement at grant application stage.

If the grant being used as match funding is not ready in time can alternative funded be used (part way through the application process)?

No match funding needs to be in place and confirmed at the time of grant application.

When applying for a loan to help with match funding, at what stage of the process would it be accepted.

When the funds are in the bank as a loan can be withdrawn before funds are transferred.

Can I submit my EOI by email?

No all EOIs must be submitted via the portal. We would strongly suggest that you do not leave it until the last minute to submit as the portal will cut off at 5.00 pm and no EOIs will be accepted after this time.

If my application is rejected can I appeal?

No the Grant Panel's decision is final. You will be given the reason why your application has not been successful.

Can I submit an EOI to both grant schemes?

No. You can only apply for one grant scheme.

If a company has a global set up can they still apply?

An assessment would be made to check that the company still fell within the scope of an SME (if applying for the Resilience and Innovation grants). For the Growing Innovation Fund grant, applicants do not have to be an SME, but would need to satisfy subsidy control requirements,

Is software classed as capital expenditure?



Software as an item that is integral to the capital item is allowed. All other software projects are not permitted under this scheme.

Can a charity apply even if the grant would contribute to a project that would not generate any revenue?

Charities and social enterprises are welcome to apply. Where an organisation does not generate revenue themselves, they would need to be able to demonstrate an indirect economic benefit. Also consider that creation of jobs would qualify under growth.

Can you use other public funding as UKSPF as match funding?

For the Resilience and Innovation Grant, we expect the match funding to be private sector match. For the Growing Innovation Fund, we expect at least 60% of the match funding to be private sector match.

There may be subsidy control issues if other public funding is used taking a business over the thresholds. Additionally, you must check carefully other funding managing authority rules to ensure they allow the funding to be used as match for other public funds.

What is classed as Private or Public Match funding?

Private match funding funds are defined as any money originating from private enterprises. This could be Trusts, bank loans, etc.

Public match funding funds is from any organisation which directly or indirectly receives over 50% of its core funding from central or local government or levies raised by Industrial Training Organisations (NTO's) for training purposes. These will have their own conditions attached.

Other grant funds are usually not accepted as they have their own specific set of funding criteria and would have been applied for using a specific framework or for a specific project.

Can a business apply for both grant schemes?

No. Only one application to one of the grant schemes is allowed per organisation applying.

Can a business apply more than once?

No. Only one application to one of the grant schemes is allowed per organisation applying.

If you applied for the max on both grants, that would be £350k. But the minimum state aid is £315 - so you would be over?

Businesses cannot apply for both funds.

Will we need to submit quotes when completing an EOI?

No quotes are only required at application stage.

Is there a save button on the EOI?

No you can use MS word and then copy and paste into the form once your responses are finalised.

Is there an option to download the EOI form?

No see the save button answer.

Is the maximum grant £300,000 or is the total project value £300,000?

The maximum grant amount is £300,000 on the Growing Innovation Fund. Therefore, at an expectation of at least 50% match funding from the businesses, it would be anticipated that to apply for a £300,000 grant, the project value would be at least £600,000.

Are associated labour/expense costs for planning, set up, training, travel etc. in scope?

No this is a capital scheme and because it is relatively small grant, capitalisation of these costs would not be eligible.

Is the grant only for the part of the CAPEX that is depreciated over the duration of the funding (from start, until 31/03/25)?

The project the grant is contributing to must be completed by March 2025 which includes all defrayal of funds. It would be expected that capital items purchased may have a lifespan for depreciation which ran beyond March 2025.

Are we able to submit an EOI with attachments?

No. All the information needs to be included in your EOI.

Is there any further information on what CO2 reduction you would accept as appropriate for each £20,000 grant applied for?

No there is no level specified against this as it is a decarbonisation ambition.

Are we able to use hire purchase/asset finance?

We will only be able to pay against the deposit paid e.g. if you pay £10,000 as a deposit you will receive a £5,000 grant.

Are standalone registered businesses able to apply individually if they are under a group holding structure?

Any business in the group can apply as long as the group's total employee and turnover figures fall under the SME definition.