

INVITATION FOR MERSEYTRAVEL TO APPLY FOR FIRST TRANCHE OF TRANSFORMING CITIES FUNDING

August 6 2018

1. The Liverpool City Region has secured £134 million in capital grant from the [Transforming Cities Fund](#) for local transport investment over a 4 year period. The aim of the fund is to support programmes of interlinking interventions which will transform sustainable transport connectivity in key commuter routes in major city regions. The funding forms part of the wider [Strategic Investment Fund](#).

2. The profiling of the funding is as follows:-

Year	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Total
Profile	£10m	£30m	£40m	£54m	£134m

3. On 27 July 2018, the Combined Authority agreed a Transforming Cities Fund [commissioning framework](#) and three related priority themes. These set the parameters of the funding and provide a framework against which schemes will be invited to progress through the established Strategic Investment Fund business case application processes.

4. **The Combined Authority agreed that the commissioning process is commenced, to focus on the first year's funding allocation only. This is to seek to commit and wherever possible, spend the £10 million of funding that is available in 2018/19.**

5. **Merseytravel, on behalf of the Liverpool City Region's local authorities and wider stakeholders is invited to bring forward three schemes and progress to a Strategic Outline Case stage:-**

a) *Funding for the launch of a smart ticketing portal and new ticketing media as a successor to "Walrus";*

b) *Support for a new, low carbon and low emission vessel(s) to replace the ageing Mersey Ferries; and*

c) *Match funding in respect of the priority European Regional Development Fund Sustainable Urban Development (SUD) programme of green travel routes for cyclists*

6. These interventions have been identified as they directly support Mayoral priorities and are in the strongest position to commit funding that is available this financial year.

7. **In addition, £500,000 of development funding is being made available this financial year. This funding will be accessed through the established**

original Single Investment Fund feasibility funding route, subject to this being eligible capital expenditure.

8. The aim of the feasibility fund is to allow Merseytravel, on behalf of the Liverpool City Region, to accelerate scheme development work, such as options testing and outline design work. This is with the aim of bringing candidate schemes that would support the three themes identified, to a better state of readiness, and in a stronger position to be commissioned formally at a future round.
9. All application processes follow the existing established principles set out in the [Single Investment Fund Assurance Framework](#), in terms of the development of a business case that follows WebTAG principles and conforms proportionally to HM Treasury Green Book principles.
10. Please refer to the LCRCA web site for SIF application forms. These will also be required for feasibility fund applications.
11. The ability for any spend to be achieved during the 2017/18 financial year will be extremely limited. However, there will be an expectation that all funds are committed before the end of March 2019, to enable delivery to commence as soon as possible thereafter.
12. **The deadline for the submission of Strategic Outline Case and feasibility fund bids is 12.00 noon on Thursday 1 November 2018.** Submissions before this deadline will be welcomed, wherever possible, in the interests of efficiency.
13. Completed forms should be sent electronically to sif@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk
14. Further Transforming Cities Funding commissioning rounds will follow on a rolling basis and details will be published as they become available.