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***‘Investing in People, Investing in Communities’***

**Tees Valley Building Better Opportunities Funding**

**Delivery Partner Expression of Interest Form**

**Deadline for Return of Forms – 12 Noon on Friday 10th July 2015**

Hartlepool Borough Council (HBC) will be submitting an application to become the Lead Accountable Body, on behalf of the five Tees Valley Local Authorities, for the Big Lottery Fund European Social Fund Building Better Opportunities (BBO) Programme. The total funding allocation for the programme is £8.8m which equates to £5.3m from the European Social Fund and £3.5m from the Big Lottery Fund. The key themes for the programme are removing health and wellbeing barriers to employment, steps towards employment and financial/digital inclusion across the Tees Valley.

As part of this process, HBC welcomes interested partners who deliver within their local community, particularly the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), and have a strong track record of tackling social exclusion and combating poverty to submit an Expression of Interest Form.

Prior to completing this form, please read the following: -

* Information from the Big Lottery website.

<https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/global-content/programmes/england/building-better-opportunities/tees-valley>

* Tees Valley European Structural Investment Fund Strategy.

<https://www.teesvalleyunlimited.gov.uk/news-repository/european-structural-investment-funds-strategy.aspx>

All activities delivered through the BBO Programme must fit with the specification, complement the ESIF Strategy and add value to the existing provision which is delivered across the Tees Valley. Those partners who will be named within the bid will be informed prior to the submission date.

Please complete the relevant sections within the table below and return by email to Scott Campbell, Performance Officer at scott.campbell@hartlepool.gov.uk by the closing date of 12 noon on Friday 10th July 2015. Any forms submitted after this time will not be considered.

If you require any further information or have any queries regarding this form then contact Scott Campbell on 01429 857078 or Cassandra Todd on 01429 857087.

**Programme Information**

This project aims to provide holistic and bespoke support for participants to increase their employability and improve their prospects for employment. It will focus on those individuals who are furthest from the labour market and will offer support on a voluntary basis to those individuals who find mainstream services difficult to access/use or who are unable to use the national offers of support.

All participants will be unemployed or economically inactive and the project will have a specific focus on those out of work and people who are most at risk of social exclusion.

This includes, but is not limited to:

* People who have health and/or disability barriers to employment;
* People who experience issues with drug and alcohol abuse;
* People who are over 50;
* Women aged between 25 and 34;
* People from black and minority ethnic (BAME) backgrounds, and;
* People living in the most deprived lower super output areas (LSOAs).

The project will be delivered across the Tees Valley LEP area - Redcar and Cleveland, Darlington, Stockton-on-Tees, Middlesbrough and Hartlepool - and will include easy access for disadvantaged individuals living within any community across all five boroughs.

**Theme One – Removing Health and Wellbeing Barriers to Employment**

The project will address ‘multiple barriers’ to entering work, offering support to participants who may be experiencing poor physical and mental health, childcare or caring responsibilities, poor unstable housing situations, drug and alcohol addictions, lack of personal transport, lack of awareness of in-work benefits, lack of ID or email address, and lack of basic social/employability skills.

**Theme Two – Steps Towards Employment**

The project will provide the means through which disadvantaged people can become work-ready, by encouraging individuals to gain the appropriate skills, build confidence and increase their understanding of the range of opportunities available in the labour market. Individuals will also be supported to gain work-related experience in particular through access to volunteering and other work experience opportunities.

**Theme Three – Financial / Digital Inclusion**

The project will provide support for individuals to develop their financial and digital skills to improve their financial stability. A comprehensive range of Financial and Digital Inclusion activities needs to be available across the Tees Valley area to increase the confidence of participants and support the transition from benefits to employment.

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| **Organisational Information** |
| Name of organisation |  |
| Address |  |
| Status of organisation e.g. private, public, voluntary sector |  |
| Company/charity number (where applicable) |  |
| Contact person |  |
| Position in organisation |  |
| Email |  |
| Contact telephone number |  |

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| **Which BBO Theme(s) are you Interested in Delivering?** |
| [ ]  Theme 1 - Removing Health and Wellbeing Barriers to Employment[ ]  Theme 2 – Steps Towards Employment[ ]  Theme 3 – Financial / Digital Inclusion |

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| **Theme 1 – Health & Wellbeing Barriers** |
| What relevant experience do you have of delivering similar projects, especially to the priority groups? *(Maximum 200 Words)* |  |
| What services or activities could you deliver on behalf of the partnership? Please provide a brief description. *(Maximum 200 Words)* |  |
| Which geographical area(s) would you like to deliver in?  | [ ]  Hartlepool [ ]  Middlesbrough[ ]  Darlington [ ]  Stockton [ ]  Redcar & Cleveland |
| Which priority customer group(s) will you deliver to? Please state if you intend to work with all groups.  |  |
| How many customers could your organisation effectively support each year?  |  |

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| **Theme 2 – Steps Towards Employment** |
| What relevant experience do you have of delivering similar projects, especially to the priority groups? *(Maximum 200 Words)* |  |
| What services or activities could you deliver on behalf of the partnership? Please provide a brief description. *(Maximum 200 Words)* |  |
| Which geographical area(s) would you like to deliver in?  | [ ]  Hartlepool [ ]  Middlesbrough[ ]  Darlington [ ]  Stockton [ ]  Redcar & Cleveland |
| Which priority customer group(s) will you deliver to? Please state if you intend to work with all groups.  |  |
| How many customers could your organisation effectively support each year?  |  |

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| **Theme 3 – Financial / Digital Inclusion** |
| What relevant experience do you have of delivering similar projects, especially to the priority groups? *(Maximum 200 Words)* |  |
| What services or activities could you deliver on behalf of the partnership? Please provide a brief description. *(Maximum 200 Words)* |  |
| Which geographical area(s) would you like to deliver in?  | [ ]  Hartlepool [ ]  Middlesbrough[ ]  Darlington [ ]  Stockton [ ]  Redcar & Cleveland |
| Which priority customer group(s) will you deliver to? Please state if you intend to work with all groups.  |  |
| How many customers could your organisation effectively support each year?  |  |