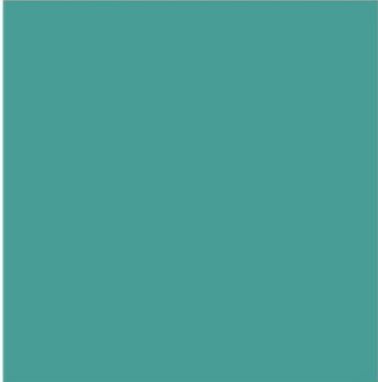




**Greater Birmingham
& Solihull**
Local Enterprise Partnership



ESF Programmes 2019



European Union
European
Social Fund

INTRODUCTION:

The Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP) Strategic Economic Plan (March 2016) sets out how we will work together and with our partners to deliver economic growth throughout Greater Birmingham & Solihull, and in doing so, raise the quality of life for all our residents, visitors and businesses. It sets out our ambition to become a top global city region by 2030 as well as the major driver of the UK economy outside of London.

WHAT IS THE ESF?

The ESF is Europe's main instrument for supporting jobs, helping people get better jobs and ensuring fairer job opportunities for all EU citizens. It works by investing in Europe's human capital – its workers, its young people and all those seeking a job. ESF financing of EUR 10 billion a year is improving job prospects for millions of Europeans, in particular those who find it difficult to secure sustainable employment. The European Union is committed to creating more and better jobs and a socially inclusive society. These goals are at the core of the Europe 2020 strategy for generating smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in the EU. The current situation in the UK with ongoing negotiations around BREXIT has produced some uncertainty over the future of projects. However, the UK government has now guaranteed to maintain funding agreed under the ESIF which includes both ESF and ERDF. The extension means the UK government will continue to sign new projects, even in the event of a no deal Brexit, throughout 2019 and 2020.

The ESF is playing an important role in meeting the UK and Europe's goals, and in mitigating the consequences of the economic crisis – especially the rise in unemployment and poverty levels.

Setting ESF priorities

The European Commission and EU countries in partnership set the ESF's priorities and how it spends its resources.

The key outcomes as a result of the ESF investment will be:

- Improved economic participation across the labour market
- Reduced income disparity and increased social inclusion
- Increased employment levels and productivity

A key priority is to focus on disadvantaged groups and enable them to secure sustainable employment. This is part of enhancing 'social inclusion' – a sign of the important role that employment plays in helping people integrate better into society and everyday life.

Projects for people

The ESF is helping to fund local, regional and national employment related projects in the GBS LEP area. These include small projects run by neighbourhood charities to help local disabled people find suitable work, up to nationwide projects that promote vocational training among the whole population.

There is a great variety in the nature, size and aims of ESF projects, and they address a wide variety of target groups. There are projects aimed at job-seekers, people who are currently inactive in the labour market, those looking to improve their education within the workplace and those who are facing redundancy as well as potential entrepreneurs from all backgrounds.

The key measurable outputs to ensure investment is on track will include:

- Participants on the programme
- Unemployed participants
- Employed participants on the programme
- Young people participating in the programme

The key measurable results to ensure investment is making a difference will include:

- Number of people supported into work
- Number of people with improved basic/higher level skills
- Number of people in employment
- Reduced skills deficits

Current Open ESF Calls

Location	Reference	Investment priority	Details	Call Close
GBS LEP	OC12S19P1364	2.2	Seeking project(s) that will increase higher skills levels, apprenticeships, enterprise skills and entrepreneurship within the local business and employer community; particularly with SMEs and micro businesses. Call Specification	03/07/2019
GBS LEP – More Developed area (Birmingham, Solihull, Redditch, Bromsgrove, Wyre Forest)	OC12S19P1285	2.1	Call to run a project to provide additional support to address skills shortages or needs where there are gaps or specific barriers preventing individual progression and up-skilling for those in work in the GBSLEP area. Call Specification Link	07/05/2019
GBS LEP – More Developed area (Birmingham, Solihull, Redditch, Bromsgrove, Wyre Forest)	OC12S18P1276	1.1	The aim of this programme is to encourage growth in the construction industry through the development and expansion of an appropriately skilled workforce, to allow the industry to respond to future business opportunities and major developments as they arise, as well as encouraging unemployed to consider the construction industry as a career. Call Specification Link	01/05/2019

GBS LEP – More Developed area (Birmingham, Solihull, Redditch, Bromsgrove, Wyre Forest)	OC12S19P1277	2.1	<p>The aim of this programme is to encourage growth in the construction industry through the development and expansion of an appropriately skilled workforce to allow the industry to respond to future business opportunities and major developments as they arise, as well as encouraging employed residents to consider the construction industry as a career and those working in the construction industry to upskill and move forward in their careers.</p> <p>Call Specification Link</p>	01/05/2019
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Please monitor the ESIF web site [here](#) for releases.

Current Provision

Current delivery is constantly changing with new programmes and projects being commissioned and targets adapted to meet the needs of participants, employers and the unemployed/economically inactive of the area.

Programme Name	Lead Organisation and Contact	Area Covered	Target Group	Brief Description of project	Start date	End Date
Positive Futures	Ashiana Community Project shafique@acpgroup.org.uk http://www.acpgroup.org.uk 0121 687 6767	GBSLEP	1.1 jobseekers and economically inactive individuals, particularly those from disadvantaged communities	Basic and general employability skills, supporting jobseekers or economically inactive people to move towards, enter or progress in work including pre-recruitment, and basic skills (such as literacy, numeracy, ICT and ESOL) support. Promoting self-employment and enterprise as a credible route out of worklessness, including setting up social enterprises.	21/11/2016	31/10/2019

Programme Name	Lead Organisation and Contact	Area Covered	Target Group	Brief Description of project	Start date	End Date
Working2Succeed: Building Community Pathways to Greater Employment	Enterkey Training Limited Abdul Ahad a.ahad@enterkeytraining.com	GBSLEP	1.1 jobseekers and economically inactive individuals, particularly those from disadvantaged communities	Basic and general employability skills, supporting jobseekers or economically inactive people to move towards, enter or progress in work including pre-recruitment, IT and basic skills (such as literacy, numeracy, ICT and ESOL) support.		

Programme Name	Lead Organisation and Contact	Area Covered	Target Group	Brief Description of project	Start date	End Date
Employment Plus	The Salvation Army Trustee Company richard.loach@salvationarmy.org.uk	GBSLEP	1.1 jobseekers and economically inactive individuals, particularly those from disadvantaged communities	<p>With an emphasis on low caseloads and well trained, qualified and professional staff we provide a specialised and tailored support that individuals with complex lives need to be able to gain the skills, confidence and care needed to succeed in finding and sustaining employment.</p> <p>In the first instance we signpost customers to our own employability programmes or Employment Plus Locals run through our network of community buildings.</p> <p>We also work with our Debt Advice, Homelessness Services, Anti Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery Team, Family Tracing, Foodbanks, Pastoral Care, and our other internal departments, we have the ability to deliver a wrap around and holistic service to benefit all service users. Customers can also have access to a wealth of accredited iLearn courses such as Food Hygiene, Health & Safety as well certificated IT qualifications through Learn my Way. The Salvation Army are also an accredited centre of delivery for Goals UK motivational training.</p> <p>Customers can also benefit from Pastoral care and our Listening Ear service.</p>	TBC	TBC

Programme Name	Lead Organisation and Contact	Area Covered	Target Group	Brief Description of project	Start date	End Date
World of Work	Birmingham City Council Kam Hundal Kam.Hundal@birmingham.gov.uk Bal Uppal baljeet.uppal@birmingham.gov.uk	Birmingham and Solihull	1.1 jobseekers and economically inactive individuals, particularly those from disadvantaged communities	<p>The World of Work project is to improve the employability of long term unemployed and inactive residents through a set of targeted interventions, training and work experience pathways and support to move into sustainable employment. The particular focus will be those facing disadvantage and barriers to entry in the existing labour market and growth sectors.</p> <p>The project will engage with unemployed and inactive residents across Birmingham and Solihull supported by Jobcentre Plus (JCP), National Careers Service (NCS) and community and voluntary sector partners, particularly targeting those with no/low basic skills, BME (black and minority ethnic) groups, women, lone parents, people with disabilities and health conditions and those from areas of high unemployment.</p> <p>In partnership with employers and sector representatives, training pathways will be available for participants from target groups and linked to GBSLEP sectors of high demand and growth:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Speed 2 and supply chain • Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering • Creative Industries • Low Carbon & Environmental Technologies and Services • Transport & Logistics • Life Sciences • Digital & Tech • Business, Professional and Financial Services • Sectors where there is a significant replacement demand, such as Construction & Infrastructure, Health and Social Care. 	01/07/2018	30/10/2020

Programme Name	Lead Organisation and Contact	Area Covered	Target Group	Brief Description of project	Start date	End Date
Birmingham and Solihull Youth Promise Plus	Birmingham City Council Tara Verrell Email: tara.verrell@birmingham.gov.uk 0121 303 3200	Birmingham and Solihull	1.3 NEET age 15 - 30	<p>YPP is a multi-partner project seeking to deliver an enhanced package of employment, education and training (EET) support to 16,610 NEET young people (aged 15-29 years) from Birmingham and Solihull.</p> <p>This includes supporting often vulnerable young people facing significant barriers, including those with offending backgrounds, and those in, or leaving Local Authority care, with personalised mentoring/action plans towards sustainable EET outcomes.</p>	February 2016 (Retrospective start date 01.09.2015)	TBA - extension sought

Programme Name	Lead Organisation and Contact	Area Covered	Target Group	Brief Description of project	Start date	End Date
Employed for Success	Solihull MBC Natalie Goulding ngoulding@solihull.gov.uk 0121 704 6850	Solihull LA area	1.4 30+ with barriers to work 50+ Health and disabilities	Employed for Success will provide a range of services to help move Solihull residents into, or closer to, education, training or employment. Partners in the project will identify support to address participants' needs, such as debt advice and financial planning, digital skills for employment, practical employability such as CV writing, job search and interview preparation, a Fablab for hands on high tech design and fabrication experience, and an partner to provide more intensive support for participants with physical or learning disabilities. An employer engagement officer will identify suitable work experience, volunteering and work placements.	Delivery starts 15 May 18	12 June 2020
Bridges to Success	Enterkey Training Limited a.ahad@enterkeytraining.com		1.4: ACTIVE INCLUSION	priority will help people who are distant from the labour market and require intensive support in addressing their multiple, profound and complex barriers to participation in the labour market. The main result will be that people address their complex needs and therefore are better able to engage in labour market activity.		
PURE	Birmingham City Council Mark.Reed@birmingham.gov.uk	Greater Birmingham	1.4: ACTIVE INCLUSION	Priority to help people who are distant from the labour market and require intensive support in addressing their multiple, profound and complex barriers to participation in the labour market. The main result will be that people address their complex needs and therefore are better able to engage in labour market activity.		

Programme Name	Lead Organisation and Contact	Area Covered	Target Group	Brief Description of project	Start date	End Date
Stepping Up	The Muath Trust i.baqui@muathtrust.org 0121 7530297		1.4: ACTIVE INCLUSION	Priority to help people who are distant from the labour market and require intensive support in addressing their multiple, profound and complex barriers to participation in the labour market. The main result will be that people address their complex needs and therefore are better able to engage in labour market activity.		
AEGIS in Communities	The Muath Trust i.baqui@muathtrust.org 0121 7530297		2.1: Enhancing equal access to lifelong learning			
Business Elevator	Solihull College and University Centre Sam Bromwich Sam.Bromwich@solihull.ac.uk 0121 678 7000	GBSLEP	2.2 SME and Micro Business	To promote improvements in the labour market relevance of skills provision through active engagement with relevant institutions and employers, particularly SMEs and Micro businesses.	01/09/2016	31/12/2019

Programme Name	Lead Organisation and Contact	Area Covered	Target Group	Brief Description of project	Start date	End Date
Higher Level Skills Match	Birmingham City University http://bcuadvantage.co.uk/access-students-and-graduates/higher-level-skills-match	South Staffordshire, North Worcestershire Birmingham and Solihull	2.2 SME and Micro Business	<p>The Project provides skills development and recruitment advice services to local SMEs, delivered by Birmingham City, Aston and Newman Universities.</p> <p>HLSM will secure at least 320 SME Skills and Graduate Talent Charter signatories, with 220 of these completing skills projects, designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop the leadership, business development and sustainable growth skills required to help grow their businesses; • help then access the higher level skills essential to future business growth, and which only graduates can offer; • contribute to the GBS LEP's vision, to radically redesign the education and skills eco-system, to ensure skills provision is designed with and for business; • help then benefit directly from tailored employability and skills support offered to local graduates. " 	01/12/2016	31/01/2020

Programme Name	Lead Organisation and Contact	Area Covered	Target Group	Brief Description of project	Start date	End Date
ESF Technical Assistance	Solihull MBC / GBSLEP Gary Dixon Gary.Dixon@solihull.gov.uk Maria Lopez mlopez@solihull.gov.uk	GBSLEP	3 Potential applicants for ESF Funding	The GBSLEP Technical Assistance Project brings together a range of partners with relevant sector and thematic expertise to deliver a coherent package of TA provision to support the ESF elements of the ESIF strategy and GBSLEP Strategy for Growth. The project purpose and design matches the objective of technical assistance, namely to support efficient and compliant management and implementation of ESIF funds.	01/01/2016	31/12/2018
CFO3 NOMS	Ixion Kelly Thompson Kelly.Thompson@ixionholdings.com 07942859809	West Midlands	Offenders and Ex-Offenders (HMPPS)	Advice, Guidance and training for Offenders and ex-Offenders who want to access it		

Current Closed ESF Calls

Location	Reference	Investment priority	Details	Call Close
The project must cover the GBSLEP area.	NEET provision in Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP area OC12S17C0804	1.2 Sustainable Integration of Young People into the Labour Market	The additional support from this investment priority will help more young people enter traineeships and apprenticeships (in areas that do not qualify for the Youth Employment Initiative up to 2018) It will improve the quality of what is offered to individuals by improving recruitment and assessment and engagement with employers. By helping more young participants aged 15 to 24, male and female, who were NEET or at risk of NEET, to take up traineeships or apprenticeships, we will improve movements into work.	05 October 2017
The project must cover the GBSLEP.	Greater Birmingham and Solihull Skills for Growth Hub – Skills Training Response fund OC12S17P0799	2.1: Enhancing equal access to lifelong learning	GBSLEP put in place a “Growth Hub” model of business support to assist companies across the LEP and surrounding area. The Growth Hub should now be expanded with the design and creation of a GBSLEP Skills for Growth Hub, which is intended to increase apprenticeship, intern and work experience uptake, as well as supporting skills needs identified by employers, particularly in GBSLEP growth sectors.	5th October 2017
Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP – More Developed area	Greater Birmingham and Solihull – Improving Basic & Low skills and Tackling Disadvantage OC12S17P0806	2.1: Enhancing equal access to lifelong learning	This call is to provide additional training and support for people at basic and low skills levels, in particular addressing the needs of disadvantaged groups in and out of the workplace. It will address skills shortages or needs in the GBSLEP Growth Sectors and sectors where there is significant job replacement demand or with employers where they demonstrate the need for succession planning.	5th October 2017

Location	Reference	Investment priority	Details	Call Close
Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP – More Developed area	Greater Birmingham and Solihull Higher Skills Higher Skills Call OC12S17P0805	2.1: Enhancing equal access to lifelong learning	<p>This Call is to provide additional support to address skills shortages or needs where there are gaps or specific barriers preventing individual progression and up-skilling for those in work.</p> <p>To increase the number of employed people progressing to the next level skills, particularly at level 3 and above and into higher and advanced level apprenticeships, to support business growth.</p> <p>It is important that applicants can show that they have considered how their proposal will support the current service offer in the GBSLEP Growth Hub - in the instance of providing support to businesses and mainstream providers in respect of skills and employability services.</p>	5th October 2017
The project must cover the GBSLEP area.	Greater Birmingham and Solihull Skills for Growth Hub I.P 2.2 OC12S17P0800	2.2: Improving the labour market relevance of education and training systems.	<p>Through this call the ESF Managing Authority is seeking to deliver provision and support to address the skills issues of SMEs and their employees in sectors which present the greatest opportunities for economic and employment growth in the More Developed Region of Greater Birmingham and Solihull LEP area, made up of:</p> <p>Birmingham, Solihull, Redditch, Bromsgrove, and Wyre Forest.</p> <p>GBSLEP is seeking to design, create and establish a Skills for Growth Hub via an aligned ESF 2.2 call, which will support the GBSLEP Growth Hub model of business support to assist companies with skills needs across the LEP and surrounding area. The Skills for Growth Hub is intended to increase apprenticeship, intern and work experience uptake, as well as supporting skills needs identified by employers, particularly in GBSLEP growth sectors.</p>	5th October 2017

Current ERDF Provision

GBSLEP Priority Access	Project Name and Applicant			Value of Projects	
	Project Name	Applicant	Status	ERDF	Total
1	Knowledge Exchange and Enterprise Network	University of Wolverhampton	Live	£39,383.00	£78,766.00
1	EBRI	Aston University	Live	£379,831.00	£759,662.00
1	Innovation Networks 1518	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd	Live	£41,538.00	£83,078.00
1	Innovation Vouchers	Aston University	Live	£580,885.60	£1,161,771.20
1	BSEEN	Aston University	Live	£729,885.00	£1,459,770.00
1	Innovation Engine	Birmingham Science Park Anton	Live	£1,532,115.00	£3,064,231.00
1	Knowledge Exchange and Enterprise Network	University of Wolverhampton	Live	£711,998.00	£1,423,996.00
1	EBRI	Aston University	Live	£113,456.00	£226,912.00
1	Advanced Materials Characterisation and Simulation Hub	University of Birmingham	Live	£2,398,108.00	£4,796,216.00
1	Focus Digital	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd	Live	£246,867.00	£493,746.00
1	Focus Digital	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd	Live	£45,311.00	£75,545.00
1	Centre for Medical Devices Testing and Evaluation (MD-TEC)	University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust	Live	£3,527,205.00	£7,054,411.00
1	Innovation Networks 1518	Coventry University Enterprises Ltd	Live	£429,226.00	£858,450.00
1	STEAMHOUSE	Birmingham City University	Live	£163,347.00	£3,270,694.00
1	System Analytics for Innovation	Anton University	Live	£ 491,003.00	£ 982,007.00
1	Big Data Corridor A New Business Economy	Birmingham City Council — Digital Birmingham	Live	£ 122,666.00	£ 245,326.00
1	Big Data Corridor A New Business Economy	Birmingham City Council — Digital Birmingham	Live	£ 1,104,023.00	£ 2,206,055.00
1	Innovative Product Support Services	University of Wolverhampton	Live	£ 58,879.00	£ 98,132.00
1	Innovative Product Support Services	University of Wolverhampton	Live	£321,920.00	£643,841.00
1	GBSLEP – Alternative Raw Materials with Low Impact (ARLI)	University of Birmingham	Live	£830,201.00	£1,660,403.00

GBSLEP Priority Access	Project Name and Applicant			Value of Projects	
	Project Name	Applicant	Status	ERDF	Total
1	Advanced Materials Characterisation and Simulation Hub (AMCAH)	University of Birmingham	Live	£ 79,657.00	£ 159,315.00
1	Innovation Engine	Birmingham Science Park Aston	Live	£97,795	£195,589.00
1	GBSLEP Alternative Raw Materials with Low Impact (ARLI)	University of Birmingham	Live	£34,592.00	£69183.00
1	Innovation Vouchers	Aston University	Live	£64,542.80	£128085.70
1	Systems Analytics for Innovation	Aston University	Live	£57,093.00	£114,186.00
1	STEAMHOUSE	Birmingham City University	Live	£128,650.00	£257,301.00
PA1 TOTAL				£15,802,177.40	£31,569,671.90
3	Business Growth programme (BGP)	Birmingham City Council	Live	£9,430,026.00	£18,860,052.00
3	SME International Growth Project	58	Live	£358,340.00	£716,678.00
3	Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP) Growth Hub	Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI)	Live	£670,950.00	£1,341,900.00
3	SME International Growth Project	58	Live	£88,296.00	£163,694.00
3	Birmingham Knowledge Economy Business Incubation Partnership	Innovation Birmingham	Live	£1,025,489.00	£2,050,978.00
3	Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP) Growth Hub	Birmingham Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI)	Live	£287,550.00	£575,100.00
3	Manufacturing Growth Programme (MGP)	WMMBF Ltd	Live	£68,027.00	£113,3378.30
3	Midlands Engine Investment Fund (PA£)	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)	Live	£1,830,000.00	£6,200,587.00
3	Midlands Engine Investment Fund (PA£)	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)	Live	£11,670,000.00	£39,541,317.00
3	Investing in Greater Birmingham	Marketing Birmingham	Live	£220,608.00	£441,216.00
3	Investing in Greater Birmingham	Marketing Birmingham	Live	£1,617,795.00	£3,235,590.00
3	Enterprise Development and Growth Greater Birmingham and Solihull		Live	£180,617.00	£301,027

GBSLEP	Project Name and Applicant			Value of Projects	
Priority Access	Project Name	Applicant	Status	ERDF	Total
3	Enterprise Development and Growth Greater Birmingham and Solihull	Solihull Metropolitan Borough council	Live	£1,038,812.00	£2,077,628.00
3	Aston Programme for Small Business Growth	Aston University	Live	£398,837.00	£797,674.00
3	Transforming SME's to improve their revenues through the adoption of advances services. (TRAN-SIP)	Aston University	Live	£584,043.00	£1,168,092.00
3	Manufacturing Growth Programme (MGP)	WMMBF Ltd.	Live	£428,520.00	£857,040.00
3	Property Investment Programme	Birmingham City Council	Live	£2,074,800.00	£4,149,600.00
3	Business Growth Programme (BGP)	Birmingham City Council	Live	\$498,317.00	£992,634.00
3	Property Investment Programme	Birmingham City Council	Live	£205,200.00	£410,400.00
3	Aston Programme for Small Business Growth	Aston University	Live	£59,087.00	£118,174.00
PA3 TOTAL				£32,733,314.00	£84,112,739.30
4	SUD	SUD Ring-fenced	Live	£6,191,867.00	££12,383,734.00
4	Low Carbon Growth Support	Groundwork West Midlands	Live	£226,206.40	£452,411.20
4	Low Carbon Growth Support	Groundwork West Midlands	Live	£34,792.00	£59,531.00
4	Low Carbon SME's (GBSLEP)	Aston University	Live	£60,578.00	£121,156.00
4	Accelerating Thermals Energy Technology Adoption (ATETA)	University of Birmingham	Live	£2,034,791.00	£4,069,583.00
4		Aston University	Live	£546,206.00	£1,090,413.00
PA4 TOTAL				£9,093,440.40	£18,178,828.20
6	SUD	SUD Ring-fenced	Live	£1,739,372.00	£3,748,744.00
6	Solihull Habitat and Nature Improvements	Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	Live	£992,205.00	£1,984,410
6	BASIS Birmingham and Solihull Industrial Symbiosis	Birmingham City Council	Live	£625,894.00	£1,253,389.00
6	BASIS Birmingham and Solihull Industrial Symbiosis	Birmingham City Council	Live	£69,633.00	£139,266
PA5 TOTAL				£3,427,904.00	£6,855,809.00
GRAND TOTAL				£61,056,835.80	£140,715,048.40

Current Open ERDF Calls

Location	Reference	Investment priority	Details	Call Close
GBS LEP	Low Carbon (OC12R18P 0868)	4: Supporting the Shift Towards a Low Carbon Economy in All Sectors	This call is looking to support the shift towards a low carbon economy in all sectors	23 rd November 2018
GBSLEP	Sustainable Urban Development (Low Carbon and Environment): call in Greater Birmingham and Solihull (OC12R18S 0895)	4: Supporting the Shift Towards a Low Carbon Economy in All Sectors & 6: Preserving and Protecting the Environment and Promoting Resource Efficiency	Sustainable Urban Development call to run a project to support the shift towards a low carbon economy and preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	31st January 2019

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