

**SOUTH EAST ENGLAND COUNCILS  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**



Date: 11 September 2012  
 Subject: Items for information  
 Report of: Heather Bolton, SEEC Director

**Recommendations:**

SEEC Executive members are asked to note the following opportunities

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**1. Two EU funding opportunities**

**1.1 European Integration Fund (EIF):**

Nationally up to £20m is available via EIF to support local authorities and partners in delivering integration projects for migrants, addressing issues such as learning English and acquiring skills for work. Funds are specifically aimed at helping integrate non-EU and non-asylum-seeking migrants. In the South East, for example, some authorities are working with resettled Gurkha communities. Funding applications must be made before the end of 2012 for projects to be delivered in 2013. Match funding is required but the fund is open to large scale projects from groups of authorities and partners who can share the cost of match funding.

Further information from [roymillard@secouncils.gov.uk](mailto:roymillard@secouncils.gov.uk)

**1.2 European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Round 5:**

Up to £6m is available for South East projects in ERDF Round 5. Outline applications must be submitted to CLG by noon on Thursday 27 September 2012. Successful projects need to last 12-30 months, must include 50% match funding and must cover one of the following five topics:

- Climate change
- Environmental/green business
- Renewable energy
- Sustainable transport
- Waste and landfill reduction.

Further details are available on CLG's website including [application forms](#) and [guidance](#) on how to apply.

**2. Public Service Mutuals – potential free roadshow**

2.1 SEEC is liaising with the Cabinet Office on potential for a South East event on transferring public services to mutual employee-owned organisations. Dates, venues and speakers are under discussion but when finalised, invitations will be sent to all SEEC member authorities. It is expected the event would be free.

2.2 Sessions are likely to include the political context, South East case studies, examples of successful mutual organisations and workshops on mutual options, overcoming barriers, employee engagement and business development. There would also be free face-to-face advice sessions with specialist advisers on legal and financial issues.