



## Essential Update November 2020 - Possible Future Funding for BBO, Revised Targets and Revised Terms and Conditions for BBO

### Possible Future Funding for BBO

Given the surge in unemployment resulting from the pandemic, EU Programme Manager Sue Ormiston confirmed at the recent Ecorys event that we are currently considering the possibility of extending the BBO programme to June 2023. If we are able to do this, it is likely that this would be for projects that have already received additional funding when we extended BBO up to Q3 2022. We will be presenting a proposal for additional funding to our England Committee in late January 2021 and will be able to provide further information after that. We are also in discussion with the Managing Authority about the additional ESF that will be required.

### Revised Targets

During the recent Ecorys event: **Delivering BBO activity during Covid-19** Sue Ormiston explained that when we agreed extension funding for Building Better Opportunities (BBO) in 2018, in order to secure the ESF funding, we had to complete variation requests and agree revised targets with the Managing Authority.

Earlier this year, in March, we were in the process of finalising the details of the revised targets for your projects. However, when the first lockdown was introduced, we made a decision to postpone this process as we were all dealing with changes to remote delivery and the distribution of emergency funding.

During the Ecorys event, Sue advised attendees of our intention that your Funding Officer would be in touch soon to give you details of the revised targets. For the majority of projects there will be very little change to the targets you are currently working to. However, as things are moving fast, we believe it now makes more sense to wait until we have a decision in January on the possibility of further extension funding for BBO. At that point we will be able to let you know about further potential variations and the



finalised revisions to targets all in one go, rather than potentially doing this exercise twice in a relatively short period of time.

In the meantime your Funding Officer will be in touch to highlight any outputs/results that the Managing Authority has asked that we focus on, hopefully giving you the time to do this from now rather than delaying until we have a decision on possible further extension funding and revised targets.

### **Revised Terms and Conditions for BBO**

We have been reviewing the Terms and Conditions for BBO which were first issued in 2016, as there have been a number of changes since then, for example, the introduction of GDPR. As such, we have made some amendments to the Terms and Conditions and are currently waiting for one further piece of information from the Managing Authority. We had planned to issue the revised Terms and Conditions in the near future, however, we will now wait until we know more about further possible extension of BBO. The revisions are mainly technical changes like references to GDPR and other updated links and references, so we do not expect these to cause any issues. However, if you have any questions once you have received the revised Terms and Conditions, please speak to your Funding Officer.