

LCN Fund Full Submission

Supplementary Answer Form

Tick if this answer is Confidential: ☐

Tick if this answer has been provided verbally: ☐

Project code:	NPG203	Question Number	9
Question date	12 September 2013	Answer date	17 September 2013
Submission section question relates to	Technical Consultants Meeting		
Topic	Financial		
Question	The External Funding of £944k includes a £514k application for EU funding made by Durham CC. Please explain how the shortfall will be made up if the EU funding is not forthcoming.		
Notes on question			
Answer	<p>The EU funding being sought by Durham County Council has the potential to add value to our trials. However, the ACE trials have been designed to be complete and robust should the funding not be forthcoming.</p> <p>The formal applications for this EU funding are due for submission by Durham County Council in Q1/Q2 2014 when they are seeking to access up to £14m that has been ring-fenced to support the low-carbon economy in the region. They will use this funding, should their bid be successful, to engage with the whole community and promote a range of low carbon initiatives with the aim of lowering energy costs, reducing carbon emissions and thereby supporting the transition towards a low carbon economy.</p> <p>The school trials are designed to be statistically robust to run with 10 schools / 500 customers. The EU funding would allow the trials to be extended to 25 schools / 1,250 customers and/or Year 2 of the trials to be run with a new year group in the existing schools. This will allow variations to the trials and experimentation with different approaches of conveying the information to parents via the children. For example, there could be scope for testing the effectiveness of feedback and the impact of social norms.</p> <p>The budget for the engagement of 10 primary schools allows for the following assumptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each school will engage two classes. This may be two classes in 		

	<p>one year group, or one class in each of the last two year groups, depending on the size of the school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 25 pupils per class will install the equipment. • Each school will be engaged with the trials for two winter and two summer trials over a two-year period. • Year One will involve active classroom engagement. • Year Two will be the persistence test with the parents of the same pupils; this will test the extent to which the parents / school have taken control and continue to provide the response and generate the rewards. <p>Durham County Council have expressed an interest in extending the trial to fulfil their aim of engaging with communities on sustainability and energy matters. The trials extension, if funded through the EU route, would not cost UK electricity bill payers any more money.</p> <p>From an ACE perspective, we feel that increasing the number of participants will give additional benefits for the trial by allowing the proposition to be tested with more schools and/or allowing existing schools to run the proposition for another year group if they wish to do so. This will provide the opportunity to try variations to the propositions and methods of delivery.</p> <p>However, the absence of the EU funding will not impact the fundamental learning that the ACE school trials are designed to deliver. 10 schools / 500 customers will be sufficient to test the proposition that children can be used as messengers to introduce their families to a profile balancing proposition.</p>
Attachments	
Verbal Clarifications (Consultants)	