

**EDS Priorities Jul25-Jul26**

Policy	2024/25 Priority	2025/26 Priority	Amendment	2025/26 Activity
Industrial	Invest and support projects linked to 'clean growth' including clean energy, green finance, sustainable transport and innovations in the circular economy.	Invest and support projects linked to 'clean growth' including clean energy, green finance, sustainable transport and innovations in the circular economy.	None	Innovation and Resilience Fund (IRF) for small capital grants.
	Invest and support projects linked to new digital and data innovations, such as artificial intelligence, robotics, and drone technology.	Invest and support projects linked to new digital and data innovations, such as artificial intelligence, robotics, and drone technology.	None	IRF for small capital grants.
	Support the development of the Future Flight Innovation Zone centred on Exeter Airport.	Support the development of the Future Flight Innovation Zone (FFIZ) centred on Exeter Airport.	None	Continued support for FFIZ project.
	Invest and support projects to promote East Devon's renowned food and drink sector, including events and exploring specialist workplace provision.	Invest and support projects to promote East Devon's renowned food and drink sector, including events and exploring specialist workplace provision.	None	IRF for small capital grants. Explore Gate to Plate event for Cranbrook. Continued support for Taste East Devon.
	Invest and support projects linked to East Devon's Tourism Strategy to promote improved quality, collaboration, sustainability and accessibility across the sector.	Invest and support projects linked to East Devon's Tourism Strategy to promote improved quality, collaboration, sustainability and accessibility across the sector.	None	IRF for small capital grants. Other projects to be delivered through the Sustainable Tourism Programme.
	Invest and support projects linked to our most rural businesses, including farm businesses seeking to diversify.	Invest and support projects linked to local farm businesses, including support to diversify.	A specific focus on farm businesses rather than rural businesses more generally.	IRF for small capital grants, priority switched from geography to farms. Could link grants to agri-business support.
Workspace	Lead the delivery of the Enterprise Zone programme by investing in the delivery and effective marketing of new commercial space.	Lead the delivery of the Enterprise Zone (EZ) programme by investing in the delivery and effective marketing of new commercial space.	None	Continued delivery of the EZ programme.
	Explore the viability of developing small start – up units on vacant Council – owned land.	Explore the viability of developing small start – up units on vacant Council – owned land.	None	Viability work will continue, led by the new Employment Delivery Project Team.
	Support the viability of employment allocations by exploring the use of Local Development Orders and working with partners to ensure their development.	Support the viability of employment allocations by exploring the use of Local Development Orders and working with partners to ensure their development.	None	Work continues on LDOs for the Science Park and Sky Park. Early preparatory work will commence prior to the emerging Local Plan being adopted.
	Ensure employment and skills plans are produced for larger residential and commercial developments.	Ensure employment and skills plans (ESPs) are produced for larger residential and commercial developments.	None	This work will continue for the Logistics Park, with early preparatory work with Building Greater Exeter for the wider application of ESPs once the emerging Local Plan is adopted.
	Maintain an online platform to help inform growing businesses about available workspace and link them with relevant commercial agents.	Maintain an online platform to help inform growing businesses about available workspace and link them with relevant commercial agents.	None	Commercial Property Register (CPR). Work on concessions and market traders.
	N/A	Invest and support small scale projects to enable underused or undeveloped space to generate new employment opportunities.	New priority	IRF for small capital grants.

Environmental	Provide training and specialist one to one support for organisations seeking to decarbonise, reduce waste and become more resource efficient.	Provide training and specialist one to one support for organisations seeking to decarbonise, reduce waste and become more resource efficient.	None	Carbon Action Programme support for previous grant recipients. Prosper will offer support for new sign-ups.
	Provide decarbonisation grant funding to those organisations in most need.	Explore funding opportunities to provide decarbonisation grant funding to those organisations in most need.	A focus on seeking funding, rather than spending funding.	Without additional funding, the Carbon Action Fund will not be run again in 2025/26.
	Support the reskilling and upskilling of residents into retrofitting and other careers linked to clean growth.	Support the reskilling and upskilling of residents into retrofitting and other careers linked to clean growth.	None	Continued support through the Retrofit Programme delivered by Exeter College.
	Ensure that large scale employment development is coupled with sustainable travel options.	Ensure that large scale employment development is coupled with sustainable travel options.	None	Delivery of the Active Travel Fund, specifically the Mosshayne to Cranbrook cyclepath.
	Provide retrofitting grants to households in poverty who cannot access support from other schemes.	Provide retrofitting grants to households in poverty who cannot access support from other schemes.	None	Exeter Community Energy will deliver this through the Action on Poverty Fund.
	Support projects which seek to directly link climate action and nature recovery with our local culture and tourism offer.	Support projects which seek to directly link climate action and nature recovery with our local culture and tourism offer.	None	Creative East Devon Fund for small revenue grants. Also links to the sustainable travel campaign through Sus-Tour budget.
Social	Develop bids to support high streets and regenerate town centres, focusing on sustainable retail and an attractive social offer.	Develop proposals to support high streets and regenerate town centres, focusing on sustainable retail and an attractive social offer.	Focus on proposals rather than bids, as funds cannot be guaranteed.	Projects stemming from Exmouth Placemaking.
	Lead on the delivery of town centres for our new communities to improve pride in place.	Lead on the delivery of town centres for our new communities to improve pride in place.	None	Delivery of Cranbox initiative.
	Fund cultural and leisure projects targeted to improve the lifestyle offer for young adults and promote the existing offer more widely	Fund cultural and leisure projects targeted to improve the lifestyle offer for young adults and promote the existing offer more widely	None	UKSPF culture and leisure programme with more focus on young people and young adults.
	Explore the viability of innovative projects to provide housing for young professionals in our coastal and market towns.	N/A	Postpone priority	Unlikely to come forward in the next year.
	Help coordinate employment support for economically inactive residents of all ages, including specialist support for those with disabilities.	Help coordinate employment support for economically inactive residents of all ages, including specialist support for those with disabilities.	None	Employment Hub funded for another year.
	Facilitate and promote voluntary and mentoring opportunities for those at or near retirement age.	Develop a new business support programme for young entrepreneurs, including voluntary and mentorship for those at or near retirement	Integrate the project into a wider support initiative.	To link in with a wider support offer.
	N/A	Promote succession plan options for business owners nearing retirement which promote resilience and innovation.	New priority	Small financial incentives.
Resource	Produce a Business Charter committing the Council to providing quality public services to local businesses which offer value for money	Produce a Customer Charter committing the Council to providing quality public services to local businesses which offer value for money	Retitled to Customer Charter to avoid duplication.	Directly feed into the development of the Customer Charter, ensuring this is applicable to businesses.
	To ensure a responsive and efficient planning service for businesses and commercial developers.	To ensure a responsive and efficient planning service for businesses and commercial developers.	None	Review of discretionary fees for pre-apps. Potential for discounts for smaller developments.
	Continue to provide an agile and approachable inward investment service to land high-value, aspirational employers.	Continue to provide an agile and approachable inward investment service to land high-value, aspirational employers.	None	Continue to deliver.

	Create a networking group of local businesses to share best practice, connect and collaborate.	Establish regular briefing sessions to keep local businesses up to speed on changes and updates from the council.	Moving away from a networking group and instead focussing on EDDC-business relationship.	A group to act as a 'sounding-board' to sense check and review EDDC actions, and to provide business insights.
	Ensure that East Devon businesses and start-ups can access free and professional business support services.	Ensure that East Devon businesses and start-ups can access free and professional business support services.	None	Prosper to continue into 2025/26.

**EDS Indicative Workplan Jul25-Jul26**

Activity	Type	Policy Priorities	Cost	Budget	Resource	Officer
Continue to run the East Devon Carbon Action Programme for previous grant recipients.	Contract management	Environmental (P1)	£34,720	CAP (internal)	Low	Economic Development Officer
Continued financial support of the Retrofit Programme.	Contract management	Environmental (P3)	£33,993	Retrofit (internal)	Low	Economic Development Officer
Continue to fund the awarding of retrofitting grants to households in poverty.	Contract management	Environmental (P5)	£129,913	Action on Poverty (internal)	Low	Benefits and Financial Resilience Manager
Continue to financially support the East Devon Tourism Network.	Contract management	Industrial (P5)	£10,000	LABGI (internal)	High	Senior Economic Development Officer
Continue to fund the Prosper business support service.	Contract management	Resource (P5), Environmental (P1)	£75,000	UKSPF	Low	Economic Development Manager
Continue funding the Leisure Outreach Programme.	Contract management	Social (P3)	£34,000	UKSPF	Low	Senior Leisure Officer
Continue funding the Honiton Employment Hub.	Contract management	Social (P5)	£90,000	UKSPF	Low	Economic Development Officer
Fund a new farm business support provision.	Contract management (NEW)	Industrial (P6), Resource (P5)	£20,000	Business Support (internal)	Low	Economic Development Manager
Continued delivery of the Sustainable Tourism Programme.	Programme	Industrial (P4, P5), Environmental (P6)	£29,000	UKSPF	High	Senior Economic Development Officer
Continue feasibility work and projects stemming from the Exmouth Placemaking initiative.	Programme	Social (P1)	Unknown	Exmouth Placemaking (internal)	High	Project Manager Place & Prosperity
Continued delivery of the Culture programme, including the Creative East Devon Fund grant scheme.	Programme	Social (P3), Environmental (P6)	£37,563	UKSPF	High	Cultural Producer
Continued delivery of the Enterprise Zone programme	Programme	Workspace (P1)	Unknown	EZ funding	High	Project Manager (PAC)
Continue to bring forward stalled employment sites through the Employment Delivery Project Team.	Programme	Workspace (P2, P3)	Unknown	PWLB	High	Corporate Lead - Major Projects & Programmes
Continue to establish Local Development Orders for Sky Park and the Science Park.	Programme	Workspace (P3)	Unknown	None	High	Project Manager (PAC)
Delivery of the Mosshayne to Cranbrook cyclepath.	Project	Environmental (P4)	£200,000	Active Travel (internal)	High	Green Infrastructure Project Manager
Run fourth round of the Innovation and Resilience Fund (IRF) grant scheme.	Project	Industrial (P1, P2, P4, P5, P6), Workspace (P6)	£190,000	UKSPF	High	Economic Development Officer
Relaunch an expanded and enhanced Commercial Property Register.	Project	Workspace (P5)	N/A	None	Medium	Senior Economic Development Officer
Explore a Gate to Plate event for Cranbrook.	Project (NEW)	Industrial (P5)	£5,000	LABGI	Medium	Economic Development Manager
Develop a Customer Charter which is applicable to businesses as well as residents.	Project (NEW)	Resource (P1)	N/A	None	Low	Senior Economic Development Officer
Establish regular briefing sessions for local businesses on EDDC work.	Project (NEW)	Resource (P4)	N/A	None	Medium	Senior Economic Development Officer
Continue delivery of the Cranbox development.	Project (NEW)	Social (P2)	£1,950,742	Devolution funding	High	Project Manager (PAC)
Create a new business support offer for young entrepreneurs.	Project (NEW)	Social (P6), Resource (P5)	£25,000	Business Support (internal)	Medium	Senior Economic Development Officer

Create a small grant incentive scheme to increase take-up of employee ownership succession plans.	Project (NEW)	Social (P7)	£5,000	Business Support (internal)	Low	Economic Development Manager
Explore opportunities through the High Street Rental Auctions Fund to bring vacant town centres units back into active use.	Project (NEW)	Workspace (6), Social (P1)	N/A	None	Medium	Economic Development Manager
Continue to provide an agile and approachable inward investment service.	Service	Resource (P3)	N/A	None	Medium	Senior Economic Development Officer
Continue to provide planning application responses and review employment and skills plans.	Service	Workspace (P4)	N/A	None	Low	Economic Development Officer