Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Tourism Investment Support Scheme (TISS)

Guidance Note

What is TISS?

- It's a discretionary Welsh Government Visit Wales fund supporting priority tourism products (existing and new) including: 4 and 5 Star hotels; top end serviced accommodation experiences; destination restaurants; spa and meetings facilities; attractions and activity products; high quality self catering, camping and caravan park products. The list is not exhaustive.
- Eligible expenditure includes building work and fixtures & fittings (for existing businesses an improved grading must result).
- Revenue, purchase of a property, purchase of antiques, maintenance & repair costs, and local facilities (eg. retail) are not eligible.
- It targets viable, sustainable and high quality private sector tourism capital projects in Wales that:
  (a) meet the objectives of the Tourism Strategy 'Partnership for Growth 2014 -2020';
  (b) create and safeguard jobs, realising economic benefit & growth, and
  (c) deliver quality, innovation and sense of place.
- Welsh Government has made a commitment in 'A Living Language: a Language for Living', the National Action Plan for a Bilingual Wales and its Welsh Language Scheme to mainstream the Welsh Language across policy areas.
- TISS support reflects this commitment and beneficiaries are expected to consider and comply with Welsh Language requirements.

What funding is available?

- TISS is a funder of last resort and applicants must therefore evidence that support is needed and that all other private and commercial sources have been exhausted.
- Support of between £25,000 and £500,000 will be considered (unless there are exceptional circumstances).
- The maximum level of support will be the lesser of either 25% of eligible capital costs (subject to State Aid limits) or 40% of the average annual (basic) salary of the full time equivalent (FTE) jobs created and safeguarded.
- FTE jobs can include full time, part time, casual and seasonal staff.
- To qualify for the minimum £25,000 support level, as a guideline a project would therefore need to create a minimum 4-5 FTE jobs (unless there are exceptional circumstances).
- Support in all cases will include a mix of non-repayable grant and repayable business finance.
- The repayable element will be a minimum 30% but can be up to 100%, dependant on the circumstances.
- Repayments will be managed by Finance Wales, with a 0% interest rate, repayable over a period of between 3 and 10 years, with the possibility of an initial repayment holiday (where necessary).

- If an application is successful, a formal offer will be issued.
- The release of support (which could be in instalments) will then depend on the successful completion of the project, triggered by evidenced project spend and the achievement of job targets, as detailed in the offer.
- Payment will not be released unless costs have been defrayed (spent). Targets will also include achieving a grade (where appropriate) and meeting any other requirements such as those related to the Welsh Language.

How do I enquire?

- To enquire, complete an Introductory Questionnaire (IQ), call or e mail. This is informal, and is not an application. We may ask for further information or respond with an application form.
- It is unlikely that an application will be decided without planning permission, or pre purchase, and, NB. starting work, committing to or spending on the project development works pre the TISS decision will disqualify an application.
- Generally, completed applications will be appraised and decided within 5 to 8 weeks.
- Please refer to the contacts and links for further information.

Contacts & References

Contact the TISS team on:-

Telephone: **0845 010 8020**
Email: **tiss@wales.gsi.gov.uk**

Links

TISS Website
National Tourism Strategy
Introductory Questionnaire (IQ) Enquiry Form
State Aid
Business Wales
Finance Wales
The Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act
Welsh Language Standards

OGL

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