

Report of the Strategic Director, Place to the meeting of the Shipley Area Committee to be held on 13th September 2023

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Subject:

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Summary statement:

This report provides a review of the above funding opportunity and provides an outline of how the devolved funding will be distributed in Bradford. The report will focus on the role of the Area Committees in terms of decision maker of local funding and influencer of the district delivery.

Equality & Diversity

The district plan ambitions have been used to design the program for UKSPF in Bradford. The District Plan is underpinned by a cross cutting principle of tackling inequality in our communities. UKSPF will set out a program of activity that supports this as a core outcome. Corporately as a Council we have committed to keeping equalities at the heart of what we do – ‘This means everyone can access services regardless of their background, that we embrace our different communities across the whole district and that we build an inclusive organisation.’ In collaboration with partners UKSPF will support this approach and will address inequality and improve opportunities for communities across the district.

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1. SUMMARY

UKSPF replaces the European Structural and Investment Fund following Brexit. The Allocation for West Yorkshire is £80,486,557. It is allocated over a 3-year period, with approx. £12 million delivered in 2022-23, £21 million in 2023-24, and £48 million in 2024-25. The three-pillar Framework allocating UKSPF funding operates across these pillars, Pillar 1 (Communities and Place), Pillar 2 (Supporting Local Business) and Pillar 3 (People and Skills). WYCA is supporting a two-tiered approach to distribution of the funding. £7.578 million of the UKSPF funding will be allocated to Bradford.

This paper provides an update on Year 2 activity agreed by Committee Chairs on 17th August for the allocated funding through Area Committees.

2. BACKGROUND

It was agreed in December 2022 in a meeting with area Chairs that a total of £1,450,000 of UKSPF funding would be allocated to Area Committees over the three-year programme to allow each area a bigger say in how funding is spent in their area.

Revenue funding

For Year 2 (current financial year) the total revenue allocation for the five areas is £150,000, of which Shipley's allocation is £35,034.

The proposal to Chairs was to add this allocation to two additional funding pots coming to the district (the 'West Yorkshire Lord Mayor's Cost of Living Fund' and the 'Household Support Fund') totalling £594,000, all focussing on supporting with Cost of Living / households to simplify the time and effort spent by predominantly voluntary organisations applying to and deliver funding. It was agreed to allocate a base amount of £50,000 per area, with the remaining funding being allocated based on the deprivation formula % per area. The breakdown of funding for Shipley is set out below:

Bradford - Community Grants				
Constituency	% of District (Deprivation Formula)	Grant per Area (Formula only)	Base amount	Grant per Area (base amount + formula)
Shipley	9.30%	£31,992.00	£50,000	£81,992.00

The grant programme will go live 4th September, and a coordinator role will be recruited for to support all five areas with delivery. Money must be spent by 31st March 2024.

Capital funding

For Year 2 (current financial year) the total capital allocation for the five areas is £60,000, of which Shipley's allocation is £10,000.

The proposal was for the whole pot to be spent on the district wide Citizen Coin programme, rewarding volunteers across the district with coins that can be spent on

or provide discount for items and activities. Chairs did not reach a consensus, so far Bradford East, West and South (confirmed by Cllr Green) want to draw down the funds to Areas, Shipley wants to leave centrally, and Keighley Chair is considering what she would like to do.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

None

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

The proposal does not require any additional finding from the Council with administration and management being managed within existing budgets and the permitted aspects of UKSPF funding allocated to such.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

The allocated funding will be overseen by the Wellbeing Board in Bradford, Chaired by the Council Leader. A project board is in development.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

Allocation of UKSPF funding must be applied in a consistent manner for which it is provided. This reports to set forth principles of application, and each individual specific proposal must ensure compliance with the criteria.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The district plan is underpinned by sustainability goals. As the priorities have been set using the district plan the outcomes achieved from this funding help us achieve our district goals on sustainability.

7.2 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

The work planned on greening areas of Bradford, working with businesses on decarbonisation and supporting household with the costs of living crisis all support this agenda.

7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Creating civic pride through the implementation of UKSPF will have a secondary benefit of building community cohesiveness and will increase safety and the perceptions of safety.

7.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

There are no specific issues arising from this report.

7.5.1 TRADE UNION

There are no specific issues arising from this report.

7.5.2 WARD IMPLICATIONS

This is detailed within the main body of the report and is key to the successful delivery of the programme.

7.7 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS (for reports to Area Committees only)

See above.

7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The district plan contains specific outcomes that relate to children and young people. Interventions planned will bring direct and indirect benefit to them as a result of the district plan being the backdrop to the program.

7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

There are no specific issues arising from this report.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None

9. OPTIONS

None.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 That the contents of this report are noted.

10.2 That the Area Committee accept an annual report on the progress on UKSPF delivery.

11. APPENDICES

None.

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None