



**INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER AND OFFICER DELEGATED DECISIONS**

**FRIDAY, 27 JANUARY 2023**

Please find enclosed Decision Notices in connection with the following:

1. UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF): Supporting Local Business (Pages 2 - 13)
2. UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Round 1 Award: Community and Place (Pages 14 - 26)
3. UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Round 1 Award: Improving Town Centres and High Streets (Pages 27 - 38)
4. UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Round 1 Award: Supporting Decarbonisation (Pages 39 - 50)
5. UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Round 1 Award: Arts and Culture (Pages 51 - 62)

Please note that these are subject to call-in.

**Queries regarding these documents**

Please contact Liz Bateson, Democratic Services - email [ebateson@lancaster.gov.uk](mailto:ebateson@lancaster.gov.uk).

Democratic Services,  
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Dalton Square,  
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Published on FRIDAY, 27 JANUARY 2023



*Promoting City, Coast & Countryside*

**EXECUTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER OR DELEGATED OFFICER  
NOTICE OF DECISION**

<b>TITLE OF DECISION: UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Round 1 Award: Supporting Local Business</b>			
<b>NAME OF DECISION TAKER:</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR TIM HAMILTON-COX</b>		
<b>POSITION AND RESPONSIBILITY HELD:</b>	<b>CABINET MEMBER AND PORTFOLIO HOLDER, SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC PROSPERITY</b>		
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>JEZ BEBBINGTON, EXECUTIVE SUPPORT MANAGER</b>		
<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	01524 582011		
<b>E-MAIL:</b>	UKSPF@lancaster.gov.uk		
<b>Details of Decision:</b>			
<p>To delegate the Chief Executive to finalise and agree an award of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) funds in respect of Intervention E23: Strengthening local entrepreneurial ecosystems. As set out in the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process, funds will be awarded to deliver the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Growing Club CIC</li> <li>- Electech Innovation Cluster</li> </ul>			
<b>Reasons for the decision:</b>			
<p>Lancaster City Council's UKSPF Investment Plan sets out its plan for delivering the Lancaster district's £5.3m UKSPF allocation from 2022-25. The Investment Plan was agreed by government in December 2022.</p> <p>Implementing the UKSPF programme requires the council to allocate funds to a range of projects which will deliver on the outcomes and outputs set out in the Investment Plan. This initial allocation in respect of Intervention E23 will enable the project(s) to commence delivery at an early stage in the programme and begin creating positive local impact.</p>			
<b>IS THE DECISION URGENT</b>			
<b>No</b>			
<p><b>I can confirm that this decision is urgent as any delay likely to be caused by the Call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests and therefore is not subject to Call-in. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been consulted. I hereby agree both that the decision proposed is reasonable, in all the circumstances, and to it being treated as a matter of urgency.</b></p>			
<b>Signed : n/a</b>			
<p><b>I confirm that I have taken account of the options proposed by officers, the various implications set out in the report and the comments of the Monitoring and Section 151 Officers and am authorising the decision as set out above.</b></p>			
<b>SIGNATURE OF DECISION TAKER:</b>	Cllr Hamilton-Cox		
<b>DATE:</b>	27.1.23		
<i>THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES</i>			<b>REF NO.</b>
			ICMD16
<b>DATE DECISION TAKEN:</b>	27.01.23	<b>DATE RECEIVED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES:</b>	27.01.23
<b>DATE DECISION PUBLISHED:</b>	27.01.23	<b>IMPLEMENTATION DATE ( publication day + 5 working days):</b>	06.02.23

**CABINET**

**UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF): Supporting  
Local Business  
Individual Cabinet Member Decision: Councillor Tim  
Hamilton-Cox**

**Report of Executive Support Manager**

PURPOSE OF REPORT			
To delegate to the Chief Executive the authority to finalise and agree UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) awards in respect of Intervention E23: Strengthening local entrepreneurial ecosystems, in line with the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process.			
Key Decision	<b>X</b>	Non-Key Decision	Referral from Cabinet Member
Date of notice of forthcoming key decision	16 November 2022		
<b>This report is public; Appendix A is exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972</b>			

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXECUTIVE SUPPORT MANAGER**

- (1) That the Chief Executive be delegated to finalise and agree UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) awards in respect of Intervention E23: Strengthening entrepreneurial ecosystems. Funds will be awarded as set out in the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process, to deliver the projects:
- The Growing Club CIC
  - Electech Innovation Cluster

In accordance with the accompanying ICMD and exempt appendix.

**1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 In April 2022 the government announced the [prospectus for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund \(UKSPF\)](#), to be delivered by local authorities from 2022-25.
- 1.2 The Lancaster district was provisionally allocated £5.3m of UKSPF funding, to be administered by Lancaster City Council and subject to the submission of an Investment Plan detailing the council's proposals for delivering the funding in line with the requirements of the prospectus.

**2.0 Investment Plan**

- 2.1 Following a highly consultative development process during summer 2022, Cabinet at its meetings of [12 July 2022](#) and [26 July 2022](#) considered the

council's Investment Plan proposals, which were subsequently finalised and submitted to meet the government's deadline of 1 August 2022.

- 2.2 The council received approval of its Investment Plan in December 2022, followed by release of the initial tranche of funding for 2022-23.

### **3.0 Applications**

- 3.1 In preparation for the approval of its Investment Plan, during October and November 2022 the council invited applications for projects with the ability to commence delivery within Year 1 (2022-23) of the programme and in line with the council's Investment Plan priorities.
- 3.2 A total of 36 applications were received across the UKSPF's Community & Place, Supporting Local Business and People & Skills priorities. The full list of Year 1 applications is included in the exempt appendix to this report.

### **4.0 Evaluation**

- 4.1 Applications have been evaluated in line with HM Treasury's 'five cases' best practice approach to business case development (considering the strategic, economic, commercial, financial and management case for each project) as well as the Critical Success Factors agreed by Cabinet at its meeting of 12 July 2022:
- Climate Emergency
  - Affordable
  - Deliverable
  - Impact
  - Inclusive
  - Collaborative
  - Proven Track Record
  - Scalable
- 4.2 Following initial evaluation in November 2022, informal discussions with Cabinet in December 2022 considered the proposed strategic approach and provisional recommendations for funding awards from the first round of applications.
- 4.3 Subsequent further technical evaluation has been conducted to ensure projects are strongly aligned to UKSPF criteria as well as meeting all relevant obligations of the funding.

### **5.0 Proposal Details**

- 5.1 It is proposed that applications be considered for a decision based on the following three outcomes:
- 1) *Award funds within Year 1 and subsequent years where appropriate, and begin implementation:* projects which clearly meet the criteria and can commence delivery within Year 1
  - 2) *Defer to Year 2 application process:* projects for Interventions with no further Year 1 funding available, which are considered less deliverable within Year 1, or require further development to become eligible
  - 3) *Do not consider awarding funding:* projects which are less well aligned to the criteria or strategic fit
- 5.2 The recommended decision for each application is contained in the exempt appendix to this report.
- 5.3 Specific to the relevant portfolio area of Sustainable Economic Prosperity, the following project(s) are proposed for a funding award within Year 1 and

subsequent years where appropriate, in respect of Intervention E23 as set out in the Investment Plan:

- **The Growing Club CIC (Years 1 and 2; any award for Year 3 would be subject to demonstrating successful delivery of project outcomes):** Supporting women to start sustainable businesses and those already running micro-businesses to grow and create employment.
- **Electech Innovation Cluster (Years 1 and 2; any award for Year 3 would be subject to demonstrating successful delivery of project outcomes):** Bringing together local electronic engineering businesses of various sizes, working across a wide range of sectors, collectively striving to enhance the area's reputation as a centre of excellence for electronics design and manufacture.

- 5.4 Should the recommendation in this report be approved, officers will initiate the process of finalising all relevant details and agree contractual arrangements for the projects to be delivered in accordance with the UKSPF programme's guidance and requirements, and within the funding envelope defined by the council's Investment Plan.
- 5.5 Some projects may contribute to the delivery of multiple UKSPF Interventions, and as such may draw on funds allocated to a number of Interventions set out in the Investment Plan.
- 5.6 Delivering the complex and wide-ranging UKSPF programme will require a degree of flexibility in managing the specific funding allocated to each of the three Priorities and thirteen Interventions contained in the Investment Plan. All allocations will be determined within the parameters of the UKSPF programme's change control process.

## 6.0 Details of Consultation

- 6.1 Delivering a successful UKSPF programme from 2022-25 will be fundamentally dependent on a consultative, collaborative and inclusive approach. The council's programme so far has been characterised by this principle, with wide-ranging consultation including:
- Focus groups and an open Expression of Interest process in summer 2022 to support development of the Investment Plan
  - The formation of a Local Partnership Group, in line with the UKSPF Prospectus, to advise and support the Investment Plan development process and subsequent activity in preparation for Year 1
- 6.2 The technical nature of project evaluation along with its 'competitive' element means that limited consultation is possible in considering funding awards for specific projects at this stage.
- 6.3 However, a consultative process has been taken with Cabinet members to ensure recommendations are in line with the desired strategic direction.

## 7.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)

	<b>Option 1:</b> Award UKSPF funding in respect of the specified project(s)	<b>Option 2:</b> Do not award UKSPF funding for the specified project(s)
Advantages	Commence delivery of the UKSPF programme with its associated benefits to the district.	Opportunity to consider other projects by not committing funding at this time.
Disadvantages	No specific disadvantages beyond demands on the organisation of delivering the programme.	Failure to deliver on the UKSPF programme.

Risks	Projects may require further development in finalising and agreeing details.	Failure of the council to fulfil its duty of delivering the UKSPF programme.
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**8.0 Officer Preferred Option (and comments)**

8.1 The officer preferred option is option 1, to commence delivery of the UKSPF programme.

**9.0 Conclusion**

9.1 A robust process has been conducted in the development of an approved Investment Plan, followed by the evaluation of project proposals.

9.2 This report sets out the proposed approach to commencing delivery of the programme, and as such it is recommended that officers be delegated to finalise and agree funding awards for the initial tranche of projects.

**RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK**

The UKSPF Priorities demonstrate significant overlap with the council’s Plan 2030 Priorities. As such, UKSPF projects and funding awards provide additional opportunity to advance the council’s strategic priorities. This is reflected in the strategic design of the programme to meet the Council’s goals.

**CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**(including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, HR, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)**

All UKSPF projects are required to be delivered in line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, with the relevant contractual obligations placed on those delivering projects as part of the conditions for receiving funding.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Legal Services have been consulted throughout this process and will also advise on any necessary legal agreements in relation to grant funding arrangements.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. All awards to projects are funded by UKSPF money which has been received upfront for Year 1 awards and will be for subsequent years which eases any cashflow concerns. With regard to the resources used to administer the fund, the award includes a 4% allowance to assist. Any additional requirement will be managed from existing budgets.

**OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

**Human Resources:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Information Services:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Property:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Open Spaces:**

Click here for open spaces

**SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The s151 Officer has been consulted and has no comments to add at this time.

**MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Appendix (Exempt):

Summary of UKSPF Year 1 Applications

**Contact Officer:** Jez Bebbington, Executive Support Manager

**Telephone:** 01524 582011

**E-mail:** UKSPF@lancaster.gov.uk

Document is Restricted





*Promoting City, Coast & Countryside*

**EXECUTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER OR DELEGATED OFFICER  
NOTICE OF DECISION**

<b>TITLE OF DECISION: UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Round 1 Award: Community and Place</b>			
<b>NAME OF DECISION TAKER:</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR CAROLINE JACKSON</b>		
<b>POSITION AND RESPONSIBILITY HELD:</b>	<b>CABINET MEMBER AND LEADER OF THE COUNCIL</b>		
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>JEZ BEBBINGTON, EXECUTIVE SUPPORT MANAGER</b>		
<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	01524 582011		
<b>E-MAIL:</b>	UKSPF@lancaster.gov.uk		
<b>Details of Decision:</b>			
<p>To delegate the Chief Executive to finalise and agree an award of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) funds in respect of the following Interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- E11: Capacity building &amp; infrastructure support for local groups</li> <li>- E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living</li> </ul> <p>Funds will be awarded as set out in the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process, to deliver the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Cost of Living Community Support</li> <li>- Feasibility Study: Net Zero Community Hub</li> <li>- Community Learning Network</li> </ul>			
<b>Reasons for the decision:</b>			
<p>Lancaster City Council's UKSPF Investment Plan sets out its plan for delivering the Lancaster district's £5.3m UKSPF allocation from 2022-25. The Investment Plan was agreed by government in December 2022.</p> <p>Implementing the UKSPF programme requires the council to allocate funds to a range of projects which will deliver on the outcomes and outputs set out in the Investment Plan. This initial allocation in respect of Interventions E11 and E13 will enable the project(s) to commence delivery at an early stage in the programme and begin creating positive local impact.</p>			
<b>IS THE DECISION URGENT</b>			
<b>No</b>			
<p><b>I can confirm that this decision is urgent as any delay likely to be caused by the Call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests and therefore is not subject to Call-in. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been consulted. I hereby agree both that the decision proposed is reasonable, in all the circumstances, and to it being treated as a matter of urgency.</b></p> <p><b>Signed : n/a</b></p>			
<p><b>I confirm that I have taken account of the options proposed by officers, the various implications set out in the report and the comments of the Monitoring and Section 151 Officers and am authorising the decision as set out above.</b></p>			
<b>SIGNATURE OF DECISION TAKER:</b>	Cllr Caroline Jackson		
<b>DATE:</b>	27.01.23		
<i>THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES</i>			<b>REF NO.</b>
			ICMD17
<b>DATE DECISION TAKEN:</b>	27.01.23	<b>DATE RECEIVED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES:</b>	27.01.23

**LANCASTER**  
**CITY COUNCIL**

*Promoting City, Coast & Countryside*

<b>DATE DECISION PUBLISHED:</b>	27.01.23	<b>IMPLEMENTATION DATE ( publication day + 5 working days):</b>	06.02.23
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**CABINET****UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF): Community and Place****Individual Cabinet Member Decision: Councillor Caroline Jackson****Report of Executive Support Manager****PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To delegate to the Chief Executive the authority to finalise and agree UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) awards in respect of the following Interventions:

- E11 Capacity building & infrastructure support for local groups
- E13 Community measures to reduce the cost of living

Funds will be awarded in line with the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process.

Key Decision

**X**

Non-Key Decision

Referral from Cabinet Member

Date of notice of forthcoming key decision

16 November 2022

**This report is public; Appendix A is exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972**

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXECUTIVE SUPPORT MANAGER**

(1) That the Chief Executive be delegated to finalise and agree UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) awards in respect of the following Interventions:

- E11 Capacity building & infrastructure support for local groups
- E13 Community measures to reduce the cost of living

Funds will be awarded as set out in the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process, to deliver the following projects in accordance with the accompanying ICMD and exempt appendix:

- Cost of Living Community Support
- Feasibility Study: Net Zero Community Hub
- Community Learning Network

**1.0 Introduction**

1.1 In April 2022 the government announced the [prospectus for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund \(UKSPF\)](#), to be delivered by local authorities from 2022-25.

1.2 The Lancaster district was provisionally allocated £5.3m of UKSPF funding, to be administered by Lancaster City Council and subject to the submission of

an Investment Plan detailing the council's proposals for delivering the funding in line with the requirements of the prospectus.

## **2.0 Investment Plan**

- 2.1 Following a highly consultative development process during summer 2022, Cabinet at its meetings of [12 July 2022](#) and [26 July 2022](#) considered the council's Investment Plan proposals, which were subsequently finalised and submitted to meet the government's deadline of 1 August 2022.
- 2.2 The council received approval of its Investment Plan in December 2022, followed by release of the initial tranche of funding for 2022-23.

## **3.0 Applications**

- 3.1 In preparation for the approval of its Investment Plan, during October and November 2022 the council invited applications for projects with the ability to commence delivery within Year 1 (2022-23) of the programme and in line with the council's Investment Plan priorities.
- 3.2 A total of 36 applications were received across the UKSPF's Community & Place, Supporting Local Business and People & Skills priorities. The full list of Year 1 applications is included in the exempt appendix to this report.

## **4.0 Evaluation**

- 4.1 Applications have been evaluated in line with HM Treasury's 'five cases' best practice approach to business case development (considering the strategic, economic, commercial, financial and management case for each project) as well as the Critical Success Factors agreed by Cabinet at its meeting of 12 July 2022:
- Climate Emergency
  - Affordable
  - Deliverable
  - Impact
  - Inclusive
  - Collaborative
  - Proven Track Record
  - Scalable
- 4.2 Following initial evaluation in November 2022, informal discussions with Cabinet in December 2022 considered the proposed strategic approach and provisional recommendations for funding awards from the first round of applications.
- 4.3 Subsequent further technical evaluation has been conducted to ensure projects are strongly aligned to UKSPF criteria as well as meeting all relevant obligations of the funding.

## **5.0 Proposal Details**

- 5.1 It is proposed that applications be considered for a decision based on the following three outcomes:
- 1) *Award funds within Year 1 and subsequent years where appropriate, and begin implementation:* projects which clearly meet the criteria and can commence delivery within Year 1
  - 2) *Defer to Year 2 application process:* projects for Interventions with no further Year 1 funding available, which are considered less deliverable within Year 1, or require further development to become eligible

- 3) *Do not consider awarding funding:* projects which are less well aligned to the criteria or strategic fit
- 5.2 The recommended decision for each application is contained in the exempt appendix to this report.
- 5.3 Specific to the relevant portfolio area of the Leader, the following project(s) are proposed for a funding award within Year 1 and subsequent years where appropriate, in respect of Interventions E11 and E13 as set out in the Investment Plan:
- **Cost of Living Community Support (Year 1 only):** Enabling existing community groups and networks to support local communities with addressing the cost of living.
  - **Feasibility Study: Net Zero Community Hub (Year 1 only):** Feasibility study that will begin to develop a community-led social action hub.
  - **Community Learning Network (Years 1 and 2; any award for Year 3 would be subject to demonstrating successful delivery of project outcomes):** Creating a network that provides educational and training opportunities, particularly in disadvantaged areas where poverty and other barriers affect everyday lives and prevent them from participating fully in society.
- 5.4 Should the recommendation in this report be approved, officers will initiate the process of finalising all relevant details and agree contractual arrangements for the projects to be delivered in accordance with the UKSPF programme's guidance and requirements, and within the funding envelope defined by the council's Investment Plan.
- 5.5 Some projects may contribute to the delivery of multiple UKSPF Interventions, and as such may draw on funds allocated to a number of Interventions set out in the Investment Plan.
- 5.6 Delivering the complex and wide-ranging UKSPF programme will require a degree of flexibility in managing the specific funding allocated to each of the three Priorities and thirteen Interventions contained in the Investment Plan. All allocations will be determined within the parameters of the UKSPF programme's change control process.

## **6.0 Details of Consultation**

- 6.1 Delivering a successful UKSPF programme from 2022-25 will be fundamentally dependent on a consultative, collaborative and inclusive approach. The council's programme so far has been characterised by this principle, with wide-ranging consultation including:
- Focus groups and an open Expression of Interest process in summer 2022 to support development of the Investment Plan
  - The formation of a Local Partnership Group, in line with the UKSPF Prospectus, to advise and support the Investment Plan development process and subsequent activity in preparation for Year 1
- 6.2 The technical nature of project evaluation along with its 'competitive' element means that limited consultation is possible in considering funding awards for specific projects at this stage.
- 6.3 However, a consultative process has been taken with Cabinet members to ensure recommendations are in line with the desired strategic direction.

## 7.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)

	<b>Option 1:</b> Award UKSPF funding in respect of the specified project(s)	<b>Option 2:</b> Do not award UKSPF funding for the specified project(s)
Advantages	Commence delivery of the UKSPF programme with its associated benefits to the district.	Opportunity to consider other projects by not committing funding at this time.
Disadvantages	No specific disadvantages beyond demands on the organisation of delivering the programme.	Failure to deliver on the UKSPF programme.
Risks	Projects may require further development in finalising and agreeing details.	Failure of the council to fulfil its duty of delivering the UKSPF programme.

### 8.0 Officer Preferred Option (and comments)

8.1 The officer preferred option is option 1, to commence delivery of the UKSPF programme.

### 9.0 Conclusion

9.1 A robust process has been conducted in the development of an approved Investment Plan, followed by the evaluation of project proposals.

9.2 This report sets out the proposed approach to commencing delivery of the programme, and as such it is recommended that officers be delegated to finalise and agree funding awards for the initial tranche of projects.

### RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK

The UKSPF Priorities demonstrate significant overlap with the council's Plan 2030 Priorities. As such, UKSPF projects and funding awards provide additional opportunity to advance the council's strategic priorities. This is reflected in the strategic design of the programme to meet the Council's goals.

### CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT

**(including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, HR, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)**

All UKSPF projects are required to be delivered in line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, with the relevant contractual obligations placed on those delivering projects as part of the conditions for receiving funding.

### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Legal Services have been consulted throughout this process and will also advise on any necessary legal agreements in relation to grant funding arrangements.

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. All awards to projects are funded by UKSPF money which has been received upfront for Year 1 awards and will be for subsequent years which eases any cashflow concerns. With regard to the resources used to administer the fund, the award includes a 4% allowance to assist. Any additional requirement will be managed from existing budgets.

**OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

**Human Resources:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Information Services:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Property:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Open Spaces:**

Click here for open spaces

**SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The s151 Officer has been consulted and has no comments to add at this time.

**MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Appendix (Exempt):

Summary of UKSPF Year 1 Applications

**Contact Officer:** Jez Bebbington, Executive Support Manager

**Telephone:** 01524 582011

**E-mail:** UKSPF@lancaster.gov.uk

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted



# LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL

*Promoting City, Coast & Countryside*

## EXECUTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER OR DELEGATED OFFICER NOTICE OF DECISION

<b>TITLE OF DECISION: UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Round 1 Award: Improving Town Centres and High Streets</b>			
<b>NAME OF DECISION TAKER:</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR DAVE BROOKES</b>		
<b>POSITION AND RESPONSIBILITY HELD:</b>	<b>CABINET MEMBER AND PORTFOLIO HOLDER, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</b>		
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>JEZ BEBBINGTON, EXECUTIVE SUPPORT MANAGER</b>		
<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	01524 582011		
<b>E-MAIL:</b>	UKSPF@lancaster.gov.uk		
<b>Details of Decision:</b>			
<p>To delegate the Chief Executive to finalise and agree an award of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) funds in respect of Intervention E1: Improving town centres and high streets. Funds will be awarded as set out in the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process, to deliver the project The Streets Are Ours.</p>			
<b>Reasons for the decision:</b>			
<p>Lancaster City Council's UKSPF Investment Plan sets out its plan for delivering the Lancaster district's £5.3m UKSPF allocation from 2022-25. The Investment Plan was agreed by government in December 2022.</p> <p>Implementing the UKSPF programme requires the council to allocate funds to a range of projects which will deliver on the outcomes and outputs set out in the Investment Plan. This initial allocation in respect of Intervention E1 will enable the project(s) to commence delivery at an early stage in the programme and begin creating positive local impact.</p>			
<b>IS THE DECISION URGENT</b>			
<b>No</b>			
<p><b>I can confirm that this decision is urgent as any delay likely to be caused by the Call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests and therefore is not subject to Call-in. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been consulted. I hereby agree both that the decision proposed is reasonable, in all the circumstances, and to it being treated as a matter of urgency.</b></p>			
<b>Signed : N/A</b>			
<p><b>I confirm that I have taken account of the options proposed by officers, the various implications set out in the report and the comments of the Monitoring and Section 151 Officers and am authorising the decision as set out above.</b></p>			
<b>SIGNATURE OF DECISION TAKER:</b>	Cllr D Brookes		
<b>DATE:</b>	27.01.23		
<i>THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES</i>			
		<b>REF NO.</b>	ICMD18
<b>DATE DECISION TAKEN:</b>	27.01.23	<b>DATE RECEIVED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES:</b>	27.01.23
<b>DATE DECISION PUBLISHED:</b>	27.01.23	<b>IMPLEMENTATION DATE ( publication day + 5 working days):</b>	06.02.23

<b>CABINET</b>
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**UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF): Improving Town Centres and High Streets**  
**Individual Cabinet Member Decision: Councillor Dave Brookes**

**Report of Executive Support Manager**

<b>PURPOSE OF REPORT</b>			
To delegate to the Chief Executive the authority to finalise and agree UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) awards in respect of Intervention E1: Improving town centres and high streets, in line with the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process.			
<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Non-Key Decision</b>	<b>Referral from Cabinet Member</b>
<b>Date of notice of forthcoming key decision</b>	16 November 2022		
<b>This report is public; Appendix A is exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972</b>			

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXECUTIVE SUPPORT MANAGER**

- (1) That the Chief Executive be delegated to finalise and agree UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) awards in respect of E1: Improving town centres and high streets. Funds will be awarded as set out in the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process, to deliver the project The Streets Are Ours in accordance with the accompanying ICMD and exempt appendix.

**1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 In April 2022 the government announced the [prospectus for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund \(UKSPF\)](#), to be delivered by local authorities from 2022-25.
- 1.2 The Lancaster district was provisionally allocated £5.3m of UKSPF funding, to be administered by Lancaster City Council and subject to the submission of an Investment Plan detailing the council's proposals for delivering the funding in line with the requirements of the prospectus.

**2.0 Investment Plan**

- 2.1 Following a highly consultative development process during summer 2022, Cabinet at its meetings of [12 July 2022](#) and [26 July 2022](#) considered the council's Investment Plan proposals, which were subsequently finalised and submitted to meet the government's deadline of 1 August 2022.
- 2.2 The council received approval of its Investment Plan in December 2022, followed by release of the initial tranche of funding for 2022-23.

### **3.0 Applications**

- 3.1 In preparation for the approval of its Investment Plan, during October and November 2022 the council invited applications for projects with the ability to commence delivery within Year 1 (2022-23) of the programme and in line with the council's Investment Plan priorities.
- 3.2 A total of 36 applications were received across the UKSPF's Community & Place, Supporting Local Business and People & Skills priorities. The full list of Year 1 applications is included in the exempt appendix to this report.

### **4.0 Evaluation**

- 4.1 Applications have been evaluated in line with HM Treasury's 'five cases' best practice approach to business case development (considering the strategic, economic, commercial, financial and management case for each project) as well as the Critical Success Factors agreed by Cabinet at its meeting of 12 July 2022:
- Climate Emergency
  - Affordable
  - Deliverable
  - Impact
  - Inclusive
  - Collaborative
  - Proven Track Record
  - Scalable
- 4.2 Following initial evaluation in November 2022, informal discussions with Cabinet in December 2022 considered the proposed strategic approach and provisional recommendations for funding awards from the first round of applications.
- 4.3 Subsequent further technical evaluation has been conducted to ensure projects are strongly aligned to UKSPF criteria as well as meeting all relevant obligations of the funding.

### **5.0 Proposal Details**

- 5.1 It is proposed that applications be considered for a decision based on the following three outcomes:
- 1) *Award funds within Year 1 and subsequent years where appropriate, and begin implementation:* projects which clearly meet the criteria and can commence delivery within Year 1
  - 2) *Defer to Year 2 application process:* projects for Interventions with no further Year 1 funding available, which are considered less deliverable within Year 1, or require further development to become eligible
  - 3) *Do not consider awarding funding:* projects which are less well aligned to the criteria or strategic fit
- 5.2 The recommended decision for each application is contained in the exempt appendix to this report.
- 5.3 Specific to the relevant portfolio area of Environmental Services, the following project(s) are proposed for a funding award within Year 1 and subsequent years where appropriate, in respect of Intervention E1 as set out in the Investment Plan:

- **The Streets Are Ours (Years 1 and 2; any award for Year 3 would be subject to demonstrating successful delivery of project outcomes):**  
Working with local partners in each of our district's town centres and high streets to develop and deliver public realm projects.

- 5.4 Should the recommendation in this report be approved, officers will initiate the process of finalising all relevant details and agree contractual arrangements for the projects to be delivered in accordance with the UKSPF programme's guidance and requirements, and within the funding envelope defined by the council's Investment Plan.
- 5.5 Some projects may contribute to the delivery of multiple UKSPF Interventions, and as such may draw on funds allocated to a number of Interventions set out in the Investment Plan.
- 5.6 Delivering the complex and wide-ranging UKSPF programme will require a degree of flexibility in managing the specific funding allocated to each of the three Priorities and thirteen Interventions contained in the Investment Plan. All allocations will be determined within the parameters of the UKSPF programme's change control process.

**6.0 Details of Consultation**

- 6.1 Delivering a successful UKSPF programme from 2022-25 will be fundamentally dependent on a consultative, collaborative and inclusive approach. The council's programme so far has been characterised by this principle, with wide-ranging consultation including:
- Focus groups and an open Expression of Interest process in summer 2022 to support development of the Investment Plan
  - The formation of a Local Partnership Group, in line with the UKSPF Prospectus, to advise and support the Investment Plan development process and subsequent activity in preparation for Year 1
- 6.2 The technical nature of project evaluation along with its 'competitive' element means that limited consultation is possible in considering funding awards for specific projects at this stage.
- 6.3 However, a consultative process has been taken with Cabinet members to ensure recommendations are in line with the desired strategic direction.

**7.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)**

	<b>Option 1:</b> Award UKSPF funding in respect of the specified project(s)	<b>Option 2:</b> Do not award UKSPF funding for the specified project(s)
Advantages	Commence delivery of the UKSPF programme with its associated benefits to the district.	Opportunity to consider other projects by not committing funding at this time.
Disadvantages	No specific disadvantages beyond demands on the organisation of delivering the programme.	Failure to deliver on the UKSPF programme.
Risks	Projects may require further development in finalising and agreeing details.	Failure of the council to fulfil its duty of delivering the UKSPF programme.

**8.0 Officer Preferred Option (and comments)**

- 8.1 The officer preferred option is option 1, to commence delivery of the UKSPF programme.

**9.0 Conclusion**

- 9.1 A robust process has been conducted in the development of an approved Investment Plan, followed by the evaluation of project proposals.
- 9.2 This report sets out the proposed approach to commencing delivery of the programme, and as such it is recommended that officers be delegated to finalise and agree funding awards for the initial tranche of projects.

**RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK**

The UKSPF Priorities demonstrate significant overlap with the council's Plan 2030 Priorities. As such, UKSPF projects and funding awards provide additional opportunity to advance the council's strategic priorities. This is reflected in the strategic design of the programme to meet the Council's goals.

**CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

**(including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, HR, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)**

All UKSPF projects are required to be delivered in line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, with the relevant contractual obligations placed on those delivering projects as part of the conditions for receiving funding.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Legal Services have been consulted throughout this process and will also advise on any necessary legal agreements in relation to grant funding arrangements.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. All awards to projects are funded by UKSPF money which has been received upfront for Year 1 awards and will be for subsequent years which eases any cashflow concerns. With regard to the resources used to administer the fund, the award includes a 4% allowance to assist. Any additional requirement will be managed from existing budgets.

**OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

**Human Resources:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Information Services:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Property:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Open Spaces:**

[Click here for open spaces](#)

**SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The s151 Officer has been consulted and has no comments to add at this time.

**MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Appendix (Exempt):

Summary of UKSPF Year 1 Applications

**Contact Officer:** Jez Bebbington, Executive Support Manager

**Telephone:** 01524 582011

**E-mail:** UKSPF@lancaster.gov.uk

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

# LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL

*Promoting City, Coast & Countryside*

## EXECUTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER OR DELEGATED OFFICER NOTICE OF DECISION

<b>TITLE OF DECISION: UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Round 1 Award: Supporting Decarbonisation</b>			
<b>NAME OF DECISION TAKER:</b>	COUNCILLOR KEVIN FREA		
<b>POSITION AND RESPONSIBILITY HELD:</b>	CABINET MEMBER AND DEPUTY LEADER, PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR CLIMATE ACTION		
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	JEZ BEBBINGTON, EXECUTIVE SUPPORT MANAGER		
<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	01524 582011		
<b>E-MAIL:</b>	UKSPF@lancaster.gov.uk		
<b>Details of Decision:</b>			
<p>To delegate the Chief Executive to finalise and agree an award of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) funds in respect of Intervention E29: Supporting decarbonisation and improving the natural environment. Funds will be awarded as set out in the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process, to deliver the project Local Area Energy Plan.</p>			
<b>Reasons for the decision:</b>			
<p>Lancaster City Council's UKSPF Investment Plan sets out its plan for delivering the Lancaster district's £5.3m UKSPF allocation from 2022-25. The Investment Plan was agreed by government in December 2022.</p> <p>Implementing the UKSPF programme requires the council to allocate funds to a range of projects which will deliver on the outcomes and outputs set out in the Investment Plan. This initial allocation in respect of Intervention E29 will enable the project(s) to commence delivery at an early stage in the programme and begin creating positive local impact.</p>			
<b>IS THE DECISION URGENT</b>			
No			
<p>I can confirm that this decision is urgent as any delay likely to be caused by the Call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests and therefore is not subject to Call-in. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been consulted. I hereby agree both that the decision proposed is reasonable, in all the circumstances, and to it being treated as a matter of urgency.</p> <p>Signed : n/a</p>			
<p>I confirm that I have taken account of the options proposed by officers, the various implications set out in the report and the comments of the Monitoring and Section 151 Officers and am authorising the decision as set out above.</p>			
<b>SIGNATURE OF DECISION TAKER:</b>	Cllr K Frea		
<b>DATE:</b>	27.01.23		
<i>THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES</i>			<b>REF NO.</b>
<b>DATE DECISION TAKEN:</b>	27.01.23	<b>DATE RECEIVED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES:</b>	27.01.23
<b>DATE DECISION PUBLISHED:</b>	27.01.23	<b>IMPLEMENTATION DATE ( publication day + 5 working days):</b>	06.02.23



**CABINET**

**UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF): Supporting  
Decarbonisation  
Individual Cabinet Member Decision: Councillor Kevin  
Frea**

**Report of Executive Support Manager**

PURPOSE OF REPORT			
To delegate to the Chief Executive the authority to finalise and agree UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) awards in respect of Intervention E29: Supporting decarbonisation and improving the natural environment. Funds will be awarded in line with the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process.			
Key Decision	<b>X</b>	Non-Key Decision	Referral from Cabinet Member
Date of notice of forthcoming key decision	16 November 2022		
This report is public; Appendix A is exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972			

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXECUTIVE SUPPORT MANAGER**

- (1) That the Chief Executive be delegated to finalise and agree UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) awards in respect of Intervention E29: Supporting decarbonisation and improving the natural environment. Funds will be awarded as set out in the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process, to deliver the project Local Area Energy Plan in accordance with the accompanying ICMD and exempt appendix.

**1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 In April 2022 the government announced the [prospectus for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund \(UKSPF\)](#), to be delivered by local authorities from 2022-25.
- 1.2 The Lancaster district was provisionally allocated £5.3m of UKSPF funding, to be administered by Lancaster City Council and subject to the submission of an Investment Plan detailing the council's proposals for delivering the funding in line with the requirements of the prospectus.

**2.0 Investment Plan**

- 2.1 Following a highly consultative development process during summer 2022, Cabinet at its meetings of [12 July 2022](#) and [26 July 2022](#) considered the council's Investment Plan proposals, which were subsequently finalised and submitted to meet the government's deadline of 1 August 2022.
- 2.2 The council received approval of its Investment Plan in December 2022, followed by release of the initial tranche of funding for 2022-23.

### **3.0 Applications**

- 3.1 In preparation for the approval of its Investment Plan, during October and November 2022 the council invited applications for projects with the ability to commence delivery within Year 1 (2022-23) of the programme and in line with the council's Investment Plan priorities.
- 3.2 A total of 36 applications were received across the UKSPF's Community & Place, Supporting Local Business and People & Skills priorities. The full list of Year 1 applications is included in the exempt appendix to this report.

### **4.0 Evaluation**

- 4.1 Applications have been evaluated in line with HM Treasury's 'five cases' best practice approach to business case development (considering the strategic, economic, commercial, financial and management case for each project) as well as the Critical Success Factors agreed by Cabinet at its meeting of 12 July 2022:
- Climate Emergency
  - Affordable
  - Deliverable
  - Impact
  - Inclusive
  - Collaborative
  - Proven Track Record
  - Scalable
- 4.2 Following initial evaluation in November 2022, informal discussions with Cabinet in December 2022 considered the proposed strategic approach and provisional recommendations for funding awards from the first round of applications.
- 4.3 Subsequent further technical evaluation has been conducted to ensure projects are strongly aligned to UKSPF criteria as well as meeting all relevant obligations of the funding.

### **5.0 Proposal Details**

- 5.1 It is proposed that applications be considered for a decision based on the following three outcomes:
- 1) *Award funds within Year 1 and subsequent years where appropriate, and begin implementation:* projects which clearly meet the criteria and can commence delivery within Year 1
  - 2) *Defer to Year 2 application process:* projects for Interventions with no further Year 1 funding available, which are considered less deliverable within Year 1, or require further development to become eligible
  - 3) *Do not consider awarding funding:* projects which are less well aligned to the criteria or strategic fit
- 5.2 The recommended decision for each application is contained in the exempt appendix to this report.
- 5.3 Specific to the relevant portfolio area of Climate Action, the following project(s) are proposed for a funding award within Year 1 and subsequent years where appropriate, in respect of Intervention E29 as set out in the Investment Plan:

- **Local Area Energy Plan (one-off item spanning Years 1 and 2):**  
Defining the extent of transformation needed across Lancaster (including a focus on identifying first steps to progress) for the delivery of net zero electricity and heat.

- 5.4 Should the recommendation in this report be approved, officers will initiate the process of finalising all relevant details and agree contractual arrangements for the projects to be delivered in accordance with the UKSPF programme’s guidance and requirements, and within the funding envelope defined by the council’s Investment Plan.
- 5.5 Some projects may contribute to the delivery of multiple UKSPF Interventions, and as such may draw on funds allocated to a number of Interventions set out in the Investment Plan.
- 5.6 Delivering the complex and wide-ranging UKSPF programme will require a degree of flexibility in managing the specific funding allocated to each of the three Priorities and thirteen Interventions contained in the Investment Plan. All allocations will be determined within the parameters of the UKSPF programme’s change control process.

**6.0 Details of Consultation**

- 6.1 Delivering a successful UKSPF programme from 2022-25 will be fundamentally dependent on a consultative, collaborative and inclusive approach. The council’s programme so far has been characterised by this principle, with wide-ranging consultation including:
- Focus groups and an open Expression of Interest process in summer 2022 to support development of the Investment Plan
  - The formation of a Local Partnership Group, in line with the UKSPF Prospectus, to advise and support the Investment Plan development process and subsequent activity in preparation for Year 1
- 6.2 The technical nature of project evaluation along with its ‘competitive’ element means that limited consultation is possible in considering funding awards for specific projects at this stage.
- 6.3 However, a consultative process has been taken with Cabinet members to ensure recommendations are in line with the desired strategic direction.

**7.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)**

	<b>Option 1:</b> Award UKSPF funding in respect of the specified project(s)	<b>Option 2:</b> Do not award UKSPF funding for the specified project(s)
Advantages	Commence delivery of the UKSPF programme with its associated benefits to the district.	Opportunity to consider other projects by not committing funding at this time.
Disadvantages	No specific disadvantages beyond demands on the organisation of delivering the programme.	Failure to deliver on the UKSPF programme.
Risks	Projects may require further development in finalising and agreeing details.	Failure of the council to fulfil its duty of delivering the UKSPF programme.

**8.0 Officer Preferred Option (and comments)**

- 8.1 The officer preferred option is option 1, to commence delivery of the UKSPF programme.

**9.0 Conclusion**

- 9.1 A robust process has been conducted in the development of an approved Investment Plan, followed by the evaluation of project proposals.
- 9.2 This report sets out the proposed approach to commencing delivery of the programme, and as such it is recommended that officers be delegated to finalise and agree funding awards for the initial tranche of projects.

**RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK**

The UKSPF Priorities demonstrate significant overlap with the council's Plan 2030 Priorities. As such, UKSPF projects and funding awards provide additional opportunity to advance the council's strategic priorities. This is reflected in the strategic design of the programme to meet the Council's goals.

**CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
(including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, HR, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)**

All UKSPF projects are required to be delivered in line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, with the relevant contractual obligations placed on those delivering projects as part of the conditions for receiving funding.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Legal Services have been consulted throughout this process and will also advise on any necessary legal agreements in relation to grant funding arrangements.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. All awards to projects are funded by UKSPF money which has been received upfront for Year 1 awards and will be for subsequent years which eases any cashflow concerns. With regard to the resources used to administer the fund, the award includes a 4% allowance to assist. Any additional requirement will be managed from existing budgets.

**OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

**Human Resources:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Information Services:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Property:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Open Spaces:**

[Click here for open spaces](#)

**SECTION 151 OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The s151 Officer has been consulted and has no comments to add at this time.

**MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Appendix (Exempt):

Summary of UKSPF Year 1 Applications

**Contact Officer:** Jez Bebbington, Executive Support Manager

**Telephone:** 01524 582011

**E-mail:** UKSPF@lancaster.gov.uk

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

# LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL

*Promoting City, Coast & Countryside*

## EXECUTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN BY CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDER OR DELEGATED OFFICER NOTICE OF DECISION

<b>TITLE OF DECISION: UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Round 1 Award: Arts and Culture</b>			
<b>NAME OF DECISION TAKER:</b>	COUNCILLOR SANDRA THORNBERRY		
<b>POSITION AND RESPONSIBILITY HELD:</b>	CABINET MEMBER AND PORTFOLIO HOLDER, ARTS, CULTURE, LEISURE AND WELLBEING		
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	JEZ BEBBINGTON, EXECUTIVE SUPPORT MANAGER		
<b>TELEPHONE:</b>	01524 582011		
<b>E-MAIL:</b>	UKSPF@lancaster.gov.uk		
<b>Details of Decision:</b>			
<p>To delegate the Chief Executive to finalise and agree an award of UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) funds in respect of Intervention E6: Local arts, cultural, heritage &amp; creative activities. Funds will be awarded as set out in the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process, to deliver the project Morecambe Winter Gardens: The People's Palace.</p>			
<b>Reasons for the decision:</b>			
<p>Lancaster City Council's UKSPF Investment Plan sets out its plan for delivering the Lancaster district's £5.3m UKSPF allocation from 2022-25. The Investment Plan was agreed by government in December 2022.</p> <p>Implementing the UKSPF programme requires the council to allocate funds to a range of projects which will deliver on the outcomes and outputs set out in the Investment Plan. This initial allocation in respect of Intervention E6 will enable the project(s) to commence delivery at an early stage in the programme and begin creating positive local impact.</p>			
<b>IS THE DECISION URGENT</b>			
<b>No</b>			
<p>I can confirm that this decision is urgent as any delay likely to be caused by the Call-in process would seriously prejudice the Council's or the public's interests and therefore is not subject to Call-in. The Chair of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee has been consulted. I hereby agree both that the decision proposed is reasonable, in all the circumstances, and to it being treated as a matter of urgency.</p>			
Signed : N/A			
<p>I confirm that I have taken account of the options proposed by officers, the various implications set out in the report and the comments of the Monitoring and Section 151 Officers and am authorising the decision as set out above.</p>			
<b>SIGNATURE OF DECISION TAKER:</b>	Cllr S Thornberry		
<b>DATE:</b>	27.01.23		
<i>THIS SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES</i>			<b>REF NO.</b>
			ICMD20
<b>DATE DECISION TAKEN:</b>	27.01.23	<b>DATE RECEIVED BY DEMOCRATIC SERVICES:</b>	27.01.23
<b>DATE DECISION PUBLISHED:</b>	27.01.23	<b>IMPLEMENTATION DATE (publication day + 5 working days):</b>	06.02.23

**CABINET**

**UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF): Arts and Culture  
Individual Cabinet Member Decision: Councillor  
Sandra Thornberry**

**Report of Executive Support Manager**

PURPOSE OF REPORT			
To delegate to the Chief Executive the authority to finalise and agree UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) awards in respect of Intervention E6: Local arts, cultural, heritage & creative activities. Funds will be awarded in line with the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process.			
Key Decision	<b>X</b>	Non-Key Decision	Referral from Cabinet Member
Date of notice of forthcoming key decision	16 November 2022		
This report is public; Appendix A is exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of Schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972			

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF EXECUTIVE SUPPORT MANAGER**

- (1) That the Chief Executive be delegated to finalise and agree UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) awards in respect of Intervention E6: Local arts, cultural, heritage & creative activities. Funds will be awarded as set out in the council's UKSPF Investment Plan and within the parameters of the UKSPF change control process, to deliver the project Morecambe Winter Gardens: The People's Palace in accordance with the accompanying ICMD and exempt appendix.

**1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 In April 2022 the government announced the [prospectus for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund \(UKSPF\)](#), to be delivered by local authorities from 2022-25.
- 1.2 The Lancaster district was provisionally allocated £5.3m of UKSPF funding, to be administered by Lancaster City Council and subject to the submission of an Investment Plan detailing the council's proposals for delivering the funding in line with the requirements of the prospectus.

**2.0 Investment Plan**

- 2.1 Following a highly consultative development process during summer 2022, Cabinet at its meetings of [12 July 2022](#) and [26 July 2022](#) considered the council's Investment Plan proposals, which were subsequently finalised and submitted to meet the government's deadline of 1 August 2022.
- 2.2 The council received approval of its Investment Plan in December 2022, followed by release of the initial tranche of funding for 2022-23.



### **3.0 Applications**

- 3.1 In preparation for the approval of its Investment Plan, during October and November 2022 the council invited applications for projects with the ability to commence delivery within Year 1 (2022-23) of the programme and in line with the council's Investment Plan priorities.
- 3.2 A total of 36 applications were received across the UKSPF's Community & Place, Supporting Local Business and People & Skills priorities. The full list of Year 1 applications is included in the exempt appendix to this report.

### **4.0 Evaluation**

- 4.1 Applications have been evaluated in line with HM Treasury's 'five cases' best practice approach to business case development (considering the strategic, economic, commercial, financial and management case for each project) as well as the Critical Success Factors agreed by Cabinet at its meeting of 12 July 2022:
- Climate Emergency
  - Affordable
  - Deliverable
  - Impact
  - Inclusive
  - Collaborative
  - Proven Track Record
  - Scalable
- 4.2 Following initial evaluation in November 2022, informal discussions with Cabinet in December 2022 considered the proposed strategic approach and provisional recommendations for funding awards from the first round of applications.
- 4.3 Subsequent further technical evaluation has been conducted to ensure projects are strongly aligned to UKSPF criteria as well as meeting all relevant obligations of the funding.

### **5.0 Proposal Details**

- 5.1 It is proposed that applications be considered for a decision based on the following three outcomes:
- 1) *Award funds within Year 1 and subsequent years where appropriate, and begin implementation:* projects which clearly meet the criteria and can commence delivery within Year 1
  - 2) *Defer to Year 2 application process:* projects for Interventions with no further Year 1 funding available, which are considered less deliverable within Year 1, or require further development to become eligible
  - 3) *Do not consider awarding funding:* projects which are less well aligned to the criteria or strategic fit
- 5.2 The recommended decision for each application is contained in the exempt appendix to this report.
- 5.3 Specific to the relevant portfolio area of Arts, Culture, Leisure and Wellbeing, the following project(s) are proposed for a funding award within Year 1 and subsequent years where appropriate, in respect of Intervention E6 as set out in the Investment Plan:

- **Morecambe Winter Gardens: The People’s Palace (Years 1, 2 and 3):**  
A transformational sustainable cultural heritage regeneration project centred on diverse opportunities and a +2,000-person capacity music & arts venue bring for Morecambe & wider region.

- 5.4 Should the recommendation in this report be approved, officers will initiate the process of finalising all relevant details and agree contractual arrangements for the projects to be delivered in accordance with the UKSPF programme’s guidance and requirements, and within the funding envelope defined by the council’s Investment Plan.
- 5.5 Some projects may contribute to the delivery of multiple UKSPF Interventions, and as such may draw on funds allocated to a number of Interventions set out in the Investment Plan.
- 5.6 Delivering the complex and wide-ranging UKSPF programme will require a degree of flexibility in managing the specific funding allocated to each of the three Priorities and thirteen Interventions contained in the Investment Plan. All allocations will be determined within the parameters of the UKSPF programme’s change control process.

**6.0 Details of Consultation**

- 6.1 Delivering a successful UKSPF programme from 2022-25 will be fundamentally dependent on a consultative, collaborative and inclusive approach. The council’s programme so far has been characterised by this principle, with wide-ranging consultation including:
- Focus groups and an open Expression of Interest process in summer 2022 to support development of the Investment Plan
  - The formation of a Local Partnership Group, in line with the UKSPF Prospectus, to advise and support the Investment Plan development process and subsequent activity in preparation for Year 1
- 6.2 The technical nature of project evaluation along with its ‘competitive’ element means that limited consultation is possible in considering funding awards for specific projects at this stage.
- 6.3 However, a consultative process has been taken with Cabinet members to ensure recommendations are in line with the desired strategic direction.

**7.0 Options and Options Analysis (including risk assessment)**

	<b>Option 1:</b> Award UKSPF funding in respect of the specified project(s)	<b>Option 2:</b> Do not award UKSPF funding for the specified project(s)
Advantages	Commence delivery of the UKSPF programme with its associated benefits to the district.	Opportunity to consider other projects by not committing funding at this time.
Disadvantages	No specific disadvantages beyond demands on the organisation of delivering the programme.	Failure to deliver on the UKSPF programme.
Risks	Projects may require further development in finalising and agreeing details.	Failure of the council to fulfil its duty of delivering the UKSPF programme.

**8.0 Officer Preferred Option (and comments)**

- 8.1 The officer preferred option is option 1, to commence delivery of the UKSPF programme.

**9.0 Conclusion**

- 9.1 A robust process has been conducted in the development of an approved Investment Plan, followed by the evaluation of project proposals.
- 9.2 This report sets out the proposed approach to commencing delivery of the programme, and as such it is recommended that officers be delegated to finalise and agree funding awards for the initial tranche of projects.

**RELATIONSHIP TO POLICY FRAMEWORK**

The UKSPF Priorities demonstrate significant overlap with the council’s Plan 2030 Priorities. As such, UKSPF projects and funding awards provide additional opportunity to advance the council's strategic priorities. This is reflected in the strategic design of the programme to meet the Council's goals.

**CONCLUSION OF IMPACT ASSESSMENT  
(including Health & Safety, Equality & Diversity, Human Rights, Community Safety, HR, Sustainability and Rural Proofing)**

All UKSPF projects are required to be delivered in line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, with the relevant contractual obligations placed on those delivering projects as part of the conditions for receiving funding.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Legal Services have been consulted throughout this process and will also advise on any necessary legal agreements in relation to grant funding arrangements.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. All awards to projects are funded by UKSPF money which has been received upfront for Year 1 awards and will be for subsequent years which eases any cashflow concerns. With regard to the resources used to administer the fund, the award includes a 4% allowance to assist. Any additional requirement will be managed from existing budgets.

**OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

**Human Resources:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Information Services:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Property:**

N/A externally delivered project

**Open Spaces:**

Click here for open spaces

**SECTION 151 OFFICER’S COMMENTS**

The s151 Officer has been consulted and has no comments to add at this time.

**MONITORING OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

The Monitoring Officer has been consulted and has no further comments to add.

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Appendix (Exempt):  
Summary of UKSPF Year 1 Applications

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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