

North East Derbyshire District Council

Cabinet

21 JULY 2022

North East Derbyshire UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan

Report of Councillor J Kenyon, Portfolio Holder for Economy, Transformation and Climate Change and Councillor A Powell, Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Communities and Communications

<u>Classification:</u>	This report is public
<u>Report By:</u>	Steve Lee, Assistant Director – Transformation and Communication
<u>Contact Officer:</u>	Steve Lee, Assistant Director – Transformation and Communication

PURPOSE / SUMMARY

For Cabinet to endorse the North East Derbyshire UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan. North East Derbyshire has been provisionally allocated £2,568,204 to deliver a UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) programme between October 2022 and March 2025, with NEDDC to manage the process. Following consultation with stakeholders an Investment Plan has been developed that reflects the District's approach to meeting the overarching Levelling Up objective of *Building Pride in Place and Increasing Life Chances*. To also seek Cabinet's authority to delegate to the Director of Finance and Resources and Section 151 Officer the responsibility, in consultation with the Leader and Managing Director, for signing off the final iteration of the Investment Plan prior to its submission on 1 August 2022.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Cabinet notes the content of the report.
2. That Cabinet endorses the North East Derbyshire UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan.
3. That approval of the final Investment Plan submission is delegated to the Director of Finance and Resources and Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Leader and Managing Director.

Approved by the Portfolio Holders – Councillor J Kenyon, Portfolio Holder for Economy, Transformation and Climate Change and Councillor A Powell, Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Communities and Communications

IMPLICATIONS

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details: The Council is responsible for managing the process of allocating £2,568,204 through direct delivery, commissioning external provision or competitive open grant schemes.

4% of the allocation will be used to create a fixed term post to support the administration of the programme, with residual monies used to cover other operating costs such as publicity, promotion and engagement.

On Behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details: N/A

On Behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Staffing: Yes No

Details: A fixed term post will be created from within the UKSPF budget to support the administration of the programme.

There is also an expectation that existing Officers will support the delivery of the programme and specific activity that aligns with established departmental responsibilities.

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

Decision Information	
Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds: NEDDC: Revenue - £100,000 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Capital - £250,000 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Please indicate which threshold applies	Yes
Is the decision subject to Call-In? (Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)	Yes
District Wards Significantly Affected	All
Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cabinet <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SMT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Members <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes Details: Meetings, survey and correspondence.

Links to Council Plan priorities, including Climate Change, Equalities, and Economics and Health implications.

Links to NEDDC Council Plan 2019-2023, NEDDC Growth Strategy 2021-2024, Employment and Skills Strategy 2021-2024 and Visitor Economy Strategy for North East Derbyshire 2021-2024 and NEDDC Climate Change Action Plan 2019-2030.

REPORT DETAILS

1 **Background**

1.1 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) was launched on 13 April 2022. It is part of how the Government expects to deliver the 2022 Levelling Up White Paper, providing funding to where it is needed most and communities that are lagging behind, with particular focus on activities that:

- Boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards
- Spread opportunities and improve public services
- Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging
- Empower local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency

1.2 £2,568,204 has been provisionally allocated to North East Derbyshire District Council to manage on behalf of the District between October 2022 and March 2025. The Council is expected to engage with leaders from other local organisations to develop and Investment Plan that supports projects and national UKSPF interventions based around the following priority areas:

- Communities and Place
- Supporting Local Business
- People and Skills

1.3 The Investment Plan has to be submitted to the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) by 1 August 2022, with the expectation of approvals commencing October 2022. Using funds allocated by the Government, Mace has been appointed to support the development of the Investment Plan.

2. **Details of Proposal or Information**

2.1 The consensus at Cabinet at the start of the process was that the District's UKSPF should be invested in activity that provides sustainable community improvements that increase local pride in place and attract inward investment and visitors.

2.2 Assessment has been undertaken against local priorities identified in the Council Plan 2019-2023 other NEDDC strategies, engagement with partners at regional network meetings and consideration of the impact of services that

will be affected by the ending of time-limited European funds. This informed the longlist of potential activity.

- 2.3 A breadth of consultation has been undertaken in line with the UKSPF Prospectus, which expects engagement with other organisations and community representatives. This included the two MPs serving the District, every NEDDC Elected Member and Parish/Town Council and a range of public, private, voluntary and community sector representatives. A survey was circulated to over 100 representatives, a stakeholder workshop held with invited representatives and views discussed with the MPs. Cabinet and the lead Portfolio Holders have been regularly engaged throughout the process.
- 2.4 The consultation enabled the refining of the longlist to a range of thematic activity that is identified in the attached Investment Plan (Appendix 1). DLUHC advised in its UKSPF webinars that a thematic approach was expected due to the short Investment Plan development period. The eleven priorities are:
1. Pride in the Public Realm
 2. Brighter Business Scheme
 3. Quality Parks and Play Areas
 4. Pilot Sustainable Walking and Cycling Route Developments
 5. Chesterfield Canal Improvements
 6. Community Activities
 7. Inclusive Communities
 8. Enhancing Village Halls and Community Hubs
 9. Exploring the District
 10. Business Advice and Guidance
 11. Sustainable Energy Skills for Existing Trades
- 2.5 The budget allocated against the Investment Plan activity is identified in Appendix 2. Allocations have been determined through evidenced requirements and, as appropriate, the identification of match funding expected from the supported bodies (e.g. Parish Councils or businesses). The funding will be allocated depending on the nature of delivery (direct delivery, commissioning external provision or competitive grant schemes).
- 2.6 Mace are currently working on the development of supplementary Investment Plan information relating to 'Indicative Deliverables' (a reiteration of the UKSPF interventions to be delivered, quantified where possible) and 'Expenditure Profile' (a record of the expenditure in Appendix 2 split between UKSPF interventions).
- 2.7 4% of the UKSPF allocation will be used to create a post to support the administration of the programme. Officers from various Departments will also be required to provide specialist support to facilitate the delivery of activity.

2.8 The UKSPF Investment Plan must be approved by the Chief Executive Officer (or equivalent), Section 151 Officer and Leader of the Local Authority and be compliant with established financial regulations. Recognising that comments from the Cabinet meeting may influence amendments and the supplementary information is in development, it is proposed that the Director of Finance and Resources and Section 151 Officer is authorised to approve these as appropriate in consultation with the Leader and Managing Director.

3 Reasons for Recommendation

3.1 Endorsement of the Investment Plan will enable timely submission of a balanced programme of activity that meets the needs of the District and accesses additional investment of £2,568,204 UKSPF resources.

3.2 Delegating responsibility to approve the final Investment Plan submission to the Director of Finance and Resources and Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Leader and Managing Director, enables any subsequent revisions to be addressed at pace and in accordance with UKSPF process expectations.

4 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

4.1 Not to endorse the Investment Plan. The plan has been developed and based upon evidenced engagement with local elected representatives and stakeholders, which meets UKSPF expectations. Budget allocations are based upon experience and identified costs. Endorsing and submitting the Investment Plan by 1 August 2022 would enable access to UKSPF resources.

4.2 Not to delegate the sign off decision the Director of Finance and Resources and Section 151 Officer in consultation with the Managing Director and Leader of the Local Authority. The UKSPF Investment Plan will support cross-District, cross-Portfolio activity and be compliant with established financial regulations. It is prudent that the Section 151 Officer has the responsibility for leading the signing off of the final iteration of the Investment Plan prior to its submission on 1 August 2022.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No	Title
1	Final Draft North East Derbyshire UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan
2	Final Draft NED UKSPF Themes/Projects and Allocations (Oct 2022 - Mar 2025)
Background Papers (These are unpublished works which have been relied on to a material extent when preparing the report. They must be listed in the section below. If the report is going to Cabinet you must provide copies of the background papers)	
UK Shared Prosperity Fund Prospectus, https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus	
UK Shared Prosperity Fund: interventions, outputs and indicators https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-interventions-outputs-and-indicators	