

Surrey Heath Borough Council

Executive

14 March 2023

UK Shared Prosperity Fund Year 1 and 2 Projects

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Shaun Garrett – Economic Development & Transformation
Head of Service Martin Breeden – Head of Investment & Development
Report Author: Joe Walsh – Economic Development Manager
Key Decision: Yes
Date Portfolio Holder signed off the report : 20 02 2023
Wards Affected: All

Summary and purpose

The purpose of this paper is to:

- 1) Update the Executive on the delivery of projects submitted to Government for the first year of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)
- 2) Seek approval from the Executive for projects that will be delivered in Year 2 as part of the UKSPF

Recommendation

The Executive is advised to RESOLVE that

- (i) the progress made on Year 1 projects funded through the UKSPF, as set out at Annex 1 to this report, be noted;
- (ii) the Year 2 projects to be funded through the UKSPF, as set out at Annex 2 to this report, be agreed; and
- (iii) authority be delegated to the Head of Investment and Development in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Economic Development & Transformation to make any minor amends to the Year 2 project programme should it be necessary.

1. Background and Supporting Information

- 1.1 After agreement from Executive in July 2022, SHBC submitted their UKSPF Investment Plan to Government in August 2022. The Council was informed in January 2023 that this has been approved and will receive £1m of funding over 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25.
- 1.2 In July 2022, the Executive agreed that due to the timescales for delivery, only projects already agreed within the SHBC Annual Plan would be supported

with UKSPF funding in 2022/23 (Year 1). Annex 1 provides an update on these projects.

- 1.3 It was also agreed by Executive that an annual programme of projects be developed for UKSPF Year 2 and be brought back to the Executive for approval. Annex 2 provides information on these projects.
- 1.4 Due the significant amount of spend associated with UKSPF Year 3, a report will appear before Executive in September 2023. This report will seek approval from Executive for Year 3 projects. It will also include a mid-year update on Year 2 projects.

2. Reasons for Recommendation

- 2.1 The process of selection of projects was agreed by the Executive. In order to commence delivery quickly and obtain required outcomes in 2023/23.
- 2.2 To enable SHBC to be flexible in the delivery of projects and capitalise on complimentary work in the Borough it is recommended that any underspend / minor amendments to Annex 2 are made by the Head of Investment and Development in consultation Portfolio Holder for Economic Development and Transformation.

3. Proposal and Alternative Options

- 3.1 The Council has committed to achieving the Investment Priorities listed in Annex 2. We have some flexibility in how we achieve these and can amend the projects should the Executive feel necessary. Executive should be aware that this may impact the speed in which projects can be delivered.

4. Contribution to the Council's Five Year Strategy

- 4.1 All projects being delivered contribute to the delivery of the Council's Five Year Strategy and other Council strategies.

5. Resource Implications

- 5.1 There are no additional internal resources required for the delivery of year one projects.
- 5.2 The Council has an option to appoint an external resource to undertake monitoring and reporting. Officers will progress if they feel necessary. Due to the funding available in Year 1+2 we believe that we can absorb this into BAU.

6. Section 151 Officer Comments:

- 6.1 No matters arising for the S151 Officer

7. Legal and Governance Issues

- 7.1 In order to receive the funding SHBC has signed a 'Memorandum of Understanding' with Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. This was agreed with S151 and Head of Legal Services.

8. Monitoring Officer Comments:

- 8.1 No matters arising for the Monitoring Officer

9. Other Considerations and Impacts

Environment and Climate Change

- 9.1 All projects within the environment actions were considered as part of the review of the annual plan. The Climate Change Officer will contribute to the delivery of projects where appropriate.

Equalities and Human Rights

- 9.2 The projects are designed to support all parts of the Surrey Heath community.

Risk Management

- 9.3 Funding has now been agreed with Government for all three years. Each project include a risk evaluation appropriate to the level of spend.

Community Engagement

- 9.4 Engagement with the Local Partnership Group, run through the Surrey Heath Partnership has been consistent during the application process. A similar report will be taken to their next Partnership Group meeting to discuss and agree the projects outlined within this report.

Annexes

Annex 1 – Update on UKSPF Year 1 Projects

Annex 2 – UKSPF Year 2 Projects (for approval)

Background Papers

UKSPF Executive Report 19th July 2022

<https://surreyheath.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s27412/5.%20UK%20Shared%20Prosperity.pdf>

UKSPF Executive Report 15th November 2022

<https://surreyheath.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s28660/6.%20Year%201%20projects%20UKSPF.pdf>