

Agenda Item No:	9	
Committee:	Cabinet	
Date:	11th July 2022	
Report Title:	UK Shared Prosperity Fund	

1 Purpose / Summary

- 1.1 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is the government's domestic replacement for the European Structural and Investment Programme which the UK continues to participate in until 2023.
- 1.2 All areas of the UK are receiving an indicative allocation of the fund via a funding formula where the funding available to Fenland District is approximately £1.3m and £8.78m across the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) over a 3-year period from 2022-23 to 2024-25.
- 1.3 The proposal is to submit to the CPCA five projects totalling £1.299m – a financial summary of the proposed Fenland UKSPF projects can be found in Schedule 1.

2 Key Issues

- 2.1 These are indicative allocations and are not guaranteed. Fenland District will submit bid proposals to CPCA meeting our requirements plus UKSPF criteria.
- 2.2 The CPCA will collate all Cambridgeshire and Peterborough local authority proposals into a Local Investment Plan for presentation to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) that will make the decision on UKSPF allocations.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 Cabinet is requested to consider and recommend the five proposed Fenland UK Shared Prosperity Fund projects to the CPCA for inclusion in the CPCA Local Investment Plan to be submitted to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

Wards Affected	All
Forward Plan Reference	KEY10JUN22/03
Portfolio Holder(s)	Cllr Ian Benney
Report Originator(s)	Anna Goodall, Assistant Director Simon Jackson, Economic Growth Manager
Contact Officer(s)	Simon Jackson, Economic Growth Manager
Background Papers	UK Shared Prosperity Fund: prospectus - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Report:

1 BACKGROUND AND INTENDED OUTCOMES

- 1.1 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is part of the government's Levelling Up Agenda. The fund covers a three-year period from 2022-23 to 2024-25. Funding is allocated annually, with the majority of the funding being available in the final year of the programme, as European Union structural funds come to an end. It is mainly a revenue-based fund, with only a limited allocation for capital projects. Some of this allocation may be used for programmes which deliver across more than one local authority area.
- 1.2 All areas of the UK are receiving an allocation of the fund via a funding formula where the funding available to Fenland District is approximately £1.3m and £8.78m across the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) over a 3-year period to 2024-25.
- 1.3 Key points to note regarding UKSPF include:
 - 1.3.1 The indicative funding is not guaranteed and is subject to approval by the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC).
 - 1.3.2 Projects must meet the requirements of the funding programme and support the growth and prosperity of the district. They should align with one or more of the three pillars of the UKSPF which are:
 - Communities & Places (Pillar 1),
 - Local Business Investment (Pillar 2), and
 - People & Skills (Pillar 3).
 - 1.3.3 For the first 2 pillars funding is available for all 3 years. For the 3rd pillar (People & Skills), funding is only available in year 3 (2024-25) with the exception of ongoing projects that are already funded by the European Social Fund and also submitted by a voluntary or community organisation.
- 1.4 The UKSPF will support the UK government's wider commitment to level up all parts of the UK by delivering on each of the levelling up objectives:
 - Boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards by growing the private sector, especially in those places where they are lagging.
 - Spread opportunities and improve public services, especially in those places where they are weakest.
 - Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost.
 - Empower local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency.
- 1.5 The primary goal of the UKSPF is to build pride in place and increase life chances. The fund will improve the place people live in, and support individuals and business.

- 1.6 The CPCA have asked all constituent Councils to complete bid documents for their allocated funding amount and these are being collated by the CPCA into a UKSPF Local Investment Plan (LIP) for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The Cambridgeshire Public Service Board (CPSB) will approve the LIP to be submitted to DLUHC in August 2022 for their consideration and it is hoped that this will be approved for delivery from October 2022 onwards.
- 1.7 Fenland UKSPF proposals – completed bid forms can be found in Schedule 2:
- 1.7.1 Fenland - Investment in Business £949k (BUS7)
- This project will provide access to the appropriate expertise and pump-priming grant funding for Fenland businesses to drive local economic growth, productivity, R&D, energy saving and business innovation to secure access to market opportunities. The project will proactively prioritise sectors that are important drivers for economic growth in Fenland including food processing and its supply chain, distribution and precision engineering sectors, however, there will be no sectoral restrictions for the project. The project will bring together all the best practice learned delivering recent grant-based projects. It will bring skills development and business investment together in one scheme through a 'pre-qualification' process for grant awards. We will seek the involvement of the North Cambridgeshire Place Development Board in assessing grant bids. Moreover, the project also includes providing the administrative support to assist the incipient North Cambridge Place Development Board in putting local business development at the core of its work.
- 1.7.2 Amplifying Community Arts and Culture £120k (COM14)
- The local creative and culture steering group would utilise the funding to engage local creative providers to develop more opportunities for the local community to engage in creative activities. This work would include upskilling the creative community with regard to communication and advertising of creative opportunities to ensure activity remains sustainable through an increased number of attendees. Further the project will upskill the creative community with regards to grant funding - both searching for and applying successfully for such funding to further amplify what is available to Fenland's local community. A small capital funding element will be used to purchase necessary assets used for display and performance purposes; these to be available to the creative community across Fenland to facilitate community activities.
- 1.7.3 Supporting and developing Whittlesey's heritage and community offer £94k (COM15)
- Whittlesey Town Council is developing a heritage centre in Whittlesey. This project is very significant for the town and will support the local visitor economy, learning opportunities for local school children. The project will support some initial fit out for the centre in year 1, as well as the covering staffing costs as well as energy costs in years 2 and 3. This support will lead to a sustainable heritage centre that is self-sufficient after the initial start-up years and this supportive funding.
- 1.7.4 Increase in ASB issues across Wisbech £34k (COM 10)
- Working with Blackfield Creatives, Clarion Housing, Clarion Futures, local schools and the police to develop creative and engaging ways to divert young people from ASB.
- 1.7.5 Safer Wisbech - Addressing perceptions of low level crime and ASB in Wisbech £50k (COM13)

Following public consultation Wisbech has been identified as an area where residents feel 'unsafe' and therefore the Safer Wisbech group has been formed including partners such as Clarion, Cambridgeshire Police, Fenland District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council. Three projects have been identified to work with young people using detached youth work as well as art/culture activities to divert them from ASB.

2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The UKSPF provides an opportunity for Fenland to attract funding to support the delivery of its corporate objectives including economic growth.
- 2.2 The proposed projects have the greatest potential to deliver new, inclusive and sustainable growth opportunities for the District's residents and businesses, with alignment and impact against the overall objectives of the UKSPF.

3 CONSULTATION

- 3.1 Engagement with partners and evaluation on current projects such as Growth Works and Growth HUB Start & Grow pilot has enabled external views and policies to be incorporated into the proposed UKSPF projects.

4 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1 The UKSPF is a specific funding opportunity with no comparable alternative options.

5 IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Legal Implications

- 5.1.1 Powers: If successful in the bid, FDC will enter into the funding arrangements with CPCA and grant recipients using its powers under section 1 of the Localism Act 2011.
- 5.1.2 Contracting: If successful in the bid, it will be important to ensure that the grant funding agreement with FDC does not impose any unacceptable risks or obligations on FDC and that, to the extent feasible, risks and obligations will flow down to the end grant recipients through appropriate grant funding agreements to mitigate FDC's risk.
- 5.1.3 Procurement: If successful in the bid, the awards will be made via a grant funding agreement as opposed to a contract for services, so there will be no relevant public procurement implications.
- 5.1.4 Subsidy control: The potential awards have been briefly considered for subsidy control compliance. The likely regime to be in place at the time of award will be the Subsidy Control Act 2022. There will be no subsidy to FDC as FDC will be acting in the course of its public functions and, in any event, will not receive any economic advantage from the grants. It is likely (on the basis of information currently available) that either there will be no subsidy to the end recipients or the grants will be provided by way of the minimal financial assistance allowance under the Act. However, should

the bid be successful, a further, more detailed review of the subsidy control position will be undertaken to ensure that no unlawful subsidies are awarded to end recipients.

5.2 Financial Implications

- 5.2.1 The programme is externally funded and the administration costs incurred by the CPCA and Fenland District will be included in the LIP. The amount of £52k or 4% has been identified shared between Fenland Council and CPCA. In addition, each individual project can allocate funds to go towards the costs of administration of each project.

5.3 Equality Implications

- 5.3.1 All individual projects and services have been assessed to ensure equality of access, etc.

6 SCHEDULES

Schedule 1 - Financial Summary - Fenland proposed UK SPF bids

Schedule 2 - Fenland proposed UK SPF bids

SCHEDULE 1

Financial Summary - Fenland proposed UK SPF bids

Project Ref	Project Name	SPF Pillar	Year 1 Revenue	Year 1 Capital	Year 2 Revenue	Year 2 Capital	Year 3 Revenue	Year 3 Capital	Total Project Funding
BUS 7	Investment in Business	Business	£142k		£263k		£544k		£949k
COM 10	ASB Wisbech	Community	£14k		£10k		£10k		£34k
COM 13	Safer Wisbech	Community	£17k		£17k		£16k		£50k
COM14	Amplifying Community Arts and Culture	Community	£25k	£5k	£40k	£5k	£40k	£5k	£120k
COM 15	Whittlesey Heritage Centre	Community		£10k	£39k		£45k		£94k
Profiled FDC annual funding			£213k		£374k		£660k		£1.247m
									plus 4% admin £52k
Cambs & Peterborough			£1.48m	17%	£2.6m	30%	£4.7m	53%	£8.78m

SCHEDULE 2
Fenland proposed UK SPF bids

Project Name:	Fenland - Investment in Business						
Project Value:	£949,000						
Project Intervention Codes:	E18 E19 E20 E21 E23 E28 E29 E30						
Identified Local Issue:	Fenland's specific long-known deficit in high-skilled, highly-paid employment together with helping cutting-edge businesses and business practices to form an increasing part of our local economy, with the additional advantage of keeping more highly skilled Fenland residents (particularly younger residents) in Fenland. This project will target local businesses with a desire to grow, expand into new markets, create more jobs, increase profitability and productivity, but simply do not know how to do so and/or requiring pump-priming grant funding to enable the growth to happen.						
Opportunity or Challenge the Project addresses:	The project creates a significant grant fund open to Fenland businesses to reduce barriers to entry to innovation, to apply skills (particularly but not exclusively digital skills) and automation to improve productivity, to expand local R&D, energy saving and to boost long-term skilled employment in Fenland. The biggest challenges businesses face is leadership and management skills, knowledge and funding deficits. This project will also target companies that may have started trading without having a business plan or the business acumen needed to optimise their sustainability and growth potential. Fenland has the existing businesses to take up this support and drive forward economic growth in the district.						
Links to other Funds (Levelling-up, Towns fund, Home Office, ICS prevention etc.)							
Project Description:	<p>This project will provide access to the appropriate expertise and pump-priming grant funding for Fenland businesses to drive local economic growth, productivity, R&D, energy saving and business innovation to secure access to market opportunities. The project will proactively prioritise sectors that are important drivers for economic growth in Fenland including food processing and its supply chain, distribution and precision engineering sectors, however, there will be no sectoral restrictions for the project. The project will bring together all the best practice learned delivering recent grant based projects. It will bring skills development and business investment together in one scheme through a 'pre-qualification' process for grant awards. We will seek the involvement of the North Cambridgeshire Place Development Board in assessing grant bids. Moreover, the project also includes providing the administrative support to assist the incipient North Cambridge Place Development Board in putting local business development at the core of its work. The project is designed to deliver on the Council's corporate objective of supporting economic growth and is one of the key workstreams in the Council's refreshed Economic Growth Strategy 2022-2025.</p> <p>This programme responds to the priorities of the SPF through investment in local business; it equips existing Fenland businesses with the business skills, expert advice and grant funding they need for sustainable growth and through this will safeguard jobs and increase employment opportunities across Fenland.</p> <p>The project will support existing businesses with the desire to grow, expand into new and priority markets, create more jobs, increase profitability, competitiveness and productivity, but without the skills and experience to do so. An example of the support provided by the project would be energy saving where the project will support businesses with an advice and support programme tailored to meet the needs of the business. The outcomes for each participating business would be reductions in energy use with corresponding benefits in terms of business efficiency.</p>						
Start Date:	Nov-22						
End Date:	Mar-25						
Project spending Profile by year and Rev/Cap:	2022-23	Rev £:142k Cap £:	2023-24:	Rev £:263k Cap £:	2024-25:	Rev £:544k Cap £:	
What are the outcomes you will deliver under Local Business Investment	Insert Numbers against each target area or CPCA if the project will cover the whole area						
	Fenland	Peterborough	Cambridge City	South Cambs	East Cambs	Hunts	CPCA
Jobs created	75						
Jobs safeguarded	20						
Increased footfall							
Increased visitor numbers							
Reduced vacancy rates							
Greenhouse gas reductions							
Number of new businesses created							
Improved perception of markets							
Increased business sustainability	50						
Increased number of businesses supported	50						
Increased amount of investment	£500k						
Improved perception of attractions							
Number of businesses introducing new products to	25						
Number of organisations engaged in new knowledge transfer activity	10						
Number of premises with improved digital	20						
Number of businesses adopting new to the firm technologies or processes	15						
Number of new to market products	50						
Number of R&D active businesses							
Increased number of innovation active SMEs	15						
Number of businesses adopting new or improved products or services	20						
Increased number of Innovation plans developed	15						
Number of early stage firms which increase their revenue following support	50						
Number of businesses engaged in new markets	15						
Number of businesses increasing their export capability	10						
Increased amount of low or zero carbon energy infrastructure installed							
Number of businesses with improved productivity	10						
Increased number of projects arising from funded feasibility studies	10						
Increased number of properties better protected from flooding and coastal erosion							
None of the above							

COMMUNITIES & PLACES							
Project Name:	Amplifying Community Arts and Culture						
Project Value:	£120000 from SPF, with an expected matched value from Arts Council England						
Project Intervention Codes:	E4: Enhanced support for existing cultural, historic and heritage institutions that make up the local cultural heritage offer. E6: Support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities.						
Identified Local Issue:	Joining up current heritage, art and creativity opportunities to amplify what is available to the local community. This to include local events available in community settings increasing the use and sustainability of such settings. Use of anticipated Arts Council match funding to develop a meaningful three year programme across the District to impact on creative community upskilling, local community cohesion, impact social isolation and encourage people to visit Fenland to take part in events and activities.						
Opportunity or Challenge the Project addresses:	Lack of joined up approach to creativity and culture in the District and the requirement to upskill the local creative industry to work together a, promote ongoing activity better and develop effective grant applications regularly to continue and sustain this work.						
Links to other Funds (Levelling-up, Towns fund, Home Office, ICS prevention etc.)	Arts Council England, Local Community Funds.						
Project Description:	The local creative and culture steering group would utilise the funding to engage local creative providers to develop more opportunities for the local community to engage in creative activities. This work would include upskilling the creative community with regard to communication and advertising of creative opportunities to ensure activity remains sustainable through an increased number of attendees. Further the project will upskill the creative community with regards to grant funding - both searching for and applying successfully for such funding to further amplify what is available to Fenland's local community. A small capital funding element will be used to purchase necessary assets used for display and performance purposes; these to be available to the creative community across Fenland to facilitate community activities.						
Start Date:	2022						
End Date:	2025 - but expected to be sustained post SPF funding						
Project spending Profile by year and Rev/Cap:	2022-23	Rev £25,000 Cap £5,000	2023-24:	Rev £40,000 Cap £5,000	2024-25:	Rev £40,000 Cap £5,000	
What are the outcomes you will deliver under investment in Communities & Places?	Insert Numbers against each target area or CPCA if the project will cover the whole area						
	Fenland	Peterborough	Cambridge City	South Cambs	East Cambs	Hunts	CPCA
Jobs created	6						
Jobs safeguarded	6						
Increased footfall	Significant increase in visitors to take part in community events and community creative activities						
Increased visitor numbers	Significant increase in visitors to take part in community events and community creative activities						
Reduced vacancy rates							
Greenhouse gas reductions							
Improved perceived/experienced accessibility							
Improved perception of facilities/amenities	10%						
Increased number of properties better protected from flooding and coastal erosion							
Increased users of facilities / amenities	10%						
Improved perception of facility/infrastructure project							
Increased use of cycleways or paths							
Increase in Biodiversity							
Increased affordability of events/entry							
Improved perception of safety							
Reduction in neighbourhood crime							
Improved engagement numbers	20%						
Improved perception of events	25%						
Increased number of web searches for a place							
Volunteering numbers as a result of support	Significant increase - TBC						
Number of community-led arts, cultural, heritage and creative programmes as a result of support	Significant increase in sessions available across all towns and the villages						
Increased take up of energy efficiency measures							
Increased number of projects arising from funded feasibility studies							
Number of premises with improved digital connectivity							
None of the above							
What are the outputs you will deliver under Local Business Investment?							
Number of volunteering opportunities supported	Events and creative opportunities will generate new volunteers into the sector						
Number of local events or activities supported	Significant increase in local creative events						
Number of projects	Creativity sessions developed and improved						

COMMUNITIES & PLACES							
Project Name:	Supporting and developing Whittlesey's heritage and community offer						
Project Value:	£94,000						
Project Intervention Codes:	E4:Enhanced support for existing cultural, historic and heritage institutions that make up the local cultural heritage offer. E6: Support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities.						
Identified Local Issue:	<p>Despite the heritage of the local area, Whittlesey lacks a space for local people to learn about their place, for school children to undertake learning activities and a facility to attract visitors to the town. Whittlesey Town Council is developing a Whittlesey Heritage Centre on the edge of the town. This facility, adjacent to a popular local nature reserve, will be a key asset for the town to celebrate the heritage of Whittlesey, will allow learning on site by local school children and will open up access to the local nature reserve to more local people, as well as attracting more volunteers to support the reserve.</p> <p>Given the significance of local archeological finds, it is also expected that the centre will attract visitors into the town, supporting the local economy.</p> <p>The Fenland area between Peterborough and Whittlesey (The Flag Fen Basin) has revealed internationally important archaeological sites. These originated with extensive excavations of prehistoric fen-edge settlements at Fengate, Peterborough and the discovery and small exploratory excavation in the 1980s of a well-preserved Bronze Age timber causeway and platform at Flag Fen that led from organised landscapes on the dryland edge at Fengate across a marshy embayment towards Whittlesey.</p> <p>Excavations in Forterra's King's Dyke quarries of Bradley Fen and Must Farm have revealed important ceremonial sites, funerary monuments and well-preserved Bronze Age settlements. This is internationally significant one of a kind.</p>						
Opportunity or Challenge the Project addresses:	Whittlesey has a unique heritage and there is no opportunity for local people to learn about their heritage, giving them a firm sense of place. There is also no opportunity for visitors to come to Whittlesey to enjoy the heritage of the town or understand the significance of recent local archaeological finds. Finally, there is an opportunity to deliver a unique learning opportunity at the heritage centre for local school children.						
Links to other Funds (Leveling-up, Towns fund, Home Offices, ICS prevention etc.)	Growing Fenland Market Towns Fund. Potentially Heritage Lottery Fund. Arts Council England support expected in year 2 and three.						
Project Description:	Whittlesey Town Council is developing a heritage centre in Whittlesey. This project is very significant for the town and will support the local visitor economy, learning opportunities for local school children. This project will support some initial fit out for the centre in year 1, as well as the covering staffing costs as well as energy costs in years 2 and 3. This support will lead to a sustainable heritage centre that is self-sufficient after the initial start up years and this supportive funding.						
Start Date:	2022						
End Date:	The heritage centre sustainable will be sustainable from 2025.						
Project spending Profile by year and Rev/Cap:	2022-23	Cap £10,000	2023-24:	Rev £39,000	2024-25:	Rev £45,000	
What are the outcomes you will deliver under investment in Communities & Places?	Insert Numbers against each target area or CPCA if the project will cover the whole area						
	Fenland	Peterborough	Cambridge City	South Cambs	East Cambs	Hunts	CPCA
Jobs created	2						
Jobs safeguarded	0						
Increased footfall	Significant increase in visitors to take part in community events and community activities, significant number of school children attending learning activities.						
Increased visitor numbers	Significant increase in visitors to visit the heritage centre both locally as well as from the sub region.						
Reduced vacancy rates							
Greenhouse gas reductions							
Improved perceived/experienced accessibility							
Improved perception of facilities/amenities	20%						
Increased number of properties better protected from flooding and coastal erosion							
Increased users of facilities / amenities	This is a new project so user numbers will ramp up from zero						
Improved perception of facility/infrastructure project	New heritage centre will improve perception of the town overall.						
Increased use of cycleways or paths	Local community will access the site mostly by foot or cycle from the centre of town						
Increase in Biodiversity	By supporting the heritage centre, the local nature reserve will also be supported. This will ensure that the reserve thrives alongside the heritage centre in the future.						
Increased affordability of events/entry							
Improved perception of safety							
Reduction in neighbourhood crime							
Improved engagement numbers	Baseline TBC						
Improved perception of events	Baseline TBC						
Increased number of web searches for a place	Expected to see a significant increase - baseline TBC						
Volunteering numbers as a result of support	Significant increase - TBC						
Number of community-led arts, cultural, heritage and creative programmes as a result of support	Significant increase in sessions available across all towns and the villages						
Increased take up of energy efficiency measures							
Increased number of projects arising from funded feasibility studies							
Number of premises with improved digital connectivity							
None of the above							
What are the outputs you will deliver under Local Business Investment?							
	Events and opportunities at the centre and the nature reserve will generate new volunteers into the sector						
Number of volunteering opportunities supported	Significant increase in local events that will take place at the new centre.						
Number of local events or activities supported	Expectation that the facility will be used by multiple groups from heritage, schools, to activity and wellness sessions.						

COMMUNITIES & PLACES							
Project Name:	ASB						
Project Value:	£34,000						
Project Intervention Codes:	E6,E9						
Identified Local Issue:	Increase in ASB issues across Wisbech						
Links to other Funds (Levelling-up, Towns fund, Home Office, ICS prevention etc.)	levelling up fund						
Project Description:	Working with Blackfield Creatives, Clarion Housing, Clarion Futures, local schools and the police to develop creative and engaging ways to divert young people from ASB.						
Start Date:	01/09/2022(flexible)						
End Date:	Aug-25						
Project spending Profile by year and Rev/Cap:	Mental Health Early Intervention	Rev £:14,000 Cap £:	2023-24:	Rev £:10,000 Cap £:	2024-25:	Rev £10,000 Cap £:	
What are the outcomes you will deliver under investment in Communities & Places?	Insert Numbers against each target area or CPCA if the project will cover the whole area						
	Fenland	Peterborough	Cambridge City	South Cambs	East Cambs	Hunts	CPCA
Jobs created	10%						
Jobs safeguarded							
Increased footfall	20%						
Increased visitor numbers	3%						
Reduced vacancy rates							
Greenhouse gas reductions							
Improved perceived/experienced accessibility	25%						
Improved perception of facilities/amenities	45%						
Increased number of properties better protected from flooding and coastal erosion							
Increased users of facilities / amenities	40%						
Improved perception of facility/infrastructure project	15%						
Increased use of cycleway or paths	25%						
Increase in Biodiversity							
Increased affordability of events/entry							
Improved perception of safety	45%						
Reduction in neighbourhood crime	10%						
Improved engagement numbers	25%						
Improved perception of events							
Increased number of web searches for a place	35%						
Volunteering numbers as a result of support	40						
Number of community-led arts, cultural, heritage and creative programmes as a result of support	5						
Increased take up of energy efficiency measures							
Increased number of projects arising from funded feasibility studies							
Number of premises with improved digital connectivity	15						
None of the above							
What are the outputs you will deliver under Communities and Place Investment?							
Number of volunteering opportunities supported	40						
Number of local events or activities supported	9						
Number of projects	5						

COMMUNITIES & PLACES							
Project Name:	Safer Wisbech - Addressing perceptions of low level crime and ASB in Wisbech						
Project Value:	£50,000						
Project Intervention Codes:	E6,E9						
Identified Local Issue:	Perception of increased level of crime and ASB in Wisbech						
Links to other Funds (Levelling-up, Towns fund, Home Office, ICS prevention etc.)	Police and Crime Commissioner Funding, Proceeds of Crime Act Funding,						
Project Description:	<p>Following public consultation Wisbech has been identified as an area where residents feel 'unsafe' and therefore the Safer Wisbech group has been formed including partners such as Clarion, Cambridgeshire Police, Fenland District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council. Three projects have been identified to work with young people using detached youth work as well as art/culture activities to divert them from ASB. Using these relationships and connections with young people the Safer Wisbech group would work with partners to work with young people over the next three years to develop innovative ways to encourage other young people away from crime and ASB. Working with the Community Safety Partnership we would fund various projects over the next three years to address this issue. Some additional things the group will be looking at over the next three years include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-evaluating peoples fear of safety after three projects are complete later this year. Funding 3 more projects over the next three years to engage with our communities and divert people from ASB and crime. Engage young people in projects and involve them in design processes. Utilising opportunities for restorative justice working with the police following ASB incidents where property is damaged and allowing community partners opportunities to engage with offenders or perceived offenders of ASB and low-level crime. Built in budget to act on engagements – e.g. funding for our young people to highlight gaps in provisions and help set something up. 						
Start Date:	Sep-22						
End Date:	Aug-25						
Project spending Profile by year and Rev/Cap:	Mental Health Early Intervention	Rev £17,000 Cap £:	2023-24:	Rev £17,000 Cap £:	2024-25:	Rev £16,000 Cap £:	
What are the outcomes you will deliver under investment in Communities & Places?	Insert Numbers against each target area or CPCA if the project will cover the whole area						
	Fenland	Peterborough	Cambridge City	South Cambs	East Cambs	Hunts	CPCA
Jobs created							
Jobs safeguarded							
Increased footfall							
Increased visitor numbers							
Reduced vacancy rates							
Greenhouse gas reductions							
Improved perceived/experienced accessibility							
Improved perception of facilities/amenities							
Increased number of properties better protected from flooding and coastal erosion							
Increased users of facilities / amenities							
Improved perception of facility/infrastructure project							
Increased use of cycleway or paths							
Increase in Biodiversity							
Increased affordability of events/entry							
Improved perception of safety	25%						
Reduction in neighbourhood crime	20%						
Improved engagement numbers	25%						
Improved perception of events							
Increased number of web searches for a place							
Volunteering numbers as a result of support	30						
Number of community-led arts, cultural, heritage and creative programmes as a result of support	9						
Increased take up of energy efficiency measures							
Increased number of projects arising from funded feasibility studies							
Number of premises with improved digital connectivity							
None of the above							

Proposed amendment to Cabinet Report tabled on 11 July 2022

Report title: UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Amendments proposed by: Cllr Chris Boden

Background Information

The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) is collating a Local Investment Plan to present to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) regarding local allocation of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF).

All Local Authority areas have been allocated a sum of SPF funding. Fenland's allocation is approximately £1.3m.

The CPCA wish to deliver a number of area wide initiatives focussing on skills development and have asked constituent partners to contribute to these projects through the provision of a percentage of their allocated funding. It is proposed that FDC contribute 10.5% of their allocated funding. Details of these projects can be found in appendix 1 attached.

Initially, Fenland District Council did not agree to contribute to the area wide initiatives. Information regarding the area wide schemes was received late into the allocation process and it was not felt that the area wide schemes would be of sufficient benefit to Fenland residents and businesses to warrant a reduction in funding to the projects already submitted.

A CPCA Leaders' Strategy Meeting was subsequently held on 6 July 2022, following a request by the Leader of Fenland District to consider a needs-based allocation of funding across the Combined Authority area for the proposed area wide skills initiative. Support for this approach was agreed by the CPCA Mayor and political leaders who attended the meeting. Specifically, the following points were approved:

- The support for a needs-based approach is clearly captured within the Leaders' Strategy Meeting minutes
- The needs-based approach is made clear within the SPF report presented to the CPCA Board for sign off
- The needs-based approach is clearly articulated within the Local Investment Plan to be submitted to Government
- The CPCA commence a dialogue with FDC officers to a needs-based approach to the area-wide skills projects and how this translates into practical action that demonstrates the extent to which FDC's 10.5% funding commitment acts as leverage for additional SPF resource allocation to Fenland.

Proposed Alterations

Paragraph 1.3 should be amended so the proposed submission to the CPCA to deliver five projects is £1,116,065. This is calculated as:

Total amount of funding allocated for Fenland projects	£1,299,000
Less 4% admin fee	£52,000 (rounded up)
Amount available for project spend	£1,247,000
Less 10.5% of £1,124,700 allocation for project spend (to be retained by CPCA for area wide projects)	£130,935

Total amount available for project spend	£1,116,065
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Paragraph 1.7.1 should be amended to read 'Fenland – Investment in Business £818,065 (BUS7)'. This is the original amount of £949k detailed in the report reduced by £130,935. Some elements of the 'Fenland – Investment in Business' project can potentially be delivered by the area wide skills initiative. Therefore, the funding allocation needed for the area wide project is being taken from the original budget for this project.

A revised Schedule 1 (attached) reflects the changes in funding allocation as set out above (summary of bids).

A revised Schedule 2 (attached) reflects the changes in funding allocation as set out above (BUS7).

Recommendations

Cabinet is requested to consider and recommend the five proposed Fenland UK Shared Prosperity Fund projects to the CPCA for inclusion in the CPCA Local Investment Plan to be submitted to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities. All proposals remain as detailed in the original report with the exception of BUS7 for which funding is reduced by £130,935

An additional proposal is that the £130,935 taken from project BUS7 is used as FDC's contribution of 10.5% of allocated funding to deliver the CPCA area wide skills projects detailed in appendix 1 to this document.

Appendix 1

CPCA Area Wide UKSPF proposals

All Age Careers Service across Cambridgeshire & Peterborough

Working within the current funding boundaries of the NCS and the CEC, the service would be expanded to support careers related learning in primary school settings. Primary provision would mirror the employer engagement element of the CEC contract allowing for sustainable relationships to be developed.

The project will use new technology to align the service offering and allow for individuals to navigate career transitions. Digital tools and data will be a key focus to the service and will act as the digital thread to tie the provision together. Employers will be front and centre of the service. Both CEC and NCS have resources that are suitable for multiple audiences, yet rarely capitalised on outside of their target market. For better value to the public placing these resources in a central location will allow multiple service users to access and benefit from them.

Supported Internships across Cambridgeshire & Peterborough

Working closely with key stakeholders this project will identify those individuals most in need. There will be three main activities:

- Personal Skills Analysis to guide individuals in understanding and identifying opportunities for re-skilling, up-skilling and re-training. This will involve working directly with individuals to identify opportunities to transition into or back into work following an extended period of economic inactivity; into new roles with their existing skills, or to identify training that will support them in transitioning to a new role.
- Delivering real-world experiences of work through funded internships. Funding will be provided to employers to provide new work opportunities. To support these internships activities will include:
 - workshops and webinars on a 1-to-many basis to highlight the benefits of, and ways to implement,
 - internships;
 - 1-to-1 meetings for companies to explore the opportunities for and benefits of internships;
 - securing and matching 3 month paid internships;
 - 'Learning Mentor Training' for the host organisation.
- Training Needs Analysis to identify re-skilling, up-skilling and inclusive recruitment practices within a business. This will include:
 - working with businesses to identify skills development opportunities and inclusive recruitment practices to meet skills shortages,
 - working with businesses looking to develop or expand into key areas such as Net-zero or Digital by training their current staff.

Holistic Online skills support incorporating GWwS and RoL (Integrating Region of Learning Platform)

Continuing Growth Works with Skills, maintaining the Digital Talent Platform with access to resources, diagnostic tools, vacancy listing and candidate matching will maintain support for employers large and small across all six districts.

Integrating Regions of Learning will provide an on-ramp for people with low skill to access credentials that demonstrate their capability - providing them with opportunity to transition into further or higher education or into work or self employment.

Regions of Learning is currently aimed at young people, but would be expanded to cover all people who are not yet in work - whether they be young, returning to work or simply yet to engage in economic activity. The Regions of Learning platform will continue to develop online credentials via Open Badges, and host opportunities, such as internships and early careers vacancies, on the Talent View platform.

The Skills Extractor will be used to create common language between employer, education provider and individual to link into work around careers ladders and, potentially, an all age careers service.

Activity to support NEETs will be focussed on providing destinations for those already served by existing providers in CPCA, and will seek to integrate additional providers to offer progression into technical and vocational learning routes, including Traineeships, T-Levels and Apprenticeships - as well as independent training providers and others providing non-accredited short courses that support progression into, and within, the workplace.

REVISED SCHEDULE 1 - SUMMARY OF FENLAND SPF BIDS

Ref	Name		Year 1 Revenue	Year 1 Capital	Year 2 Revenue	Year 2 Capital	Year 3 Revenue	Year 3 Capital	Total Project Funding	
BUS 7	Investment in Business	Business	£ 142,000		£ 263,000		£ 413,065		£ 818,065	Admin max 15%
COM 10	ASB Wisbech	Community	£ 14,000		£ 10,000		£ 10,000		£ 34,000	
COM 13	Safer Wisbech	Community	£ 17,000		£ 17,000		£ 16,000		£ 50,000	
COM14	Amplifying Community	Community							£ 120,000	
	Arts and Culture		£ 25,000	£ 5,000	£ 40,000	£ 5,000	£ 40,000	£ 5,000		
	Whittlesey Heritage								£ 94,000	
COM 15	Centre	Community		£ 10,000	£ 39,000		£ 45,000			
Profiled FDC annual funding			£ 213,000		£ 374,000		£ 660,000		£ 1,247,000	4% admin £52k
Cambs & Peterborough			£ 1,480,000	17%	£ 2,600,000	30%	£ 4,700,000	53%		

Revised Schedule 2 - BUS7 Fenland Investment in Business

Project Name:	<i>Fenland - Investment in Business</i>
Project Value:	<i>£818,065</i>
Project Intervention Codes:	<i>E18 E19 E20 E21 E23 E28 E29 E30</i>
Identified Local Issue:	<i>Fenland's specific long-known deficit in high-skilled, highly-paid employment together with helping cutting-edge businesses and business practices to form an increasing part of our local economy, with the additional advantage of keeping more highly skilled Fenland residents (particularly younger residents) in Fenland. This project will target local businesses with a desire to grow, expand into new markets, create more jobs, increase profitability and productivity, but simply do not know how to do so and/or requiring pump-priming grant funding to enable the growth to happen.</i>
Opportunity or Challenge the Project addresses:	<i>The project creates a significant grant fund open to Fenland businesses to reduce barriers to entry to innovation, to apply skills (particularly but not exclusively digital skills) and automation to improve productivity, to expand local R&D, energy saving and to boost long-term skilled employment in Fenland. The biggest challenges businesses face is leadership and management skills, knowledge and funding deficits. This project will also target companies that may have started trading without having a business plan or the business acumen needed to optimise their sustainability and growth potential. Fenland has the existing businesses to take up this support and drive forward economic growth in the district.</i>
Links to other Funds (Levelling-up, Towns fund, Home Office, ICS prevention etc.)	

Project Description:	<p><i>This project will provide access to the appropriate expertise and pump-priming grant funding for Fenland businesses to drive local economic growth, productivity, R&D, energy saving and business innovation to secure access to market opportunities. The project will proactively prioritise sectors that are important drivers for economic growth in Fenland including food processing and its supply chain, distribution and precision engineering sectors, however, there will be no sectoral restrictions for the project. The project will bring together all the best practice learned delivering recent grant based projects. It will bring skills development and business investment together in one scheme through a 'pre-qualification' process for grant awards. We will seek the involvement of the North Cambridgeshire Place Development Board in assessing grant bids. Moreover, the project also includes providing the administrative support to assist the incipient North Cambridge Place Development Board in putting local business development at the core of its work. The project is designed to deliver on the Council's corporate objective of supporting economic growth and is one of the key workstreams in the Council's refreshed Economic Growth Strategy 2022-2025.</i></p> <p><i>This programme responds to the priorities of the SPF through investment in local business; it equips existing Fenland businesses with the business skills, expert advice and grant funding they need for sustainable growth and through this will safeguard jobs and increase employment opportunities across Fenland.</i></p> <p><i>The project will support existing businesses with the desire to grow, expand into new and priority markets, create more jobs, increase profitability, competitiveness and productivity, but without the skills and experience to do so. An example of the support provided by the project would be energy saving where the project will support businesses with an advice and support programme tailored to meet the needs of the business. The outcomes for each participating business would be reductions in energy use with corresponding benefits in terms of business efficiency, resilience, viability and growth alongside carbon savings.</i></p>					
Start Date:	Nov-22					
End Date:	Mar-25					
Project spending Profile by year and Rev/Cap:	2022-23	Rev £:142000 Cap £:	2023-24:	Rev £:263000 Cap £:	2024-25:	Rev £:413,065 Cap £:

What are the outcomes you will deliver under Local Business Investment	Insert Numbers against each target area or CPCA if the project will cover the whole area						
	Fenland	Peterborough	Cambridge City	South Cambs	East Cambs	Hunts	CPCA
Jobs created	68						
Jobs safeguarded	18						
Increased footfall							
Increased visitor numbers							

Reduced vacancy rates							
Greenhouse gas reductions							
Number of new businesses created							
Improved perception of markets							
Increased business sustainability	45						
Increased number of businesses supported	45						
Increased amount of investment	£450k						
Improved perception of attractions							
Number of businesses introducing new products to	21						
Number of organisations engaged in new knowledge transfer activity	8						
Number of premises with improved digital	18						
Number of businesses adopting new to the firm technologies or processes	12						
Number of new to market products	45						
Number of R&D active businesses							
Increased number of innovation active SMEs	10						
Number of businesses adopting new or improved products or services	18						
Increased number of Innovation plans developed	10						
Number of early stage firms which increase their revenue following support	45						
Number of businesses engaged in new markets	10						
Number of businesses increasing their export capability	9						
Increased amount of low or zero carbon energy infrastructure installed							
Number of businesses with improved productivity	9						
Increased number of projects arising from funded feasibility studies	9						
Increased number of properties better protected from flooding and coastal erosion							
None of the above							

What are the outputs you will deliver under Local Business Investment?

[illegible]