



SOUTH EAST WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE

28 NOVEMBER 2022

SHARED PROSPERITY FUND – REGIONAL INVESTMENT PLAN

TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AGENDA ITEM 6

Appendix 2 to this report is exempt from publication because it contains information of the kind described in paragraphs 14 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person) and 21 (public interest test) of parts 4 and 5 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

Reason for this Report

1. To provide an update on the UK Government Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) which supports the UK Government's wider commitment to level up all parts of the UK and provides funding for local investment between 2022 and 2025.
2. To provide details of the Regional Investment plan that was submitted to UK Government in August 2022.

Background

3. Following the report that was submitted to SEW CJC in July 2022 [item-4-spf.pdf](#) ([cardiffcapitalregion.wales](#)) a regional investment plan was submitted to UK Government outlining the regions investment request for shared prosperity fund aligning to associated outcomes and activities (Appendix 2). To support the plan a public facing document was also produced (Appendix 1).
4. Details of the Fund and associated outcomes are set out in the [UK Shared Prosperity Fund Prospectus](#) and [Interventions List for Wales](#).

Issues

Delivery of UKSPF in South East Wales

5. At the time of writing the report, clarity was still being sought from UK Government around the approval of the plan, however, the appoint Lead Authority (RCT

Council) continues to meet with UK Government officials on a fortnightly basis and have a positive and constructive relationship. The latest intelligence is the newly appointed Ministerial Team with responsibility for SPF has some continuity with the origins of the policy and are committed to taking it forward.

- Initial feedback for Welsh Investment Plans has been positive at an official level, and they are now subject to Ministerial decision for approval subject to timing and as part of decisions which the new Ministerial team need to make.

South East Wales Allocations

- As a reminder, UKSPF should provide £2.6 billion of new funding for local investment by March 2025, with all areas of the UK receiving an allocation from the Fund via a funding formula rather than a competition. The table below details the allocation per Authority for the Cardiff Capital Region.

Local Authority	Core UKSPF	Multiply	Administration Fees (4%)	Total (- admin fee)
Blaenau Gwent	£23,301,572	£4,863,920	£1,126,620	£27,038,872
Bridgend	£19,116,296	£3,990,295	£924,264	£22,182,327
Caerphilly	£28,272,298	£5,901,499	£1,366,952	£32,806,845
Cardiff	£34,587,594	£7,219,740	£1,672,293	£40,135,041
Merthyr Tydfil	£22,698,977	£4,738,136	£1,097,485	£26,339,628
Monmouthshire	£5,919,533	£1,235,631	£286,207	£6,868,957
Newport	£27,177,563	£5,672,986	£1,314,022	£31,536,527
RCT CBC	£37,320,994	£7,790,305	£1,804,452	£43,306,847
Torfaen	£20,431,241	£4,264,774	£987,841	£23,708,174
VOG	£11,606,505	£2,422,717	£561,169	£13,468,053
Total	£230,432,573	£48,100,003	£11,141,305	£267,391,271

Please note, 4% of the allocation will be ringfenced for administration of the fund.

- The funding has been broken down to yearly allocations; 12% in year 1 (22/23), 24% in year 2 (23/24) and 64% in year 3 (24/25). UK Gov have suggested that any funding not utilised in each year will not be carried forward.

Regional Delivery Dimension

- Once approval is in place for the Regional Investment plan from UK, this will commence activity being co-ordinated across the CCR network. This will be outlined in a future report providing further information and detail.

Governance of Regional Delivery

- Whilst there is a requirement for these principles and process to be understood and considered by the SEW CJC, the CJC is not currently operational in view of the outstanding technical and financial issues that need resolution and clear effective dates. Therefore, whilst the CJC can approve the regional investment plan for submission to UKG on 1 Aug – any spend or funds that goes through it – will be highly likely to incur VAT. As a result, as an interim measure, the CJC has appointed CCRCD as its lead body for the purposes of deployment of CCR

SPF spend and the SPF spend will be allocated to CCRCD via RCT (as the SPF lead applicant) for this purpose. Additionally, any match funding to complement the SPF allocation from CCRCD funds, will need to be approved by Regional Cabinet.

11. Financial support is available to support initial preparatory work to establish the comprehensive framework for new delivery and governance arrangements for the region and to underpin effective delivery and oversight of the Regional Investment Plan. As lead body, RCTCBC is eligible to access £40,000 for this initial preparatory work. New guidance is being published with UKG ongoing in respect to such issues and all amounts required will be in line with the published guidelines and will be further reported on, alongside the final version of the Regional Investment Plan at the next meeting of the CJC in the autumn of 2022.
12. Finally, it is important to emphasise that there is a great deal of flexibility in how the path to successful delivery of UKSPF is developed. There is an opportunity to shape a programme that has strong regional intent, local delivery credentials, a commitment to levelling-up within and across the region and the ability to be a lever for wider investment and potential. Changes and adaptation will be managed as a collective and there will be scope to adjust and show agility as the region and its local areas, makes progress and demonstrates that more can be achieved by working in partnership.

Reason for Recommendations

13. This report provides the CJC with details of the Regional Investment Plan, along with details on the progress that is being made with UK Government in respect of the Shared Prosperity Fund and the proposed next steps.

Financial Implications

14. There are no direct additional financial implications arising from this report, which provides an update on the regional delivery proposals for the UK Government Shared Prosperity Fund for South East Wales. In addition, the report provides details of the funding allocation for the region.
15. The report also references a potential allocation for match funding from CCRCD as additional co-investment, which is subject to the CCRCD Wider Investment Fund process, with a decision expected in January 2023.

Legal Implications

16. This report provides SEW CJC with an update on the UK Government Shared Prosperity Fund for South East Wales. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

17. In developing the Plan and in considering its endorsement regard should be had, amongst other matters, to:

- (a) the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and the Welsh Language Standards;
- (b) Public sector duties under the Equalities Act 2010 (including specific Welsh public sector duties). Pursuant to these legal duties Councils must in making decisions have due regard to the need to (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, (2) advance equality of opportunity and (3) foster good relations on the basis of protected characteristics. Protected characteristics are a. Age; b. Gender reassignment; c. Sex; d. Race – including ethnic or national origin, colour or nationality; e. Disability; f. Pregnancy and maternity; g. Marriage and civil partnership; h. Sexual orientation; i. Religion or belief – including lack of belief.
- (c) the Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 ('the Act') is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act places a 'well-being duty' on public bodies aimed at achieving 7 national well-being goals for Wales - a Wales that is prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal, has cohesive communities, a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language and is globally responsible. In discharging their respective duties under the Act, each public body listed in the Act (which includes the Councils comprising the CCRCD) must set and published wellbeing objectives. These objectives will show how each public body will work to achieve the vision for Wales set out in the national wellbeing goals. When exercising its functions, the CJC Cabinet should consider how the proposed decision will contribute towards meeting the wellbeing objectives set by each Council and in so doing achieve the national wellbeing goals. The wellbeing duty also requires the Councils to act in accordance with a 'sustainable development principle'. This principle requires the Councils to act in a way which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Put simply, this means that SEW CJC must take account of the impact of their decisions on people living their lives in Wales in the future. In doing so, CJC Cabinet must:
- look to the long term.
 - focus on prevention by understanding the root causes of problems.
 - deliver an integrated approach to achieving the 7 national well-being goals.
 - work in collaboration with others to find shared sustainable solutions.
 - involve people from all sections of the community in the decisions which affect them.

18. The SEW CJC must be satisfied that the proposed decision accords with the principles above. To assist CJC Cabinet to consider the duties under the Act in respect of the decision sought, an assessment has been undertaken, which is attached as an appendix to this report.

Equality Act 2010

19. In considering this matter, regard should be had, amongst other matters, to the Councils' duties under the Equality Act 2010. Pursuant to these legal duties the

CJC Cabinet must in making decisions have due regard to the need to (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination (2) advance equality of opportunity and (3) foster good relations on the basis of protected characteristics. Protected characteristics are:

- age;
- gender reassignment;
- sex;
- race – including ethnic or national origin, colour or nationality;
- disability;
- pregnancy and maternity;
- marriage and civil partnership;
- sexual orientation;
- religion or belief – including lack of belief.

RECOMMENDATIONS

20. It is recommended that the SEW CJC:

- (1) notes the Regional Investment plan attached at Appendix 2;
- (2) notes progress that is being made with UK Government;
- (3) notes that a further report will be submitted outlining detail of CCR activity for the Region.

Kellie Beirne
Interim Chief Executive
South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee
28 November 2022

Appendix 2 to this report is exempt from publication because it contains information of the kind described in paragraphs 14 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person) and 21 (public interest test) of parts 4 and 5 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 and in all the circumstances of the case the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information

Appendices

	Appendix 1	Regional Investment Plan (Public Facing)
EXEMPT	Appendix 2	Regional Investment Plan
	Appendix 3	Well-being of Future Generations Assessment

Shared Prosperity Fund in the Cardiff Capital Region

**LEVELLING
— UP —**



About the Shared Prosperity Fund

In April the UK Government published details on the new £2.6bn Shared Prosperity Fund. The funding is allocated to places across the UK on a needs basis, details on the allocations are available on the [UK Government website](#). The United Kingdom Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) will support the UK government’s Levelling Up objectives, namely to:

- 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

To do this it has three investment priorities:

- Community and Place
- Supporting Local Business; and
- People and Skills

There is also a dedicated element of the fund that sits under the People and Skills priority, Multiply, which seeks to improve adult numeracy skills. For each of these priorities there are a number of objectives for Wales. These are summarised below. Each objective also has a set of proposed interventions, which detail the types of activity that can be supported by the Shared Prosperity Fund. Details on the objectives and interventions are available on the [UK Government website](#).



Shared Prosperity Fund Priorities and Objectives

Priority	Objective
Communities and Place	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Strengthening our social fabric and fostering a sense of local pride and belonging, through investment in activities that enhance physical, cultural and social ties and amenities, such as community infrastructure and local green space, and community-led projects. — Building resilient, safe and healthy neighbourhoods, through investment in quality places that people want to live, work, play and learn in, through targeted improvements to the built environment and innovative approaches to crime prevention.
Supporting Local Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Creating jobs and boosting community cohesion, through investments that build on existing industries and institutions, and range from support for starting businesses to visible improvements to local retail, hospitality and leisure sector facilities. — Promoting networking and collaboration, through interventions that bring together businesses and partners within and across sectors to share knowledge, expertise and resources, and stimulate innovation and growth. — Increasing private sector investment in growth-enhancing activities, through targeted support for small and medium-sized businesses.
People and Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Boosting core skills and support adults to progress in work, by targeting adults with no or low level qualifications and skills in maths, and upskill the working population. — Reducing levels of economic inactivity through investment in bespoke intensive life and employment support for young people and adults tailored to local need. — Supporting people furthest from the labour market to overcome barriers to work by providing cohesive, locally tailored support, including access to basic skills. — Supporting local areas to fund gaps in local skills provision to support people to progress in work, and supplement local adult skills provision.



The UK Government has published allocations for every local authority in Wales, which aggregates to £278m across the ten local authorities of South East Wales, of which £48m is allocated specifically for the Multiply programme. This funding is allocated on an annual basis and will conclude in March 2025.

How will the Shared Prosperity Fund operate in the Cardiff Capital Region?

In order to unlock with funding the UK Government first needs to approve an Investment Plan. In Wales these plans will be developed on a regional basis, meaning that for South East Wales a plan must be developed for the Cardiff Capital Region footprint. To do this the local authorities of the Cardiff Capital Region will need to identify a lead authority to bring together the plan.

The plan will need to outline:

- 1. Local context:** showing evidence of opportunities and challenges through the lens of the three investment priorities for UKSPF.
- 2. Selection of outcomes and interventions:** identifying the outcomes to target based on local context, and the interventions to prioritise, under each investment priority.
- 3. Delivery:** detailing:
 - a. Approach to delivery and governance
 - b. Expenditure and deliverables
 - c. Capability and resource

Investment plans need to be submitted by **1st August 2022**. After submission the UK Government will assess applications and engage with the lead authority to enable sign off. Where a plan cannot be signed off first time, the UK Government will provide feedback to the lead local authority and work iteratively to secure sign off.

How can I influence the Investment Plan?

The Investment Plan requires the identification of local opportunities and challenges that relate to the three investment priorities of the SPF, and to then identify the outcomes and interventions that best address those challenges. We would therefore welcome any partners to submit any evidence to support the development of the plan, specifically relating to the issues identified in the table below:

Area	Example information
Opportunities and challenges	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Evidence of need for support relating to the three priorities of the UKSPF — Areas of opportunity relating to the three priorities of the UKSPF
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Which outcomes should be the focus of the UKSPF in the Cardiff Capital Region? — What would success look like for the Cardiff Capital Region?
Interventions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Which interventions identified in the UKSPF for Wales should be prioritised? — What types of projects should be supported?

Note that we will not be seeking submissions or proposals for projects at this stage. However should you wish to suggest the types of projects that could be supported this can be used to help inform the Investment Plan.



What does the UKSPF mean for communities, residents and local organisations?

The development of the Investment Plan is the beginning of the Shared Prosperity Fund process. In the period between submission and approval the lead authority will continue to work with local authorities to provide further detail on how the fund will be administered in the Cardiff Capital Region. During this period, we will work with local partners to consider the delivery phase of the Shared Prosperity Fund. It must be emphasised that local areas are responsible for the delivery at local levels. There will be considerable engagement with communities and stakeholders on those local delivery plans.

Next steps and important dates

When	Activity
Summer 2022	Further guidance published including guidance on monitoring benefits and evaluation, assurance, subsidy control, branding and publicity. Application processes and templates for Northern Ireland will be published – these may be used by lead local authorities in England, Scotland and Wales where desired.
30 June 2022	Investment plan window opens
1 August 2022	Investment plan window closes
July – Sep 2022	Indicative investment plan assessment period for UK government
October 2022 onwards	Anticipated date for first investment plans to be approved
October 2022 onwards	Anticipated first payment to be made to lead local authorities
March 2025	Three-year funding period ends

Contact

For more information, please contact info@cardiffcapitalregion.wales

**LEVELLING
— UP —**

Future Generations Assessment Evaluation

(includes Equalities and Sustainability Impact Assessments)

<p>Name of the Officer completing the evaluation:</p> <p>Kellie Beirne</p> <p>Phone no: 07826 919286 E-mail: kellie.beirne@cardiff.gov.uk</p>	<p>Please give a brief description of the aims of the proposal</p> <p>The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a central pillar of the UK government's Levelling Up agenda and a significant component of its support for places across the UK. It provides £2.6 billion of new funding for local investment by March 2025, with all areas of the UK receiving an allocation from the Fund via a funding formula rather than a competition (CCR allocation for Regional Activity is £3.3m from 2023-2025)</p>
<p>Proposal: Shared Prosperity Fund investment</p>	<p>Date Future Generations Evaluation form completed: 28 November 2022</p>

1. Does your proposal deliver any of the well-being goals below? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal.

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p>A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs</p>	<p>With affluence and deprivation often coexisting, the UKSPF provides investment and empowerment to local communities through a long-term funding stream which will allow local areas to unleash their unique potential. Bespoke interventions can be created for communities, including new and innovative combinations of activity and funding. The main delivery Pillars of UKSPF are Communities and Place; People and Skills; Supporting Local Business</p>	<p>Maximising potential for added value Maximising collaboration opportunities Maximising funding opportunities</p>
<p>A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change)</p>	<p>The Communities and Place SPF investment priority will enable places to invest to restore their community and green spaces and create relationships and to enhance the foundations for social and economic development at the neighbourhood-level. The intention of this is to</p>	

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	strengthen the social fabric of communities, supporting in building pride in place	
A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximized and health impacts are understood	The Communities and Place SPF investment priority will enable places to create the foundations for improved health and wellbeing. The intention of this is to strengthen the social and economic fabric of communities and build pride in place	
A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected	All funded projects, will look to generate wealth, provide jobs and training by efficiently using funding from the programmes. In addition, improvement to transport and green infrastructure will improve accessibility to those in more deprived areas, connecting people more effectively to facilities and jobs.	
A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental wellbeing	All projects will seek to improve the economic, social and cultural well-being of the community. Regional investment through Cluster activities will enhance SE Wales reputation on a global level	
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh language are promoted and protected. People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation	Where relevant, all investment will look to promote Culture and Heritage and promote the Arts. The projects will align with the actions in the Five Year Welsh Language Strategy, working in partnership with Welsh medium local organisations for support and delivery where needed, especially though working alongside the Regions Priority clusters	
A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances	All investments funded through the programme will seek to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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, 	

Well Being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive and negative impacts.	What actions have been/will be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
	especially in those places where they have been lost • Empower local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency	

2. How has your proposal embedded and prioritized the sustainable governance principles in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future</p> <p>Long Term</p>	It is expected that as the SPF projects are developed providers will address the well-being of current and future generations. The UKSPF programme will fund projects initially up to 2025 that will have a lasting impact	.
 <p>Working together with other partners to deliver objectives</p> <p>Collaboration</p>	Regional Investments have been developed and supported by the 10 LA across SE Wales, so are heavily reliant on all partners working together to ensure full coverage and maximum delivery.	
 <p>Involving those with an interest and seeking their views</p> <p>Involvement</p>	All investments funded through the programme seek to restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost along with empower local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency	
 <p>Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse</p> <p>Prevention</p>	the 3 pillars of activity Communities and Place; People and Skills; Supporting Local Business are all focused on investing resources into the right activities that meet local needs, which should hopefully reverse activity getting worse	

Sustainable Development Principle	Does your proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not explain why.	Are there any additional actions to be taken to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
 <p>Considering impact on all wellbeing goals together and on other bodies</p>	This will be undertaken on a case-by-case basis through the new assessment process.	

3. Are your proposals going to affect any people or groups of people with protected characteristics? Please explain the impact, the evidence you have used and any action you are taking below.

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Age	As with all those categories below – the impacts will relate to specific delivery that underpins the execution and operation of this Plan	None arising at this time.	
Disability	Positive – the SPF allocation will allow projects to progress that benefit people regardless of ability / disability / long term conditions	As above	
Gender reassignment	Positive – the SPF allocation will allow projects to progress that benefit people regardless of protected characteristics	As above	
Marriage or civil partnership	Positive – the SPF allocation will allow projects to progress that benefit people who are Married or in a Civil Partnership.	As above	
Pregnancy or maternity	Positive – the SPF allocation will allow projects to progress that benefit people, all pregnant women and those on maternity		

Protected Characteristics	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on the protected characteristic	What has been/will be done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Race	Positive – the SPF allocation will allow projects to progress that benefit everybody regardless of race		
Religion or Belief	Positive – the SPF allocation will allow projects to progress that benefit everybody regardless of region or religious belief		
Sex	Positive – the SPF allocation will allow projects to progress that benefit people regardless of gender.		
Sexual Orientation	Positive – the SPF allocation will allow projects to progress that benefit people regardless of their sexual orientation		
Welsh Language	SPF should have the capacity to have a positive effect. The use of the Welsh language will be promoted and organisations who benefit from funding will be expected to comply with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, the Council's Welsh Language Standards		

4. Safeguarding & Corporate Parenting. Are your proposals going to affect either of these responsibilities?

	Describe any positive impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	Describe any negative impacts your proposal has on safeguarding and corporate parenting	What will you do/ have you done to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Safeguarding	Not directly relevant –however, building the future economy should have a profoundly positive impact on ability to safeguard the future of our residents		

Corporate Parenting	Not directly relevant – however building strength in the economy should create opportunities for all of the young people entrusted in our care		
---------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	--	--

5. What evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

- [UK Shared Prosperity Fund: prospectus - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

6. SUMMARY: As a result of completing this form, what are the main positive and negative impacts of your proposal, how have they informed/changed the development of the proposal so far and what will you be doing in future?

As above, the main implications will be in the delivery of this work.

7. MONITORING: The impacts of this proposal will need to be monitored and reviewed. Please specify the date at which you will evaluate the impact, and where you will report the results of the review.

The impacts of this proposal will be evaluated on:

At the appropriate date