



Board Meeting (Agenda Item 5)

Date: 19 March 2025

Title: UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Director: Keri Denton, Director of Performance and Partnerships at Devon County Council

Please note that the following recommendations are subject to consideration and determination by the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority (DTCCA) and confirmation under the provisions of the Constitution, before taking effect.

In order for this matter to be agreed, it requires:

- (a) The majority of members of the DTCCA (or their substitutes) present and voting at the meeting to be in favour.
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1. Recommendation

- 1.1 That the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority confirm support for the proposed delivery plan for UK Shared Prosperity Fund (“UKSPF”) 2025/26.
- 1.2 That Devon County Council as the Accountable Body for the DTCCA is given approval to submit an online Forecast Plan to Government (based on the information within the report provided below).
- 1.3 Subject to agreement of the Forecast Plan and Grant Determination Letter, Devon County Council is given approval to agree individual funding agreements with the various Authorities.

2. Purpose

- 2.1 This report seeks to provide a finalised Delivery plan for UKSPF 2025/26 and approach and builds on the paper submitted on 31st January 2025 to the shadow DTCCA Board and the
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update given on 18th February. The proposal has been developed in partnership with Devon District Councils and Torbay Council.

3. Background

- 3.1 Previously UKSPF funding has been provided directly to Torbay Council and Devon District Councils and DCC has directly received an allocation to deliver the Multiply programme.
- 3.2 Government has allocated the 2025-26 UKSPF funding to the DTCCA and requires the CCA collaborating with partners to agree a delivery plan that will effectively set out the distribution of funding, the outputs expected, and which can deliver a range of economic benefits.
- 3.3 The approach proposed is to streamline delivery, given the swift expected start in April, and the one-year delivery window through a continuation of successful schemes using existing providers and staff.

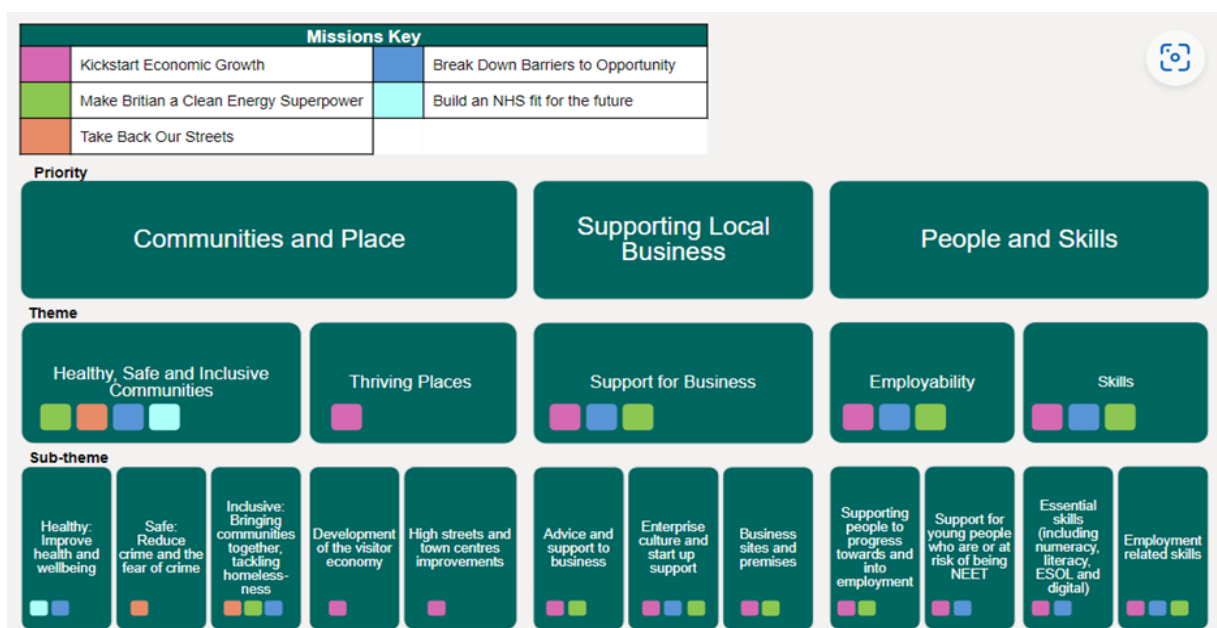
Update and Overview

- 3.4 Government have now provided definitions for 25/26 outcomes and outputs, which has informed discussions with Torbay Council and the District Councils and supported the final proposed delivery plan.
- 3.5 Each local authority is seeking approval through their decision making processes to their individual delivery plan and it is expected that the majority will have reached a decision by mid-April.

Priorities and Outputs

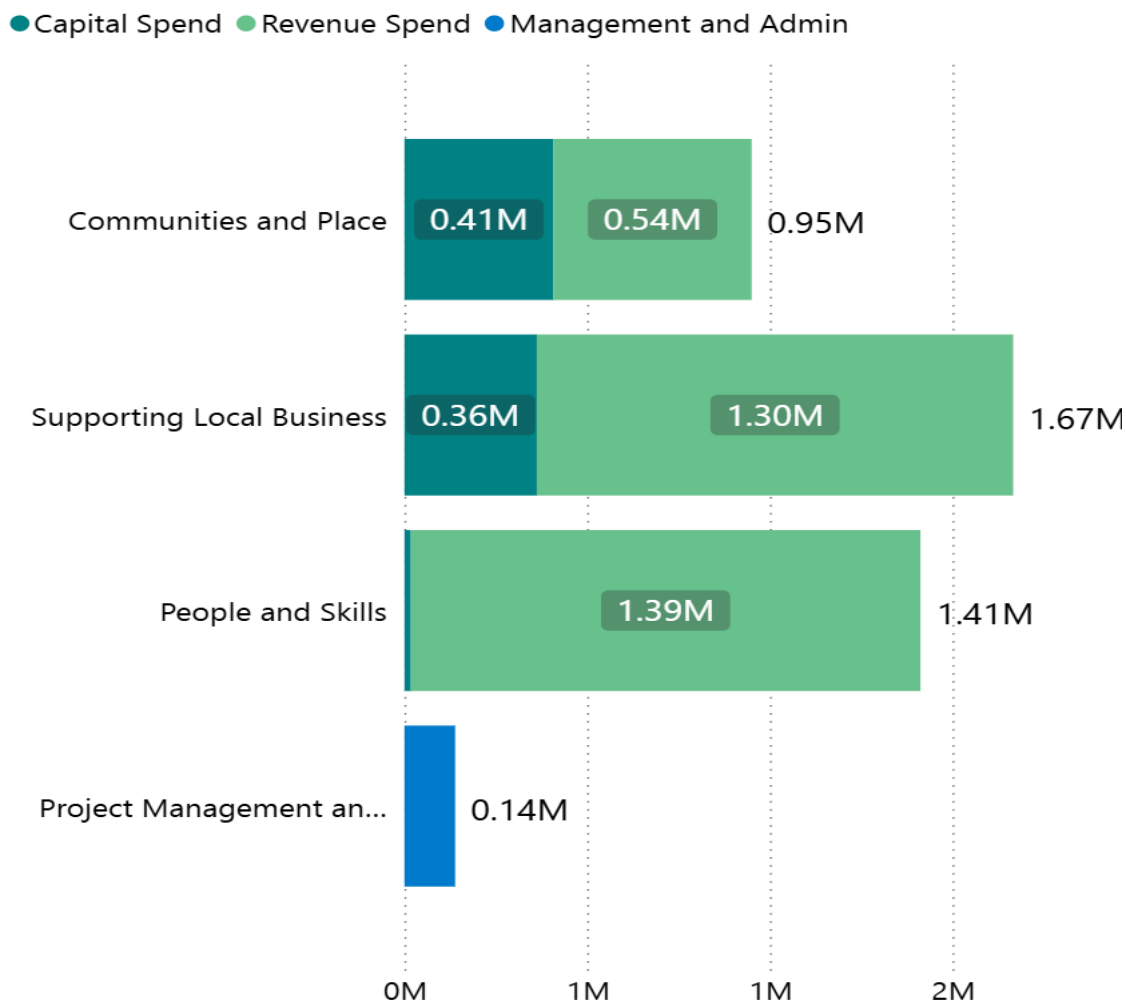
- 3.6 As was shared at the Authority’s Shadow Board in January 2025, a technical guidance note has been issued by Government setting out the requirements of the funding and the priorities and themes, as set out below:

Figure 1 - MHCLG / UKSPF Priorities and Themes



3.7 The collaborative work across the local authorities has resulted in a portfolio of 74 projects, which meet the criteria set by Government. Figure 2 shows the split of spend across the three priority areas set. The revenue spend includes the £140k management fee to administer the funding. The Dashboards in Appendix 1 provide the detail on expected outputs and outcomes generated by these projects.

Figure 2 – DTCCA UKSPF priority Spend / Breakdown Summary by Priority



Funding Allocations

3.8 The funding allocated to DTCCA is: £4,166,670, with a £721,522 capital and £3,445,148 revenue split. After deduction of £100k for Management and Monitoring (2.5% - the maximum allowed is 4%), the revenue pot for delivery is £3,345,148 and the total £4,066,670.

3.9 The proposed breakdown is shown in Table 3 below as presented at the Shadow Board in January and includes an allocation for Essential Skills. The proportions from the current programmes have been retained across partner authorities. See table 3 below for breakdown.

Proposed allocations, including “Essential Skills” for Devon and Torbay

| Geographic area | Total | Capital | Revenue |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Devon County | £811,411 | | £811,481 |
| Exeter | £363,862 | £84,796 | £279,066 |
| Mid Devon | £275,813 | £64,277 | £211,536 |
| North Devon | £314,908 | £73,388 | £241,520 |
| South Hams | £275,348 | £64,169 | £211,180 |
| Teignbridge | £424,964 | £99,036 | £325,928 |
| Torbay | £616,339 | £106,551 | £509,788 |
| Torrige | £259,184 | £60,401 | £198,782 |
| West Devon | £259,184 | £60,401 | £198,782 |
| East Devon | £465,588 | £108,503 | £357,085 |
| Management Fee (DCC) | £100,000 | £0 | £100,000 |
| Totals | £4,166,670 | £721,522 | £3,445,148 |

*Proportions were calculated using the percentage allocations from the 2022-25 programme (Table 4 below)

Table 4 – 2022 -2025 Allocation and percentage allocations

| 2022 - 2025 UKSPF | Original Allocation including multiply | Proportion of total |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Devon County Council | £3,130,911 | 20% |
| Exeter | £1,403,877 | 9% |
| Mid Devon | £1,064,159 | 7% |
| North Devon | £1,214,999 | 8% |
| South Hams | £1,062,367 | 7% |
| Teignbridge | £1,639,624 | 10% |
| Torbay | £2,378,002 | 15% |

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Torridge | £1,000,000 | 6% |
| East Devon | £1,796,363 | 11% |
| West Devon | £1,000,000 | 6% |
| Total | £15,690,302 | |

4. Options and alternatives

- 4.1 The Board has previously been appraised of the proposed delivery plan of UKSPF within Devon and Torbay, at its Shadow Meeting in January and briefing in February 2025. This report seeks a formal decision from the Board and is in line with previous reports presented to the Board.
- 4.2 The Board could opt not to endorse the approach and seek an alternative position. This would lead to delays in receiving UKSPF funding from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG), and given the collaborative approach could lead to resistance from partners.

5. Financial considerations

- 5.1 The financial considerations set out on the 31st of January 2025 paper and update to the 18th of February 2025 Board Briefing session remain the same.
- 5.2 The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) from MHCLG has been received and will be signed by DCC as the Accountable Body for the DTCCA. Other financial considerations and allocated amounts are as detailed earlier in this report.

6. Legal considerations

- 6.1 The DTCCA will hold full legal responsibility for the UKSPF programme 25/26 and, as Accountable Body, DCC will “back to back” Government MOU and Grant Determination Letter conditions in funding agreements with individual partners.

7. Environmental impact considerations

- 7.1 There are no environmental impact considerations arising from this report.

8. Equality considerations

- 8.1 Where relevant, partners and stakeholders have been informed of the requirement of the Equality Act 2010 Public Sector Equality Duty and the UKSPF officer working group will look to continually consider this where relevant in the development of the programme for delivery.

9. Engagement and consultation

9.1 Consultation has been undertaken with District Councils, Torbay Council, and Devon County Council officers and this will continue and be ongoing until the successful delivery of the 2025/2026 UKSPF programme.

10. Associated risks

10.1 The key risks identified are:

- is timely information and funding from Government to enable optimum delivery within the required timescale. To mitigate this, engagement with Government teams has been undertaken, and the MOU conditions, payment methodology and Grant Determination Letter confirmation are expected to be received by the 1st of April. Once this has been agreed, Grant Funding Agreements can be completed with each local authority partner, expected to be achieved in May 2025.
- Capacity to deliver – a number of staff, skills and expertise are at risk where there is too long a delay between the current funding ceasing and the new funding being made available. This risk is being mitigated through the steps above, and consideration of cash flow requirements by local authority partners.
- Delivery timescales to achieve outputs and outcomes – this is potentially a reputational risk for the DTCCA where impacts are not achieved or spend is not made within the required delivery period. This is being mitigated in part by looking to continue successful schemes and projects for an additional period and maintaining momentum as far as possible. There are no expected procurement timescale issues based on this approach.

11. Conclusion

11.1 The UKSPF 2025 / 2026 programme will support the delivery of significant funding building on the successful programmes and projects that have been delivered, and which can provide economic and community benefits across Devon and Torbay. The programme proposed covers the Government priorities, DTCCA priorities and detail has been produced on proposals expenditure, outputs, and outcomes.

Local Government Act 1972: List of background papers

None

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