



# Doncaster Council

## Report

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14 December 2022

To: The Chair and Members of Cabinet

Report Title: UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Multiply & Rural Prosperity Fund

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision?
Mayor Ros Jones	All	Yes

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is one of the Government's flagship levelling up funding programmes replacing EU Structural funds. This funding is non-competitive, with places across the UK given a place-based allocation. Doncaster's total for the financial years 22/23-24/25 is up to £8,960,875.
2. There are three priorities for UKSPF
  - Communities and Place
  - Supporting Local Business
  - People and Skills (24/25 financial year only)
3. On top of these priorities, it has been agreed locally that UKSPF should help:
  - Respond to the cost of living crisis,
  - Support business growth and productivity,
  - Third sector capacity building,
  - Seek to continue existing activity where it is having an impact
4. The South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) was responsible for submitting the UKSPF Investment Plan for South Yorkshire, which included Doncaster's ambitions for this money, on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022. The total allocation comprises both capital and revenue allocations which indicatively look to be (not confirmed):
  - £1,574,425.74 capital and
  - £7,386,449.26 revenue

5. The indicative allocations stated above are considerably less than the amount we would have received through EU resources.
6. It is worth noting that as the local lead authority, SYMCA can use up to 4% of South Yorkshire's allocation for admin purposes. The SYMCA currently indicate that processes requiring use of the admin allocation will be less than 4%.
7. UKSPF will help support the delivery of the DDTIP by responding to the challenges we face in Doncaster, identified through the development of the Borough Strategy, Locality Plans and Community Investment Masterplans.
8. The delivery window for 22/23 allocation is very limited. The SYMCA was expecting a decision on the submitted investment plan, from DLUHC during October 2022, as the previous timetable from Government to release the 22/23 funding states October onwards. SYMCA have agreed to cash flow Year 1 delivery from their own resources, at risk, if required.
9. Projects for the 22/23 allocation have been worked on collectively at a local level with an internal working officer working group. The processes and framework for funding delivery to projects has been developed collaboratively at the South Yorkshire regional level to ensure that local nuances are understood.
10. Proposals for projects to utilise UKSPF have been worked up through a number of internal workshops, fully costed and mapped against the UKSPF Interventions, Outcomes and Outputs. All projects were evaluated against the shortlisted priority interventions. Existing council activity where there are budget pressures or temporary funded activity was also evaluated against the intervention list.
11. Work is also ongoing, in parallel, to identify where UKSPF can assist with supporting current budget pressures.
12. This report also outlines the resource allocation and proposals in relation to Multiply allocation and Rural Prosperity Fund.

## **EXEMPT REPORT**

13. This is not an exempt report.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

14. It is recommended that Cabinet:
  - Considers and approves the receipt of the full UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) allocation (2022/23-2024/25) for Doncaster, of up to £8.96m.
  - Considers and approves the receipt of the Multiply allocation (2022/23-2024/25) for Doncaster, which equates to approx. £1.45m.

- Considers and approves the receipt for the full Rural Prosperity Fund (RPF) allocation (2023/24-2024/25) for Doncaster, of up to £634,307
- In respect of the three funding streams UK Shared Prosperity Fund, Rural Prosperity Fund and Multiply; approve delegated authority to the relevant Director and Director of Corporate Resources in consultation with the Mayor to accept and enter in to funding agreements and agree scheme changes where required, if the value of funding changes, or where further terms and conditions are released.
- Delegates spend decisions for the Rural Prosperity Fund Investment Plan to the relevant Director and Director of Corporate Resources in consultation with the Mayor.
- Approves the addition of the capital element of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural Prosperity Fund grants into the relevant capital programme.
- Approves option one delivery model as set out at paragraph 26, for year one of Shared Prosperity Fund delivery (2022/23).
- Approves the spending plan set out in paragraph 29 and Annex B for UK Shared Prosperity Fund in 2022/23, and for the Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Mayor, to manage the spend to maximise the Council core budget position, in accordance with the terms and conditions.
- In accordance with overview provided at Annex B, delegates the finalisation of 2023/24 and 2024/25 spending plans to the Director of Corporate Resources, in consultation with the Mayor.
- Approves option three delivery model as set out in paragraph 37 for Multiply delivery.
- Delegates approval for the spending plan for the Multiply grant funding to the Director of Children's Services and Assistant Director of Finance, in consultation with the relevant portfolio holder.

## **WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?**

15. The UKSPF is a key funding stream, replacing the loss of EU funding, to enable the delivery of programmes and projects that are key to delivering DDT; which aims to create thriving people, places and planet that balance the wellbeing of all these to create the kind of borough we want in the future.
16. Projects to be funded by UKSPF will help Doncaster to achieve a number of broad objectives as part of the government's levelling up agenda including:
  - Boosting 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

17. The purpose of the fund is to enable acute challenges in communities to be addressed at a local level. This is particularly key across Doncaster due to the wide variety of types of communities across our Borough.

## **BACKGROUND**

18. UKSPF is key to the delivery of government's central mission to level up the whole of the UK. The main link to levelling up is to help support the delivery on each of the following 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 the 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.

19. UKSPF is a place based allocation to allow the flexibility to invest across a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, increase life chances, to help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging. This will allow the balance of priorities to reflect local need and opportunity.

20. UKSPF is focused on three priority areas:

- Communities and Place
- Supporting Local Business
- People and Skills (24/25 onwards)

21. Working in collaboration with the three other South Yorkshire local authorities and the SYMCA as the Accountable Body submitted a UKSPF Investment Plan to government in August 2022. The Investment Plan included the shortlisted 21 priority intervention areas (Annex A) that focus on the following over-arching themes:

### **Communities and Place**

- Supporting communities to address the cost of living
- Promoting the cultural and visitor economy

### **Supporting Local Business**

- Providing a total business support offer
- Driving up R&D and Innovation
- Stimulating enterprise and growth

### **People and Skills**

- Ensuring skills training is accessible to all
- Promoting a skills-drive green economy

22. At a more local level Executive Board set the following framework to also shape Doncaster's UKSPF propositions:

- Respond to the cost of living crisis
- Support business growth and productivity
- Third sector capacity building
- Seek to continue existing activity where it is having an impact

23. Proposals for projects to utilise UKSPF have been worked up through a number of internal workshops, fully costed and mapped against the UKSPF Interventions, Outcomes and Outputs. All projects have been assessed against the SPF interventions submitted as part of the Investment Plan. Work to understand where budget pressures can be supported through the alignment of existing council activity against SPF priorities, is underway. Figures for expected contribution from the SPF Programme are included within Annex B.

24. For all SPF spend, the principle of seeking to support activity that contributes to easing the budget pressures is being explored first, before any new activity is developed. This includes capital activity also. Officers still need to review 23/24 spend plans and confirm capital and revenue spend, and will update the programme plan accordingly. The indicative budget across the three financial years is:

Comms & Place	UKSPF Allocation Capital/Revenue Split (£)						
	Capital 22/23	Revenue 22/23	Capital 23/24	Revenue 23/24	Capital 24/25	Revenue 24/25	Capital/Revenue Totals
Comms & Place	£ 109,043.68	£ 733,923.50	£ 247,095.28	£ 646,510.25	£ 908,893.08	£ 684,077.72	£ 3,329,544
Local Business Support		£ 244,641.17	£ 82,365.09	£ 1,015,944.68	£ 227,223.27	£ 2,052,233.17	£ 3,622,407
People and Skills				£ 184,717.21		£ 1,824,207.26	£ 2,008,924
	£ 109,044	£ 978,565	£ 329,460	£ 1,847,172	£ 1,136,116	£ 4,560,518	£ 8,960,875

25. In the Investment Plan, six principles were set out and these have informed (and will continue to inform) the SPF process:

1. **Strategically aligned regional approach:** We have ensured the logic of our strategic ambition runs down through our local delivery themes and specific interventions - and aligns with the existing strategies of the MCA, the LAs and other key partners.
2. **Lock in local responsiveness and delivery flexibility:** We have set out in our Investment Plan to retain the flexibility to be as responsive as possible to evolving local delivery priorities and to deploy funding in the most impactful way, including by:
  - Selecting interventions that support a broad range of activity types.
  - Identifying the level at which it makes most sense for intervention activity to take place, from region-wide down to hyper-local initiatives.

- Avoiding defaulting to simply funding existing projects, so we can use this opportunity to review how we deliver the highest social impact at the best value for money.

3. **Collaborative implementation:** The MCA, LAs and partners will continue to work collaboratively to ensure that local stakeholder voices continue to have meaningful opportunities to influence spending choices through the Partnership Board.

4. **Devolved local delivery:** We will make collective choices about what level an intervention activity will take place at, and even where an initiative is delivered at regional level, the MCA will look to LAs and partners to lead on where possible (respecting their relative capacity to do so). Our presumption is that the majority of funding will be commissioned at the local level and typically final funding decisions on specific projects will be made as close as possible to the communities they will impact.

5. **Leverage regional advantages:** The MCA will only act to add value, including:

- Providing resources to enable local partners to channel funding appropriately (in design and roll out of commissioning and distribution).
- Bringing places together where there are common priorities and aligned initiatives and collaborative working.
- Identifying where the strongest opportunities exist to generate match-funding and leverage the scale of the region where appropriate.
- Ensuring that all funding distribution activity includes some form of environmental sustainability impact assessment taking into account both intended and unintended consequences.

6. **Intelligent and effective deployment:** We acknowledge that SPF cannot solve South Yorkshire issues if considered and deployed in isolation. We will use SPF as one of a range of support mechanisms to address the deep-rooted issues facing South Yorkshire. To be effective we must work with partners to utilise other funds such as Levelling Up Fund, Towns Fund, Gainshare and other devolved funding allocations to maximise regional impact and delivery against the ambitions of the Strategic Economic Plan.

26. The process for design and commissioning have been worked up collaboratively with all four South Yorkshire LAs and SYMCA. Two options for the management of UKSPF were suggested by SYMCA for each LA to consider:

- **Option 1**  
This is a hybrid approach based on the CRF model. The MCA will do the contracting, monitoring and evaluation. The LA will decide what the money is spent on and do the commissioning. This will need to be based on a high-level delivery plan to enable local delivery. There will be several grant agreements under this option.
- **Option 2 (preferred)**

The MCA's role will be less resource intensive. There will be one contract between the MCA and local authority for the local authority to manage the programme. Like option 1, this will be based on a high-level delivery plan. After one grant agreement, the local authority would therefore be responsible for programme management, including contracting, monitoring and performance management. The MCA would be effectively sub-contracting to a local authority who would then manage it all. This would eat into the amount of funding available to a local authority and there would be more risk and accountability; however, the MCA commits to discussing which bits of the 4% administrative costs could be devolved to help with the more resource-intensive role for the LA under this option. Under this option, where the LA intends to deliver activity itself, e.g. small capital projects, there would need to be light touch MCA and Partnership Group oversight.

Communities and Place funding for all three years will be made available in one go for the LAs to then oversee under either of the management options. This will be important for the small amount of capital spend and to give some certainty to VCF organisations that local authorities expect to be working with. In terms of cash flowing Communities and Place, the MCA, if agreed by LAs, has committed to cash flow year one spend in response to the cost-of-living crisis. The small amount of Local Business Support in year one would be a one-off devolved pot, with years two and three to be part of the wider regional discussion. Central government approved the South Yorkshire UKSPF Investment Plan on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 which was a delay on the initial time frame they provided as part of the prospectus for the funding.

27. Year two and year three will have a more collaborative approach when the funding on business and skills ramps up. This is to maximise economies of scale to enable savings and to align with the SPF criteria which challenges all areas to 'deliver at scale'.
28. Each LA will have to confirm to the MCA which option is their preference for Year 1 to enable delivery to start and if applicable have the correct governance processes in place. While, either option can be managed, for Year 1, it is recommended that DMBC manage the whole commissioning, contracting and evaluation of SPF which is outlined in Option 2 (at paragraph 26).
29. Attached at Annex B is an overview of the proposed Shared Prosperity Fund Programme. This will be flexed to meet the budget allocation in year 1, to ensure the funding is spent in accordance with the terms and conditions, as costs can be claimed for the whole financial year where appropriate, or just for January to March 2023. Further work will be undertaken and the plan updated to ensure we meet the overall aim of delivering the outcomes whilst maximising the support for the core budget pressures. The community investment pot, detailed in Annex B, can be increased or decreased, as appropriate, to meet the budget requirements.

30. Activity will be borough-wide but will be directed to areas that require it the most e.g. Edlington, to support concerted efforts to improve more deprived areas of Doncaster.

## **Multiply**

31. In addition to the UKSPF allocation, local lead authorities will also receive the Multiply programme funding. The objective of this programme is to increase the levels of functional numeracy in the adult population across the UK. Multiply will run in addition to the UKSPF allocation between 2022/23 and 2024/25 and required its own Investment Plan to be submitted to Government by the SYMCA. As with UKSPF, this Investment Plan had to set out the types of projects that will be initiated to improve adult numeracy. For Doncaster, the development of this programme has been led by Adult and Family Community Learning. The Multiply programme will be delivered at the SYMCA level with South Yorkshire's Multiply allocation totalling £7,256,308.56.

32. There are three strands of Multiply delivery

- To deliver numeracy interventions e.g. intensive flexible maths courses for those in employment or unemployed, building on what is already delivered through AEB
- The development and roll out of a digital platform
- A programme of randomised control trials and evaluation, encouraging innovative approaches to improving numeracy and building evidence in the field

33. The Investment Plan was submitted by SYMCA in June 2022, and was approved by the DfE in September 2022.

34. SYMCA has chosen a mix of provision that best suits South Yorkshire, based on recommendations from local authority partners. Interventions delivered with Multiply funding need to be additional to and differentiated from Adult Education Budget (AEB) delivery and should not displace that provision. The first year of which is to test and innovate activities which provide an evidence base to inform subsequent Investment plans for years 2 and 3 of the programme.

35. The main project areas that were submitted as part of the Investment Plan include:

- In work numeracy development
- Preparation for work – sector based programmes
- Preparation for work – disadvantaged residents
- Numeracy life skills
- Family Learning
- In work numeracy through ESOL
- Capacity Building



36. There will be two strands of activity to be delivered through the funding; engagement of learners that are difficult to engage with through traditional means to enthuse them about maths and courses designed to mystify maths. The activities will be as innovative as possible linking maths to life skills such as budgeting and cookery.
37. Local Authorities have a choice in terms of the commissioning and allocation process:
- Option 1 – Allocation to assured providers and partners via a grant based on a plan; or in need in their catchment. Need is determined on deprivation. Or, allocation is based on what they do now for adult numeracy and an estimation of what they could do extra.
  - Option 2 - Commissioning through advertising and a procurement process
  - Option 3 (Preferred Option) – a mix of options 1 and 2 – which will be important to bring in new partners such as the Citizens Advice Bureau.
38. There is an expectation that Multiply delivery will commence this financial year.

### **Rural Prosperity Fund (RPF)**

39. At the start of September 2022 government announced the Rural Prosperity Fund which will act as a top up and is complementary of the UKSPF. Allocations have been calculated for eligible authorities and is to support activities that specifically address particular challenges rural areas face. The funding will be available between April 2023 and March 2025, corresponding with Year 2 and 3 of UKSPF, with Doncaster's allocation totalling £634,307. The RPF is 100% capital funding and as part of the rural fund investment addendum submitted to Government by the Mayoral Combined Authority, it has been proposed that the funding should be split in the following way; 40% of spend in 2023/24 and 60% of spend in 2024/25.
40. Government required the submission of a rural fund addendum to set out how the funding is to be used. This high level investment plan was submitted by SYMCA on 30 November after being developed in conjunction with the MCA and the South Yorkshire LAs who are to receive an RPF allocation (Barnsley, Rotherham and Doncaster). January 2023 pencilled in as the anticipated date for approval of Rural Fund Proposals. The Investment Plan included the shortlisted RPF Interventions (Annex C) which are focussed on:
- **Supporting Rural Business**
  - **Supporting Rural Communities**
41. Options for RPF are being developed but the principle set out above will be applied: capital asks that can assist with easing the council's budget pressures will be considered first. The RPF funding can be used to fund digital infrastructure, cultural and heritage improvements and electric vehicle charging infrastructure for example. A cultural and heritage programme is being developed as a funding option.

42. RPF has to be spent in rural areas of Doncaster with populations of less than 10,000.

43. The main intervention areas that are included in the submitted addendum for the rural fund are:

- Small scale investment in micro and small enterprises in rural areas
- Developing and promoting the visitor economy
- Investment and support for digital infrastructure for local community facilities
- Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups
- Creation and improvements to local rural green spaces
- Existing cultural, historic and heritage institutions that make up the local cultural heritage offer
- Local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities

44. The addendum was submitted to government on the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2022. Work will continue with SYMCA to develop the spending plans and funding agreement for commissioning and allocation of the RPF. This will likely be similar in options outlined above for both SPF and Multiply funding streams.

## **OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

45. UKSPF, RPF and Multiply are non-competitive allocations made to Doncaster, via the SYMCA, for which an Investment Plan has been required. As the value involved totals c£10m across three financial years, officers have worked with SYMCA to enable Doncaster to access this resource. Once Government announce their decision, access to the resource becomes available. The options considered at this point are therefore set out in the recommendations of this report (as the preferred option).





46. The alternative, would be to not progress the receipt of these 3 funding streams and let the resource be allocated elsewhere in South Yorkshire or be returned to Government. This is not recommended.

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION**

47. The recommended option will allow for immediate investment in to Doncaster for project delivery, enable the funding to be allocated in a more tailored and flexible way to local projects and allow for the delivery of DDT objectives. It will also enable the Multiply adult numeracy programme to commence delivery.


## **IMPACT ON THE COUNCIL'S KEY OUTCOMES**

48.

Great 8 Priority	Positive Overall	Mix of Positive & Negative	Trade-offs to consider – Negative overall	Neutral or No implications
 <b>Tackling Climate Change</b>	Climate ✓			
<p>There are a number of UKSPF interventions that relate to the tackling climate change Great 8 priority and do so by addressing different elements of this priority. Interventions include new or improvements to projects that increase community resilience to natural disasters, improving green and natural spaces, measures to improve energy efficiency and fuel poverty, providing green skills to the skilled workforce alongside retraining support for high carbon sectors. Projects have been/will be developed to ensure these interventions are achieved which will have cross-cutting benefits to many of the other Great 8 priorities.</p>				
 <b>Developing the skills to thrive in life and in work</b>	✓			
<p>There are UKSPF interventions covering the broad requirements for skills development across all ages, all levels of work and types of sectors that require upskilling across the borough.</p> <p>The Multiply programme is developing projects that will help cover a number of skills development actions within the borough including; supporting adults to improve their basic skills, increase level 3+ skills amongst working age adults and to achieve equitable and inclusive lifelong learning.</p>				
 <b>Making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs</b>	✓			
<p>There are UKSPF interventions centred around making Doncaster the best place to do business and create good jobs including those in the town centres, strengthen local entrepreneurial ecosystems, supporting businesses at all stages of development, support for growing the local economy, supporting decarbonisation across many elements of business infrastructure and driving employment particularly in high employment areas.</p>				
 <b>Building opportunities for healthier, happier and longer lives for all</b>	✓			


All UKSPF interventions focus on improving the lives of residents through levelling up the area. Having jobs, tackling climate change, improving green/blue/natural areas and tackling cost of living are interventions that projects will look to provide outcomes for. They also focus on seeking to continue existing activity where it is having an impact.

The Multiply programme is looking to develop projects that help tackle the impact of poor numeracy skills on both physical and mental health.


 <p><b>Creating safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities where everyone belongs</b></p>	✓			
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A number of UKSPF interventions will cover projects that aim to achieve creating a safer, stronger, greener and cleaner communities including tackling inequalities around employment, funding neighbourhood/community projects, create or improve green spaces, community gardens and watercourses, develop social and human capital via impactful volunteering and or social action projects which can also improve wider opportunities and overall wellbeing.


The Multiply programme will help towards tackling the reduction of inequalities through improved numeracy levels

 <p><b>Nurturing a child and family-friendly borough</b></p>	✓			
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The Multiply programme will help towards nurturing a child and family-friendly borough by helping to achieve actions such as tackling child poverty through various pathways (e.g. better money management, improved skill sets to obtain higher paid jobs) and numeracy being a key component of peoples Wellbeing Essentials. Improving adult numeracy can help promote family and community learning and improve the readiness to learn and build strong foundations in learning for children by taking example from their parents/guardians.

 <p><b>Building Transport and digital connections fit for the future</b></p>	✓			
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A number of UKSPF interventions are centred on improving the skill sets of businesses and individuals with respect to digital connectivity. This will be important for those gaining important along with business growth in all sectors particularly local businesses to grow and innovate.

 <p><b>Promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting, and heritage opportunities</b></p>	✓			
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A number of the UKSPF interventions relate to this Great 8 priority including enhancing support for existing cultural, historic and heritage institutions; providing

support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities; and developing and promoting the visitor economy.

Including these as priority interventions highlights the importance that promoting the borough and its cultural, sporting and heritage opportunities are at the forefront of project development and relate to all of the Great 8 priorities as well as the UKSPF themes and associated interventions.

There are a number of RPF interventions that relate to this priority and look to improve cultural and heritage assets that Doncaster has within its more rural settings.

<b>Fair &amp; Inclusive</b>	✓			
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Due regard and equality statements will be developed for individual projects as they are developed.

One of the specific local priorities for the UKSPF is to tackle the cost of living crisis. Interventions have been identified and designed to help reduce the inequalities and implications of poverty, reflecting the approach taken within a Fair & Inclusive Doncaster to try ensure everyone has the wellbeing essentials for life.

**Legal Implications [Officer Initials: NJD Date: 8/11/22]**

49. Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 provides the Council with a general power of competence, allowing the Council to do anything that individuals generally may do. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 gives the Council the power to purchase goods and services.

50. As set out in the report, the Council will receive UKSPF funding, Multiply allocation funding and RPF allocation funding from SYMCA.

51. The Council will be required to enter into funding agreements with SYMCA which are likely to set out certain project outputs, project outcomes and milestones for spend which the Council must be satisfied it can achieve. Failure to achieve these requirements or to comply with the terms and conditions of the funding agreements may invoke clawback of the funding. Legal advice should be sought once the funding agreement is received.

52. Where the funding is used to deliver goods, works and/or services, those appointments should be procured in accordance with the Council's contract procedure rules and, if applicable, the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

53. Should the Council determine to use the funding as a grant scheme, prior to this decision being made a full subsidy analysis should be undertaken.

54. Further legal advice should be sought as this project progresses.

**Financial Implications [Officer Initials: JC/SB\_\_ | Date: 09/11/22\_\_\_\_\_]****UKSPF**

55. Doncaster Council has been provided with the following indicative allocations of UKSPF capital and revenue funding broken down by theme/year:

Comms & Place	UKSPF Allocation Capital/Revenue Split (£m)						
	Capital 22/23 £m	Revenue 22/23 £m	Capital 23/24 £m	Revenue 23/24 £m	Capital 24/25 £m	Revenue 24/25 £m	Capital/Revenue Totals
Comms & Place	0.109	0.832	0.245	0.555	0.911	0.684	<b>3.336</b>
Local Business Support		0.147	0.081	0.924	0.228	2.052	<b>3.432</b>
People and Skills				0.370		1.823	<b>2.193</b>
	<b>0.109</b>	<b>0.979</b>	<b>0.326</b>	<b>1.849</b>	<b>1.139</b>	<b>4.559</b>	<b>8.961</b>

56. Terms and conditions attached to the funding are currently unknown meaning plans developed may need reviewing once terms and conditions are received to ensure any assumptions made in the planning stage have been correct.

57. The Council's approach to allocating the UKSPF funding has been to consider where UKSPF interventions/outcomes are already being delivered by Council service, and to utilise the UKSPF funding within these service areas to release core budget. This approach to allocating the funding will contribute to reducing the Council's overspend in 22/23 and form a budget saving proposal for 23/24 and 24/25 reducing the Council's overall budget gap. This approach will allow core resources to be redirected to other service areas reducing the need for further service reductions within the Council.

58. Initial work has identified service areas which on initial review could satisfy the UKSPF interventions/outcomes. The Business Doncaster service has been identified as the initial service to be reviewed to consider the substitution of core funding for the UKSPF grant. Work is currently in progress to identify whether known UKSPF outcomes could be delivered from existing projects. Financial implications will be updated as the report progresses to update on this review and will include indicative savings which could be made. Where outcomes are not achieved or funding exceeds the amount of core budget which can be realigned other service areas identified within the initial process may need to be considered.

It should be noted some of the other services identified are funded from restricted ear marked reserves meaning the savings generated would not be as flexible to redirect to other Council services.

59. Where core budget is replaced with temporary it will not be aligned to job roles in such a way that would mean the roles become temporary. Where posts are core funded (even where funding has been swapped) the service area will still be able to recruit to any vacancies on a permanent basis. This means once the grant drops out after 24/25 the Council would need a grant exit strategy and will need to reconsider its overall priorities and redirect resources at that point meaning no posts are automatically at risk at the end of the grant.
60. Where core budget is removed from service areas it could limit the options around obtaining replacement grant for after year 3, Match funding would likely be required from core budget meaning options around future grant applications and match funding requirements would need to be considered corporately as opportunities arise.
61. The terms and conditions attached to the funding could impact on the amount of core budget available. For example if the grant requires claims, we would need to look at actual costs incurred rather than budgets. We would also need to ensure that inflation estimates are built into the bids for grant funding to ensure future budgets are adequate. Retrospective claims could be required for 22/23 and consideration around this should be made.
62. It has also been assumed that the UKSPF doesn't require any match funding, this is still subject to confirmation.
63. SYMCA have indicated that once a programme for 22/23 has been developed and if approved they would fund from their own resources at risk meaning potentially there is a reduced risk around 22/23. The SYMCA approach to 23/24 and 24/25 could be managed differently the impact of this also needs to be taken into account.
64. The programme of works related to Capital allocations is still to be considered and once identified will need adding to the relevant capital programme.

### **Rural Prosperity Fund**

65. The Rural Prosperity Fund will act as a top up and is complementary of the UKSPF. Allocations. The funding will be available between April 2023 and March 2025, corresponding with Year 2 and 3 of UKSPF. Doncaster's expected allocation totals £634k and is 100% capital funding. 40% of the funding expected to be received in 2023/24 and 60% in 2024/25.

66. Further work is required to identify a programme of works the closing date for submission of planned utilisation being 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Terms and conditions linked to this grant have not yet been received.

### **Multiply**

67. Doncaster Council has submitted a bid for year 1 (2022-23) of the Multiply programme which is estimated expenditure of £395,500.

68. The original Multiply technical guidance issued by the Department for Education (DfE) confirmed that this will be a Section 31 ring fenced grant with the DfE recovering any net underspend below 100% of the total ring-fenced grant provided in that financial year. As such there is a risk that the full grant may not be spent during the 2022-23 financial year which would have to be returned to the DfE. This report confirms delegated decisions on expenditure to the relevant Directors and CFO. An Officer Decision record will need to be approved detailing proposed expenditure areas to ensure the grant is fully spent this financial year.

69. In respect of all funding covered by this report, Councils financial procedure rules E9 to E13 covering external funding should be adhered to in particular E11 and E13 noted below:

70. E.11 Directors are responsible for ensuring that action plans are in place (including exit strategies and match funding arrangements) for all external funding within the Directorate.

71. E.13 Where the income is receivable against a grant claim, the respective Director is responsible for producing the grant claim and shall provide sufficient information to enable the claim to be signed by the Chief Executive, CFO or any other relevant person where appropriate.

72. Capital allocations within the grants will need to be added to the relevant capital programmes once programmes of works have been developed.

### **Human Resources Implications [Officer Initials: KG Date: 29/11/2022]**

73. There are no immediate HR implications in relation to the recommended decisions.

74. Further HR advice must be sought regarding any HR implications arising from the identified use of people resources and funding allocations particularly in relation to employment terms and conditions if core funded posts are being covered by UKSPF and RPF.

### **Technology Implications [Officer Initials: PW | Date: 08/11/11]**

75. There are no specific technology implications at this stage. However, any requirements for new, enhanced or replacement technology to support the delivery of the projects and outcomes outlined in the report will need to be considered and prioritised by the Technology Governance Board (TGB).



## **RISKS AND ASSUMPTIONS**

76. Shared Prosperity Funding is the UK Government's replacement fund for the loss of EU resources following Brexit. The risks associated with this include:

- a. No decision from Government on the South Yorkshire Investment Fund yet. Mitigations in place from SYMCA include agreement to cash flow local authorities' year 1 (22/23) spend at risk from its own resources.
- b. Limited delivery window in year 1 (22/23) to get the money spent. Mitigations include cash flow from SYMCA, as above, along with an opportunity to retrospectively fund activity from this financial year – which is currently being explored.
- c. Time pressures to get Multiply commissioned and delivering this financial year. Mitigations include setting out preferred delivery model and activity with SYMCA

## **CONSULTATION**

77. SYCA have undertaken a number of online consultation and awareness sessions with organisations early in the UKSPF process. Locally, consultation has taken place to help shape the project proposals, with:

- Ongoing engagement with the SYMCA
- Ongoing internal officer UKSPF working group
- Executive Leadership Teams – November 2022
- Executive Board – November 2022

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

78. Background papers in support of this report are:

- [Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan \(DDTIP\) Cabinet Report](#)
- [Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan \(DDTIP\) 2022/23](#)

## **GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

79. Below are the acronyms used in this report:

- AEB – Adult Education Budget
- DDT – Doncaster Delivering Together
- DDTIP – Doncaster Delivering Together Investment Plan
- DfE – Department of Education
- DLUHC – Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities
- ESOL – English to Speakers of Other Languages
- LA – Local Authority
- RPF – Rural England Prosperity Fund
- SYMCA – South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority
- UKSPF – UK Shared Prosperity Fund

## **REPORT AUTHOR & CONTRIBUTORS**

**Helen Flint, Policy and Insight Officer**

01302 73697 | [helen.flint@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:helen.flint@doncaster.gov.uk)

**Jonny Bucknall, Service Manager Policy and Investment**

01302 734547 | [jonathan.bucknall@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:jonathan.bucknall@doncaster.gov.uk)

**James Sandford, Learning Standards & Effectiveness Officer**

01302 862688 | [james.sandford@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:james.sandford@doncaster.gov.uk)

**Lee Tillman, Assistant Director Policy, Insight and Change**

01392 734552 | [lee.tillman@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:lee.tillman@doncaster.gov.uk)

**Debbie Hogg**

Director of Corporate Resources