

Report to:	EXECUTIVE CABINET
Date:	25 January 2023
Executive Member:	Councillor David Sweeton – Executive Member (Inclusive Growth, Business & Employment)
Reporting Officer:	Julian Jackson – Director of Place Gregg Stott – Assistant Director, Investment, Development & Housing
Subject:	UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND (TAMESIDE)
Report Summary:	The report provides an update on the successful bid by the Council to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) for Tameside under the Communities and Place investment priority. Approval is sought to implement the programme of works, to formally accept the funding and to enter into the Grant Funding Agreement.
Recommendations:	That Executive Cabinet be recommended to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Note the successful bid by the Council to UKSPF; (ii) Delegate to Director of Place, the approval for entering into the formal agreements for the receipt of UKSPF funding subject to satisfactory approval by Legal and Finance for the projects set out in Appendix 1. (iii) Approve the Director of Place to manage the programme of works associated with the UKSPF Programme for Tameside and to drawdown and incur all UKSPF expenditure related to delivery. (iv) Any variations to the programme to be agreed by Councillor David Sweeton – Executive Member (Inclusive Growth, Business & Employment) in consultation with the First Deputy Finance. (v) Include the projects within the UKSPF Communities and Place programme for Tameside in the Council’s Capital Programme to ensure quarterly monitoring by the Strategic Planning & Capital Monitoring Panel.
Corporate Plan:	Key aims of the Corporate Plan are to provide opportunities for people to fulfil their potential through work, skills and enterprise and to ensure modern infrastructure and a sustainable environment that works for all generations and future generations. The interventions that will be supported by the UKSPF programme in Tameside will deliver against these aims in the areas of job creation, modern infrastructure and a sustainable environment
Policy Implications:	The interventions that will be supported by the UKSPF programme in Tameside will support delivery of the Borough’s Inclusive Growth Strategy 2021, the Housing Strategy 2021 to 2026, Tameside Climate Change & Environment Strategy, the Council’s growth priorities agreed at Council February 2020 and the draft Greater Manchester Places for Everyone joint development strategy.
Financial Implications:	The report provides supporting details of the recently announced

**(Authorised by the statutory
Section 151 Officer)**

successful grant funding bid to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) under the Communities and Place investment priority. The grant award to the Council is £1,979,141.

Appendix 1 provides further details of the allocation of this grant award that is profiled to be expended by 31 March 2025. It is noted that the expenditure will be a combination of revenue and capital. Approval to include the related projects within the revenue budget and approved capital programme of the Place Directorate will be reported to Members via the existing governance approval processes as appropriate.

In addition, the Council awaits the related grant funding agreement for the award, the acceptance of which will be subject to a separate decision.

Section 3.2 of the report refers to funding that has been made available to the Council (via the GM Investment Plan) to fully fund a UKSPF Project Manager on a 2.5 years fixed term contract. Details of the post grade or sum awarded are not contained within this report. It is therefore advised that the supporting details are included within the afore-referenced decision to formally accept the UKSPF award once the grant conditions are available.

All works and services that will be funded via the grant award are to be commissioned in accordance with the approved procurement procedures with advice sought via STaR as appropriate.

Legal Implications:

**(Authorised by the Borough
Solicitor)**

As outlined in the report, approval is sought to implement the programme of works funded by the UKSPF, to formally accept the funding and to enter into the Grant Funding Agreement with GMCA. The terms and conditions of the grant funding agreement with GMCA are not yet known. It is likely that it will set out specific monitoring requirements, any subsidy control implications and the circumstances under which the funding could be clawed back so further legal advice on its terms should be sought to ensure compliance. Any commissioned works or services proposed under the programme should be procured in line with the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and appropriate advice sought from STaR Procurement.

Risk Management:

Risks associated with the project are set out at Section 4.

Background Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting:

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a £2.6bn fund designed to succeed and improve upon EU structural funds.
- 1.2 Devolved authorities are responsible for submitting implementation plans, working to set Government timescales. An overarching implementation plan was submitted by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) to Central Government in July 2022, followed by an Investment Plan in September 2022. Approval of the Investment Plan was received by GMCA from Central Government on 5 December 2022. Following this approval GMCA are now able to provide the relevant grant agreements to Greater Manchester (GM) Local Authorities (LA's), including Tameside.
- 1.3 The UKSPF funding in GM is split across Investment Priorities as shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1 Total UKSPF in GM across the Investment Priorities

Investment Priority	Year One 2022/23	Year Two 2023/24	Year Three 2024/5	Total
Communities and Place	£7,269,019	£10,038,086	£9,689,466	£26,996,571
SME Workspace (E22)	£2,000,000	£3,000,000	£10,000,000	£15,000,000
Local Business (E22)	£500,000	£6,500,000	£9,500,000	£16,500,000
People and Skills	£0	£0	£22,000,000	£22,000,000
Admin Fee 4% (Flat rate applied)	£407,020	£814,071	£2,132,934	£3,354,025
Total by Year	£10,176,039	£20,352,157	£53,322,400	£83,850,596

- 1.4 The GM UKSPF Investment Plan identified a limited number of cross cutting priorities that would be reflected across all UKSPF investment. It is suggested that all proposals for UKSPF will be asked to outline their approach to delivering and reporting on each of the cross-cutting priorities. These are:
- Contribution to GM's 2038 net zero ambitions,
 - Contribution to reducing inequalities, and:
 - Embedding social value.

2. TAMESIDE UKSPF PROGRAMME

- 2.1 The Council submitted bids in October 2022 of £1,979,141 and £1,700,000 for Tameside against the UKSPF Communities and Place and SME Workspace investment priorities. Both bids were designed to be an economic driver that delivers genuine levelling up opportunities across Tameside supporting national, GM and Tameside strategic policies.
- 2.2 In October 2022 the three Members of Parliament (MPs) with Parliamentary Constituencies covering Tameside were briefed on the UKSPF Communities and Place and SME Workspace investment priorities and gave their approval to the submissions in accordance with the requirements of the scheme criteria and process.
- 2.3 In December 2022 GMCA received unconditional approval of the GM UKSPF Investment

Plan and a draft MOU and grant determination letter. Following this approval, it has been confirmed that the Tameside Communities and Place submission has been successful and the associated funding will now be awarded subject to a funding agreement. Confirmation on whether the SME Workspace submission for Ashton Old Baths and Town Centre SME workspace hubs has been successful is anticipated by the end of 2022; a separate report will follow on this once the outcome is known.

Communities and Place, Tameside

2.4 Within the Communities and Place investment priority Tameside has been allocated £1,979,141 with set amounts to be utilised in specific timeframes, creating a challenging start and requiring projects that can be delivered without delay:

- 2022/23 : £542,613
- 2023/24 : £731,882
- 2024/25 : £704,646
- Total : £ 1,979,141

2.5 This funding is available under the following interventions:

- E1 Funding for improvements to town centres and high streets, including better accessibility for disabled people, including capital spend and running costs (capital and revenue)
- E3 Creation of and improvements to local green spaces, community gardens, watercourses and embankments, along with incorporating natural features into wider public spaces
- E6 Support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities

2.6 The communities and place funding will support the delivery of a range of borough wide projects against these interventions and a series of town centre specific projects focused on Stalybridge, Hyde and Ashton. The full scope of projects that will be supported by the UKSPF Communities and Place programme in Tameside, their associated costs and the timescales for delivery are set out in **Appendix 1** (the detail of projects within the programme remains subject to change as it is developed further and formal agreements for receipt of funding are finalised).

3. NEXT STEPS

3.1 The Council will need to agree and sign the grant funding agreement to enable the Council to deliver the UKSPF Communities and Place Programme for Tameside and drawdown associated funding

3.2 Within the GM Investment Plan, funding has been made available to the Council to fully fund a UKSPF Project Manager on a 2.5 years Fixed Term Contract. The focus of this role will be to work closely with GMCA to implement and develop UKSPF across all Investment Priorities in Tameside during the delivery period from the start of 2023; this will include ensuring the delivery of outputs/outcomes and facilitating engagement with Members, representatives from partner organisations, and local stakeholders in the delivery programme. The role will evolve throughout the contract period to ensure that local priorities are represented and funding is well utilised locally, with demonstrable outputs/outcomes. The role will sit within the Place Directorate but will work cross Directorate throughout as required.

3.3 The delivery of the interventions supported by UKSPF will be progressed in alignment with the Council's wider Corporate Plan and Inclusive Growth Strategy and designed to deliver genuine levelling up opportunities supporting national, GM and Tameside strategic policies. Delivery will involve appropriate consultation and collaboration with partners to coordinate all interventions.

- 3.4 On-going performance and reporting will be provided via the appropriate governance routes, including the Strategic Planning and Capital Monitoring Panel where any interventions form part of the Council's Capital Programme.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 The main project risks associated with delivery of the UKSPF Programme for Tameside have been identified in the table below.

Risk Area	Detail	RAG Rating	Mitigation	RAG Rating
Procurement	Lack of capacity in the consultancy sector to undertake the work.	Yellow	Early engagement with STaR procurement to understand the most appropriate procurement routes.	Green
Financial	Conditions attached to funding agreement may not be acceptable.	Red	Early engagement with GMCA in relation to terms and conditions.	Yellow
Financial	Insufficient budget to complete the scope of works required.	Red	Early engagement with internal Council teams and external partners to clearly understand requirements.	Green
Financial & Programme	Funding subject to annual confirmation of the grant from Central Government reflecting the terms of the MOU with GMCA.	Red	Programme management and effective engagement with GMCA throughout to ensure all terms are complied with.	Yellow
Programme	Lack of resource capacity to undertake workstreams in line with expectations.	Yellow	Apply adequate resource to the project to ensure programme adherence.	Green

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The interventions supported by the UKSPF programme for Tameside will support delivery of the Council's strategic priorities as set out in the Tameside Corporate Plan and Tameside Inclusive Growth Strategy.
- 5.2 The funding secured provides a significant financial contribution to the Council and provides a proactive approach to the delivery of future inclusive growth.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 As set out at the front of the report.