

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILCABINET25 January 2024Report by Director of EnvironmentUK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND 2022-2025 - REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL  
ACTIVITY**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is to seek approval for an additional project under the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) award from the UK Government for the period 2023-2025.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. It is recommended that Cabinet:
- a) Note the underspends in the Multiply Programme; and
  - b) Approve the project as outlined in the report for 2023-2025.

**BACKGROUND**

3. The SPF supports the UK government's wider commitment to level up all parts of the UK by delivering on each of the levelling up objectives and covers four main investment interventions: Communities and Place; Supporting Local Business; People and Skills and Multiply.

4. East Renfrewshire Council were awarded £2,722,202 for the 3-year programme from 2022-2025 for the Communities and Place, Supporting Local Businesses and People and Skills interventions with £568,227 being awarded for the Multiply intervention for the same period.

5. Cabinet approved the East Renfrewshire [Local Investment Plan](#) on 10 November 2022. This plan outlined a wide range of proposals covering the four interventions as outlined above. Appendix 1 provides a summary of progress to date across 3 of the interventions. Quarterly performance reports for SPF are reported through the Glasgow City Region Partnership. The programme start was delayed due to late approval by the UK Government, but confidence remains that outcomes will be delivered as the programme progresses.

6. There were significant delays in the delivery of the Multiply programme. This was due to the following: late approval of the programme by the UK Government with no activity taking place in Year 1 (2022), and delayed programme activity in Year 2 (2023) due to recruitment and procurement requirements. This has resulted in a forecasted underspend of £65,000.

7. In accordance with UK Government SPF guidelines, any multiply underspends can be transferred to the Communities and Place, Supporting Local Business, and People and Skills interventions.

## **REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT**

8. East Renfrewshire Citizen Advice Bureau (ERCAB) are seeking funding under the People and Skills intervention. The Volunteer Recruitment and Training in EastRen project will appoint a Volunteer Co-Ordinator to develop and implement a volunteer strategy and associated activity. This strategy addresses the need to build volunteer capacity across East Renfrewshire. The project has been developed in partnership with Voluntary Action East Renfrewshire (VAER).

9. This project will provide activities such as enrichment and volunteering to improve opportunities, promote wellbeing as well as supporting people furthest from the labour market to overcome barriers to work by providing local tailored support including access to life and basic skills.

10. The project will achieve the following:

- Number of people supported to participate in education - 11
- Number of volunteering opportunities supported - 50
- Number of people taking part in work experience programmes – 15
- Number of people in employment, including self-employment, following support – 18
- Increased number of people familiarised with employers' expectations, including standards of behaviour in the workplace – 50
- Fewer people facing structural barriers into employment and into skills provision– 50

11. ERCAB are seeking a total of £65,000 for delivery in 2023/24 – 2024/2025 and if approved this will be a non-recurring award.

12. The Council's Economic Development team have carried out a desktop assessment of this project and was scored against three main groupings: fit with the SPF aims and objectives, strategic fit and deliverability. There are sufficient funds in the UKSPF budget to accommodate this request.

## **FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY**

13. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. Project development and implementation of SPF at a local level will be funded via existing resources.

14. The Council must comply with the objectives of the SPF, as set out in the UKG guidelines.

## **CONSULTATION AND PARTNERSHIP WORKING**

15. Consultation has taken place with Education Department, Glasgow City Region PMO and SPF colleagues. All are supportive of this project.

## **IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS**

16. There are no staffing, property, legal, IT, Subsidy Control, equalities, sustainability and climate change implications associated with this report.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

17. The SPF programme continues to provide an excellent opportunity to deliver further investment to key areas of East Renfrewshire and will be a catalyst for regeneration until 2025.

18. This project would be a welcome additional pathway in East Renfrewshire in terms of helping our residents into employment. The project provides activities to improve life opportunities, promote wellbeing and support people furthest from the labour market into work by providing local tailored support including access to life and basic skills.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

19. It is recommended that Cabinet:
- a) Note the underspends in the Multiply Programme; and
  - b) Approve the project as outlined in the report

Director of Environment

Further information can be obtained from Gillian McCarney, Head of Place, 0141 577 3116 [Gillian.McCarney@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk](mailto:Gillian.McCarney@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk)

January 2024

**APPENDIX 1 - 2023-24 PROGRESS REPORT**

Rag Status
Red – Project has not started
Amber – Project is ongoing
Green – Project is complete

**PEOPLE AND SKILLS OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES 2023-24**

Programme Projects	Programme Totals	
	Target	Achieved to Date
All People & Skills Projects	249	165
	Progress Status	
Individual Placement & Support	Project is ongoing	
Recruit Programme	Project is ongoing	
Health Barriers	Project is ongoing	
Client Management	Project is ongoing	
Targeted Youth Worker Programme	Project is ongoing	

#### LOCAL BUSINESS OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES 2023-24

Programme Projects	Programme Totals	
	Project Status	Achieved to Date
ERC Grant Programme	Project is ongoing	
Output	Target	Achieved to Date
Number of Businesses receiving grants	5	0
Outcome	Target	Achieved to Date
Number of businesses adopting new to the firm technologies or processes	1	0
Increased amount of investment	£25,000	0

#### COMMUNITIES AND PLACE OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES 2023-24

All Communities & Place Projects	Programme Totals	
	Target	Achieved to Date
Output		
Amount of rehabilitated land (M2)	5,000	5,000
Amount of public realm created or improved (M2)	6,002	6,000
Amount of land made wheelchair accessible/step free (M2)	6,000	1,000
Number of organisations receiving grants	5	5
Number of organisations receiving non-financial support	44	0
Number of neighbourhood improvements undertaken	1	0
Number of amenities/facilities created or improved	5	0
Number of local events or activities supported	9	7
Number of new or improved cycleways or footpaths	1,000	1,000
Number of volunteering opportunities supported	10	0
Number of people reached	191,600	0
Number of people reached	191,600	0
Number of people attending training sessions	30	0
Number of feasibility studies developed as a result of support	1	0
Outcome	Target	Achieved to Date
Jobs created as a result of support	1	1
Increased footfall	10,000	0
Increased visitor numbers	5,600	0
Increased number of web searches for a place	30,000	0
Improved perceived/experienced accessibility	40	0
Improved perception of facilities/amenities	90	0
Increased users of facilities/amenities	20	0

Improved engagement numbers	50	0
Number of volunteering opportunities created as a result of support	30	0
The number of projects arising from funded feasibility studies	1	0
<b>Breakdown of Communities &amp; Place Projects</b>	<b>Progress Status</b>	
Bringing Communities Together – CLD	Project is ongoing	
All About Barrhead Community Events – Barrhead BID	Project is complete	
I Love Clarkston Community Events – Clarkston BID	Project is complete	
The Here Place Branding – ERC	Project is complete	
Impactful Volunteering – ERCC	Project is ongoing	
Cowan Park Capital Improvement	Project is complete	
Dunterlie MUGA	Project is ongoing	
Barrhead BID Festive Lighting	Project is complete	
Giffnock BID Car Show	Project is complete	
IM2 Cowan Park Lodge	Project is ongoing	
Barrhead Masterplan	Project is ongoing	

#### MULTIPLY OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES 2023-24

All Multiply Projects	Programme Totals	
	Target 23/24	Achieved to Date
<b>Output</b>		
Number of adult numeracy courses run in a local area through Multiply	12	3
Number of people participating in Multiply funded courses	65	26
Number of people achieving a qualification	55	0
Number of courses developed in collaboration with employers	1	0
Courses set up to increase confidence/ number of people engaged in courses	12	3
<b>Outcome</b>		<b>Achieved to Date</b>
Number of adults achieving maths qualifications up to, and including, Level 2 equivalent	55	0
Number of adults participating in maths qualifications and courses up to, and including, Level 2 equivalent	55	21
<b>Breakdown of Multiply Projects</b>	<b>Progress Status</b>	
Confidence with Numbers	Project has not started	
Numeracy for Parents	Project is ongoing	
SQA Numeracy/Maths in the Workplace	Project has not started	
SQA Numeracy/Maths	Project is ongoing	
Financial Numeracy	Project has not started	
Community Numeracy Partnership	Project has not started	

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