

Item 8: UKSPF Progress Update

1. UKSPF 2022-25 Programme Update

- 1.1 Expenditure of the 2022/25 UKSPF programme which has a total value of £2,810,773 was required by 31 March 2025, with no ability to extend spend or delivery beyond the end of the year. We can confirm that all of the allocation was spent and claimed in the end of year report in line with the government requirements and Lincoln's investment plan. Progress set out in Appendix A below.
- 1.2 A review and assessment of the programme in respect of outputs and outcomes was undertaken for the claim, and submitted as part of the returned, this review will continue over the next few months to capture any outstanding information.

2. UKSPF 2025/26 Programme

- 2.1 The government announced in the Autumn Budget on 30 October 2025, that there would be a further one-year of UK Shared Prosperity Fund for 2025-26 as a stand-alone programme. As Lincoln is now part of a devolved combined authority, this new allocation has been pooled into a single allocation for Greater Lincolnshire. North East Lincolnshire Council (NELC) is the accountable body for the funding in 2025-26 and will be managing, monitoring and reporting on the overall programme for the Greater Lincolnshire Mayoral County Combined Authority.
- 2.2 The GLMCCA confirmed on 14 February 2025 that:
 - Allocations have been made to each area based on the methodology for 2022-25 programme.
 - No new investment plans are required but a refresh of the existing investment plans is expected to ensure activity reflects the programme and GLMCCA priorities.
 - The GLMCCA have centralised the funding for the Supporting Business Priority and are administering all supporting initiatives through the Lincolnshire Business Hub under a separate Investment Plan proposal.
 - Revised investment plans for each area should go through their own relevant governance process to ensure alignment, local approval and political sign-off. For Lincoln this means the Town Board for comment/input/recommendations and then the City Council's Executive Committee for final decision and approval.
 - A Draft revised investment plans was submitted to NELC on 28 February 2025.
 - This draft has been signed off by all partner authorities 18th April 2025.
 - We are awaiting the signed Memorandum of Understanding and the funds to be released.
- 2.3 Lincoln's allocation on this basis is a total of £880,902 which comprises £143,680 capital and £737,222 revenue funds for spend and delivery by 31 March 2026.

- 2.4 A refreshed draft investment plan for Lincoln's UKSPF 2025-26 allocation was submitted on 27 February 2025 following a discussion at Town Fund Investment Sub Committee on 18 February 2025. This follows a review of projects within the existing programme that were successfully and effectively delivering the target outcomes and outputs and the capital projects where early activity could be continued and built upon to maximise their impact in those deprived areas. In addition, there was a review of the evidence base, the emerging anti-poverty strategy work in Lincoln and consultation feedback on the Council's Vision 2030 work to ensure projects and activity met local needs and priorities. The draft investment plan prioritises funding for the community and place and people and skills priorities given the GLMCCA's approach to the Supporting Business priority. This draft investment plan is attached below as Appendix B.
- 2.5 A further update was received on 05 March 2025 from NELC which confirms the following:
- Overall Investment Plan agreed locally and uploaded by 18 April 2025.
 - NELC aim to issue Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to each council area in April 2025. (not yet received)
 - First payments by early June 2025 (anything prior is at risk).
 - Review of delivery in September 2025 so programme needs to be well underway and committed to avoid clawback/reduction of funding.
 - Full review of programme in January 2026 to ensure spend and delivery achievable by 31 March 2026.
- 2.6 Lincoln's investment plan was confirmed at the Executive meeting on 24 March 2025 to meet the GLMCCA timetable.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The progress on 22-25 delivery and spend be noted.
- 3.2 Update on the 25/26 draft programme be noted.