

EXECUTIVE DECISION RECORD

REF No 445.22

A1 Service Area	Leader of the Council and Economic Growth
A2 Title	Submission of UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan
A3 Decision Taken By	Leader/ Chief Officer
A4 Chief Officer	Please print name: Thomas Deery Please sign name: Approval by Signature 010822
A5 Leader	Please print name: Cllr George Allen Please sign name: Approval by Signature 010822 Please print name: Cllr Philip Hudson (Mayor) Please sign name: Approval by email 010822
A6 Date of Decision	1 st August 2022

Confidentiality

A7 Is this Decision confidential by containing exempt information as described in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972?	No
A7.1 If yes, please state relevant paragraph from Schedule 12A LGA 1972.	

Scrutiny

A8 Which Scrutiny Committee should this decision be submitted to? *(Please tick as appropriate)* ✓

Scrutiny Community Regeneration Committee ✓
 Scrutiny Environment and Health and Well Being Committee
 Scrutiny Value for Money Council Services Committee

<p>B1 What is the Decision?</p>	<p>To submit a UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Investment Plan to Government</p>
<p>B2 What are the reasons for the Decision?</p>	<p>The UKSPF is a three year funding programme designed to replace European Structural Investment Funds, which come to an end in 2023.</p> <p>UKSPF runs from April 2022 to March 2025 with a primary goal of building pride in place and increasing life chances across the UK.</p> <p>East Staffordshire Borough Council's allocation from the UKSPF is £3,822,892, profiled across the three years, to be allocated to interventions under the three investment priorities of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities and Place • Supporting Local Business • People and Skills <p>In order to access the funding, the Council must submit an investment plan by 1st August, with a response from Government being issued within three months of submission.</p> <p>The investment plan must show which intervention themes the funding is to be allocated against and to identify any local priorities that could be addressed through the fund. A summary of proposed priorities is included at Appendix 1.</p> <p>The UKSPF also allows authorities to use up to 4% of their allocation for delivery and administration capacity and so it is proposed at this time that the Council utilises 3.6% of the fund to support the delivery of initiatives under the Communities and Place priority, further quantified in the financial table below.</p> <p>While the investment plan summarises how the funding would be allocated, funds can be reallocated to different intervention themes and projects after the submission of the plan, if local priorities change.</p> <p>Following submission, delivery partners will be identified via a competitive process, which would be approved through a separate decision.</p>

B3 What are the contributions to Corporate Priorities?	This contributes towards the Community Regeneration priority.
B4 What are the Human Rights considerations?	There are no Human Rights issues arising from this decision.

Financial Implications

B5 What are the financial implications?	<p>The main financial issues arising from this decision are as follows:</p> <p>Funding is provided to the Council on an annual basis, using a funding profile of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022/23: £463,943 • 2023/24: £927,886 • 2024/25: £2,431,062 <p>There is also a requirement that a minimum of 10% of the fund in year one is used towards capital delivery, rising to 13% in year two and 20% in year three.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the two projects titled “Uttoxeter Town Centre Regeneration Project and the Village Enhancement Programme” (Appendix 1), which are identified to be delivered by the Council will be subject to full business case review and the relevant formal approval process, with the identification of all capital and any potential revenue expenditure and full risk assessment.</p> <p>No funds would be distributed to any future delivery partners until grant agreements are in place.</p> <p>Please note: There is a rounding error with the profile below, which means the total is £1 less than the overall allocation.</p>
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Revenue	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
UKSPF allocation towards Revenue projects	£363,943	£709,486	£861,294
UKSPF allocation towards delivery capacity	£0	£68,400	£69,768

Capital	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
UKSPF allocation towards Capital projects	£100,000	£150,000	£1,500,000

The finance section has been approved by the following member of the Financial Management Unit:

Please print name: Sal Khan

Please sign name: [Approval by email 290722](#)

Policy Framework

B6 Is the Decision wholly in accordance with the Council's policy framework?	Yes
B6.1 If No, does it fall within the urgency provisions (Part 3 of the Constitution)?	NA
B6.2 Has it got the appropriate approvals under those provisions?	NA
B7 Is the Decision wholly in accordance with the Council's budget?	Yes
B7.1 If No, does it fall within the urgency provisions (Part 3 of the Constitution)?	NA
B7.2 Has it got the appropriate approvals under those provisions?	NA

Equalities Implications

B8 What are the Equalities implications:
B8.1 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits): A primary aim of the programme is to provide a breadth of support services for businesses that will undoubtedly improve people's general access to advice and support relating to business and employment.
B8.2 Negative (Threats):
B8.3 The subject of this decision is a policy, strategy, function or service that is new or being revised. An equality impact assessment is attached at Appendix 2.

Risk Assessment

B9 What are the Risk Assessment implications:
B9.1 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits): The opportunity to tailor growth and support programmes in line with local needs and gaps.
B9.2 Negative (Threats): UKSPF is designed to replace existing European funding that is coming to an end, which is used frequently to finance local growth projects and business support programmes. As such, there is a risk that the UKSPF schemes do not fully cover any gaps created by the ending of ESIF grants.
B9.3 The risks do not need to be entered in the Risk Register. Any financial implications to mitigate against these risks are considered above.

Legal Considerations

B10 What are the Legal Considerations:
B10.1 The main legal issues arising from this decision are as follows: Legal Services will provide advice on any Funding Agreement with the Government. The delivery of UKSPF projects will involve the completion of grant agreements with partners and funding recipients across the duration of the three year programme.

B10 What are the Legal Considerations:

The selection of funding recipients should follow a proper evaluation, selection, and award process for reasons of fairness and transparency,

This section has been approved by the following member of the Legal Team

Please print name: Glen McCusker – Interim Solicitor

Please sign name: [Approval by email 010822](#)

Sustainability Implications

B11 What are the Sustainability implications:

B11.1 The proposal would not result in an overall positive effect in terms of sustainability (including climate change and change adaptation measures). The positive/negative impacts are set out below (please refer to guidance notes).

B11.2 Positive (Opportunities/Benefits):

B11.3 Negative (Threats):

Health & Safety Implications

B12 What are the Health & Safety implications:

B12.1 A Risk Assessment has not been carried out and entered into Safety Media for all significant hazards and risks because there are no significant hazards or risks arising from this decision.

Key Decision

B13 Is this a Key Decision? Yes

Note: A Key Executive Decision is one where:

1. **REVENUE** – Any contract or proposal with an annual payment or saving of more than £100,000
2. **CAPITAL** – Any capital project with a value in excess of £150,000
3. A decision which significantly affects communities living or working in an area comprising two or more wards.

B13.1 If this is a Key Decision, is this an urgent decision such that a delay caused by use of the Call-in Procedure would <u>seriously</u> prejudice the public interest?	Yes
B13.2 If yes, has the Mayor or in his/her absence the Deputy Mayor or in his/her absence the Chair of the relevant Scrutiny Committee agreed that the decision will be exempt from Call-in?	Yes

NOTE: If this decision is subject to the Call-in Procedure it will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of 3 working days after publication – unless 10 Members of the Council call in the decision.

Please send the original signed document to
andrea.davies@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk

Appendix 1 - East Staffordshire UK Shared Prosperity Fund Summary of Intervention Priorities

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a three year funding programme designed to replace the European Structural Investment Fund (ESIF), which comes to an end in 2023. Where ESIF grants were provided to Local Enterprise Partnerships for administration, UKSPF is provided directly to District and County Councils, as well as Combined Authorities.

The UKSPF has a primary goal to “build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK”, aligning with the missions set out by the Levelling Up White Paper. Underpinning this goal are three UKSPF Investment Priorities:



Within each Investment Priority, the Government has issued a list of standard intervention themes that cover a broad range of proposals, against which the UKSPF funding can be allocated. It should be noted that interventions under the People and Skills priority can only be included for 2024/25 unless this is a continuing provision from previous years, which is currently being delivered by voluntary and community organisations.

East Staffordshire’s allocation from the UKSPF is £3,822,892, which has a funding profile as follows:

2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	Total
£463,943	£927,886	£2,431,062	£3,822,891*

**The annual allocations have a rounding error that results in the sum being £1 less than the total allocation.*

The following sets out the intervention themes and proposals that the Council is initially proposing to prioritise as part of its UKSPF submission.

Communities and Place (£1.75m)

The primary intervention themes being proposed under this Investment Priority are as follows:

- E1: Funding for improvements to town centres and high streets, including better accessibility for disabled people, including capital spend and running costs;
- E2: Funding for new, or improvements to existing, community and neighbourhood infrastructure projects including those that increase communities' resilience to natural hazards, such as flooding. This could cover capital spend and running costs.

Two capital regeneration projects are being proposed under this theme: Uttoxeter Town Centre Regeneration (E1) and a Village Enhancement Programme (E2). The delivery of these projects also contribute towards other investment themes under the Community and Place priority in a secondary capacity, including: E3; E4; E6; E8; E9; E11; E12; E15.

The Uttoxeter Town Centre Regeneration project involves an allocation of £1,000,000 towards the future redevelopment of the Maltings precinct in Uttoxeter High Street, facilitating the regeneration of an important problem site as identified in the Uttoxeter Masterplan. An example of how this funding may be targeted would be to direct the grant towards the provision of modern and upgraded commercial space fronting the High Street. The specific focus of the grant would be reviewed and confirmed following the further public consultation due to take place later in 2022/23.

The Village Enhancement Programme involves an allocation of £750,000 towards the delivery of local regeneration projects in villages and hamlets outside of Burton and Uttoxeter (see Image 1). This would be a competitive regeneration fund whereby Elected Councillors representing those areas would be invited to submit expressions of interest for local regeneration initiatives during 2022/23, with a view to commence delivery of approved projects in 2023/24. Projects could include initiatives such as improvements to green spaces, play areas, tourism and visitor economy initiatives, upgrading community assets, and culture and heritage programmes. Projects would typically be led by East Staffordshire Borough Council in partnership with local areas.

Supporting Local Business (£1.7m+)

The primary intervention themes being proposed under this Investment Priority are as follows:

- E16: Investment in open markets and improvements to town centre retail and service sector infrastructure, with wrap around support for small businesses;
- E23: Strengthening local entrepreneurial ecosystems;
- E24: Training hubs, business support offers, incubators & accelerators;
- E29: Supporting decarbonisation & improving natural environment;
- E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth.

A range of business support programmes are being proposed under this theme, in partnership with key local providers, which would be provided across the whole of East Staffordshire. This would include initiatives such as:

SME Support for the High Street	Specific retail mentoring advice and support; training programme for small High Street businesses; support for blending online and traditional services; assistance in sourcing local goods and understanding environmental footprint.
Business Growth and Productivity Programme	Business mentoring; peer network support groups; productivity workshops; governance and risk management support; sustainable development support; tailored support for family businesses.
Business Springboard Boost	Match funded grant funding programme for new enterprises looking to set up and existing businesses looking to grow, such as through new equipment or relocation/expansions.
Start up Support	Targeted business support programme for new businesses focusing on fundamental business areas such as marketing, accounting and website creation.
Step up Support	Targeted business support programme for businesses looking to take the next 'step' on their

	growth journey, focusing on specialist advice for specific issues.
Local Growth Manager	Business diagnostic and analysis programme whereby Growth Managers help businesses to understand their potential to grow, areas of strength, weaknesses and opportunities, with signposting to other support programmes.
Skills Hub / Training for the workforce	Training Needs Analysis for businesses to help identify short, medium and long term skills needs, with identification of local course providers to help upskill workforces. Strong links with People and Skills priority.
Environmental Business Support	Green Energy Solutions advice for businesses looking to reduce energy costs/consumption with a matched grant for implementing solutions. Environmental Tool for SME's to monitor their usage and provide training on how to reduce carbon emissions.
Apprenticeship 500	Grant programme for businesses looking to take on new apprenticeships, to subsidise the cost of recruiting and training apprentices. Strong links with People and Skills priority.

Whilst some of the proposed business support schemes have a similar criteria or offer, each have a distinct focus in terms of the support that is available or who it is targeted at. In summary, the overall support programme focuses on:

- New business creation
- Small business growth
- High Street businesses
- Decarbonisation / reduction of energy usage
- Workforce training and skills development
- New apprenticeships

People and Skills (£21k)

The primary intervention theme being proposed under this Investment Priority is as follows:

- E37: Tailored support for the employed to access courses.

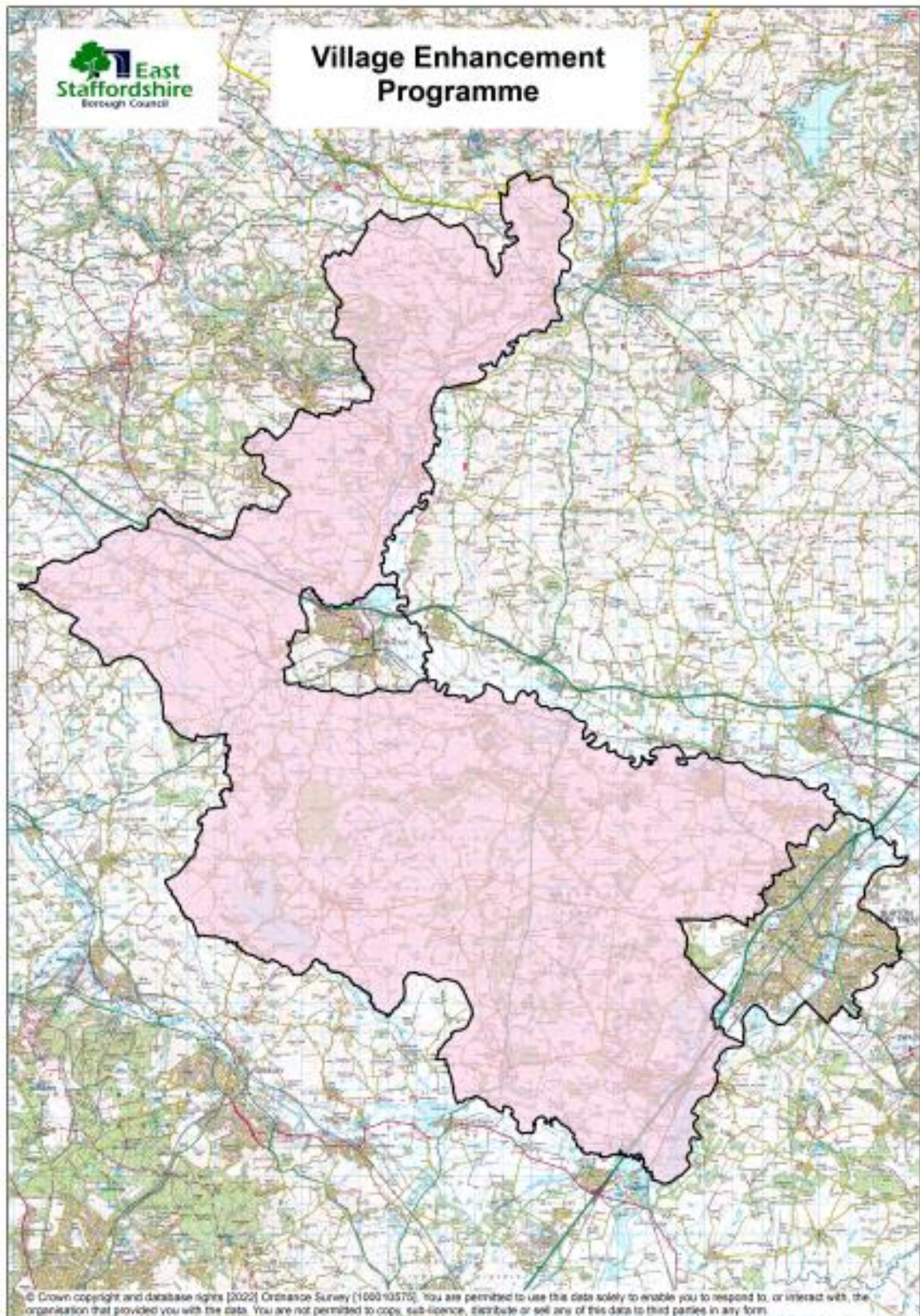
With the restrictions around how People and Skills based initiatives can be funded, the proposed approach to UKSPF in East Staffordshire involves focusing on supporting skills and employment through business led programmes, as outlined on the previous pages, in order to enable delivery throughout the three year period.

As such, the remaining project proposal that cannot be categorised as such is the small 'Community Grants Scheme', which involves grant funding for those that are unemployed and most at risk of social exclusion in order to assist them in re-entering work, education or training.

As previously stated, this intervention would only be delivered during 2024/25, the final year of the UKSPF programme.

Image 1: Village Enhancement Programme Areas

Pink areas are included in the programme, any other areas are excluded.



Appendix 2 – UKSPF Equality and Health Impact Assessment

This EHIA documents how you have taken into account health impacts and the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty in the decision making process for this function, policy or service.

1	Title of function, policy or service to be assessed: UK Shared Prosperity Fund Programme
2	Date: 29 th July 2022
3	Name of EHIA author: Thomas Deery
4	EHIA team: Enterprise Team
5	Head of Service: Thomas Deery
6	Is the policy, function or service existing, new or being reviewed? New

7	<p>State the aims, objectives and purpose of the function, policy or service and provide a summary of the service provided:</p> <p>The UKSPF has a primary goal to ‘build price in place and increase life chances’. It provides funding to Councils to deliver initiatives under investment priorities of Communities and Place; Supporting Local Business; People and Skills</p>												
8	<p>Are there any other functions, policies or services which might be linked with this one for the purpose of this EHIA?</p> <p>The delivery of the UKSPF programme is intrinsically linked with the services provided by the Enterprise Team</p>												
9	<p>Who is it intended to affect or benefit (the target population)?</p> <p>The proposed priorities involve targeted schemes in both Uttoxeter and various East Staffordshire villages (to be confirmed), alongside businesses across the whole of the Borough and a small number of individuals identified to be most at risk of social exclusion.</p>												
10	<p>Equality impacts</p> <p>The Public Sector Equality Duty requires public bodies, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act. • Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. • Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not. <table border="1" data-bbox="231 1568 1460 2042"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4" data-bbox="231 1568 1460 1747"> <p>Within this table, state whether the policy, function or service will have a positive or negative impact across the following protected characteristics and provide any comments.</p> </th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="231 1747 587 1870"></th> <th data-bbox="587 1747 742 1870">Positive Impact</th> <th data-bbox="742 1747 893 1870">Negative Impact</th> <th data-bbox="893 1747 1460 1870">Comments</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="231 1870 587 2042">Age</td> <td data-bbox="587 1870 742 2042">X</td> <td data-bbox="742 1870 893 2042"></td> <td data-bbox="893 1870 1460 2042">One of the priorities involves increasing the number of</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<p>Within this table, state whether the policy, function or service will have a positive or negative impact across the following protected characteristics and provide any comments.</p>					Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Comments	Age	X		One of the priorities involves increasing the number of
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	Positive Impact	Negative Impact	Comments										
Age	X		One of the priorities involves increasing the number of										

			apprenticeships, which are typically taken up by those of a younger age
Disability	X		The community regeneration grant scheme has the potential to specifically benefit those who are disabled.
Sex / gender reassignment / pregnancy or maternity			The proposed projects will not deliver negative impacts specifically to protected characteristics and will deliver positive impacts across all characteristics and the wider community.
Race			The proposed projects will not deliver negative impacts specifically to protected characteristics and will deliver positive impacts across all characteristics and the wider community.
Religion or belief			The proposed projects will not deliver negative impacts specifically to protected characteristics and will deliver positive impacts across all characteristics and the wider community.
Sexual orientation			The proposed projects will not deliver negative impacts specifically to protected characteristics and will deliver positive impacts across all characteristics and the wider community.

	Other			
11	<p>What evidence do you have for the statements made in Question 10?</p> <p>A summary of priorities has been appended to EDR 445.22, which identifies the two schemes mentioned above as being priorities in the proposed UKSPF programme alongside other general support packages for businesses and individuals. The purpose of these support packages is to provide a wide range of advice and mentoring that will improve business and individual access to support.</p>			
12	<p>Consultation:</p> <p>Describe what consultation has been undertaken on this function, policy or service, who was involved and the outcomes.</p> <p>Information on the proposed priorities has been distributed to a wide variety of partners, internally and externally, including Parish and Town Councils, businesses, and elected politicians. Any feedback will be considered in future, project specific EHIAs.</p>			

13	<p>Briefly explain how the policy, function or service contributes to community cohesion by answering the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will it provide equality of access to services, information and employment? • Does it or could it promote good relationships within and between communities? • How will it help to prevent social exclusion? • Will it help to reintegrate those who have become excluded? • Will this assist with communities feeling that they are connected to decision making that affects them? • How will it provide good quality, inclusive services? <p>A primary aim of the programme is to provide a breadth of support services for businesses that will undoubtedly improve people’s general access to advice and support relating to business and employment.</p> <p>Furthermore, one of the proposed regeneration schemes involves the targeted enhancement of smaller, community areas (villages and hamlets), which may have a positive impact on community cohesion providing there are appropriate opportunities for community collaboration.</p> <p>Finally, one of the proposed priorities for 24/25 involves targeted grants to support those most at risk of social exclusion back into employment, training or education, which will help with the reintegration of those who have become excluded.</p>												
14	<p>Health impacts – screening question</p> <p>Will the subject of this EHIA:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="231 1395 1461 1953"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="231 1395 715 1507"></th> <th data-bbox="719 1395 1010 1507">No (Provide a brief explanation of your response.)</th> <th data-bbox="1015 1395 1461 1507">Yes (Is this impact positive or negative? Provide a brief explanation of your response.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="231 1514 715 1655">Have a direct impact on health, mental health and wellbeing?</td> <td data-bbox="719 1514 1010 1655"></td> <td data-bbox="1015 1514 1461 1655">The 24/25 community grant scheme has the potential to directly, positive impact mental health</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="231 1662 715 1839">Have an impact on social, economic and environmental living conditions that would indirectly affect health?</td> <td data-bbox="719 1662 1010 1839"></td> <td data-bbox="1015 1662 1461 1839">The business and employment support priorities would have a positive impact on this area, particularly around economic conditions.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="231 1845 715 1953">Have an effect on an individual’s ability to improve their own health and wellbeing?</td> <td data-bbox="719 1845 1010 1953"></td> <td data-bbox="1015 1845 1461 1953">As per the above two points.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		No (Provide a brief explanation of your response.)	Yes (Is this impact positive or negative? Provide a brief explanation of your response.)	Have a direct impact on health, mental health and wellbeing?		The 24/25 community grant scheme has the potential to directly, positive impact mental health	Have an impact on social, economic and environmental living conditions that would indirectly affect health?		The business and employment support priorities would have a positive impact on this area, particularly around economic conditions.	Have an effect on an individual’s ability to improve their own health and wellbeing?		As per the above two points.
	No (Provide a brief explanation of your response.)	Yes (Is this impact positive or negative? Provide a brief explanation of your response.)											
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Have an effect on an individual’s ability to improve their own health and wellbeing?		As per the above two points.											

	Affect access to, and the quality of, health, mental health or wellbeing services?	Not directly.	
Please refer to the EHIA guidance document. If you answer yes to any of these questions a health impact assessment is required, please complete section 16.			
15	Head of Service signature: I am satisfied with the results of this EHIA.		

16. HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT¹

Please complete this, if you have answered yes to any of the health impact screening questions.

A. Describe the health impact(s). Please refer to the screening questions in Q14 above.	B. Answering ‘YES’ to the above questions (Q14) indicates an important health impact. Be explicit and include the evidence that has been considered.	C. Are the health impacts significant?
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Identify the health impact(s)	Will the health impacts affect the whole population? Will they affect particular groups of people differently?	Will the health impacts be difficult to remedy or have an irreversible effect? Are they likely to cause public concern?	Will the health impacts be medium or long-term? Are they likely to create cumulative effects?	Does this health impact have a significant positive or negative effect (based on your responses to Section B)?
<i>The proposed priority schemes have the potential to positively impact mental health and wellbeing through supporting employment, education and training opportunities.</i>	Some elements of this are targeted towards those most at risk of social exclusion, however the majority of the business support schemes are widely available to small and medium enterprises alongside individuals.	No, this is a positive impact	Possible long term and cumulative impacts, this would be monitored during delivery.	Possibly significant, but certainly positive.

¹ Adapted from ‘Health Impact Assessment of Government Policy, a guide to carrying out a Health Impact Assessment of new policy as part of the Impact Assessment process.’ Department of Health, July 2010 p.13

17. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION PLAN

Please describe the actions, if any, you will take to mitigate against negative health or equality impacts identified in this assessment, or to maximise the benefits of the policy or service.

If significant action is required, it should be included in Service Plans.

Is it a Health or Equality action?	Issue / impact identified	Recommendation / action required	Lead officer and timescale	Resource allocation
n/a				