

# UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund – progress update

<b>Report number:</b>	<b>CAB/WS/24/004</b>	
<b>Report to and date:</b>	<b>Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>	14 March 2024
<b>Cabinet members:</b>	<p>Cllr Cliff Waterman                      Leader of the Council                      Tel: 07974 092289                      Email: <a href="mailto:cliff.waterman@westsuffolk.gov.uk">cliff.waterman@westsuffolk.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Cllr Diane Hind                      Portfolio Holder for Resources                      Email: <a href="mailto:diane.hind@westsuffolk.gov.uk">diane.hind@westsuffolk.gov.uk</a></p>	
<b>Lead officer:</b>	<p>Ian Gallin                      Chief Executive                      Tel: 01284 757001                      Email: <a href="mailto:democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk">democratic.services@westsuffolk.gov.uk</a></p>	

**Decisions Plan:** This item is not included in the Decisions Plan

**Wards impacted:** All Wards

**Recommendation:**        **Following an invitation from the Chair to provide an update, it is recommended that Overview and Scrutiny Committee note progress so far in allocating West Suffolk’s UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund allocations to local projects and initiatives**

## 1. Context to this report

- 1.1 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) were announced by Government in 2022 as successors to EU funding following the UK's departure from the EU. Each council was given an allocation of funding and a range of criteria for spending it over three years.
- 1.2 West Suffolk Council is coming to the end of the second year of UKSPF funding and the first year of REPF funding.
- 1.3 An update on progress in implementing West Suffolk Council's UKSPF and REPF investment plans was requested at the quarterly meeting between the Leader of the Council and the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 15 January 2024.
- 1.4 This report sets out the background to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF); spend so far in 2022-23 and 2023-24; plans for spending in 2024-25; and issues and challenges experienced with the programmes.

### Background to UKSPF

- 1.5 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a £2.6bn fund that Government announced in April 2022 to support implementation of its Levelling Up White Paper. Its primary goal is "to build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK", aligned with the Levelling Up White Paper goals. The Government has three investment priorities for UKSPF:
  - communities and place
  - supporting local business
  - people and skills
- 1.6 Funding was allocated to each council area through a formula but could only be accessed through an Investment Plan. In these plans, councils had to say which of a 'menu' of [41 interventions](#) they would support through the funding and to identify output and outcome measures. Interventions are expected to be delivered through grants to public or private organisations, commissioning of third-party organisations, procurement of service provision and in-house provision. Full guidance on UKSPF was set out by the Government in its [prospectus](#).
- 1.7 The Government has encouraged collaborative working between councils especially on the people and skills element, but each council still required a standalone investment plan. Each lead local authority also needed to establish a Local Partnership Group to consult on its investment plan, to include MPs.

- 1.8 West Suffolk Council was allocated the following amounts of UKSPF funding in 2022. The council’s investment plan was [agreed by Council in July 2022](#) and approved by Government in December 2022:

<b>UKSPF</b>	<b>2022-23</b> (year 1)	<b>2023-24</b> (year 2)	<b>2024-25</b> (year 3)	<b>Total</b>
<b>Amount of funding</b>	£235,858	£471,715	£1,235,894	£1,934,467
<b>Minimum capital element</b>	10 per cent	13 per cent	20 per cent	
<b>Funding purpose</b>	Communities and place Supporting local business	Communities and place Supporting local business	Communities and place Supporting local business <b>Plus:</b> People and skills	

- 1.9 A key principle in the investment plan was that UKSPF and REPF monies would be in large part be allocated to external partners, for example, community groups, strategic partners and businesses, rather than used for direct delivery by the council. This was in line with West Suffolk’s focus on building capacity in the wider local area.

### **Background to REPF**

- 1.10 The Rural England Prosperity Fund is a top-up to UKSPF (covering only the Communities and Place and Supporting Local Business priorities), aimed at supporting the Levelling Up White Paper and Future Farming Programme. It is a successor to the EU LEADER Fund and the Growth Programme (Rural Development Programme for England). REPF is all capital funding.

- 1.11 Within West Suffolk, the funding can be used everywhere outside Bury St Edmunds, in line with the Department for Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)’s rural/urban classification of settlements. The REPF investment plan was [agreed by Cabinet in November 2022](#) and approved by Defra in April 2023.

- 1.12
- | <b>REPF</b>              | <b>2022-23</b> | <b>2023-24</b><br>(year 1) | <b>2024-25</b><br>(year 2) | <b>Total</b> |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Amount of funding</b> |                | £188,425                   | £565,275                   | £753,701     |

- 1.13 Councils are permitted to use up to 4 per cent of the UKSPF allocation for management and administration of both UKSPF and REPF. This has been absorbed into the base budget to support the process.

**Progress so far**

- 1.14 Appendices A, B and C set out the spend so far in years one and two of UKSPF and year one of REPF. The tables in these appendices show that funding has reached a range of organisations across the public, private and voluntary sectors; across a range of locations; and in support of a number of different outcomes that align with the council’s strategic priorities.
- 1.15 It should be noted that the amounts of funding allocated to each project under UKSPF are small, and that the number of organisations funded is large. This is because of the approach taken by Government, of giving councils a large number of outcomes to achieve with the funding; linking it to initiatives previously supported through EU funding and requiring wide engagement on priorities. West Suffolk Council’s allocation was relatively modest at £1.9m, when compared to, for example, Cornwall’s (£129m) or even some districts’ (over £5m in Preston).
- 1.16 In 2022-24, UKSPF and REPF funds were used to support the following initiatives, as agreed by Cabinet and Council in 2022:
- Access to healthy food
  - Active travel
  - Advocacy and advice services
  - Arts and creative outreach activities
  - Drug and alcohol recovery
  - Encouraging energy efficient behaviours
  - Feasibility studies for community initiatives
  - Grants to small businesses
  - Grassroots sports clubs (grants)
  - Greenspace improvements
  - High street and town centre improvements
  - Improvements to community buildings
  - Increasing sports participation
  - Incubation space for entrepreneurs
  - Markets facilities (electric chargepoint)
  - Play area improvements
  - Physical activity for older people
  - Start up support and advice for small businesses
  - Tackling rural isolation
  - Tourism promotion
  - Voluntary sector capacity building
  - Warm hubs
  - Youth employment
- 1.17 Many of these projects have already been delivered, but for some, the funding is with the relevant organisation but project delivery is not yet complete.
- 1.18 Each of these initiatives was communicated through media releases at the point the grant programme was launched, or when the allocation was made

to the relevant partner organisation, and in turn to Members through media alerts.

1.19 Looking ahead to 2024-25, the remaining UKSPF and REPF spend can be divided into three categories:

**a) Funding already committed through Suffolk-wide funding programmes**

Funding has already been committed through two Suffolk-wide programmes as agreed in 2022. £231,729 has been allocated to business support (for the Growth Hub (run by YTKO), to Groundworks East (net zero support), to MENTA and for small business grants) and £288,000 to a Suffolk-wide skills contract, in line with the Government's requirement that a significant amount of UKSPF funding should be allocated to the People and Skills priority in year three.

**b) Funding agreed through a portfolio holder decision taken in February 2024**

These allocations are shown in Appendix D.

**c) Funding yet to be allocated to specific projects**

These amounts are shown in Appendix D. Decisions on allocating these amounts will be taken in the coming weeks and months, in line with the delegations made by Council.

## 2. Proposals within this report

2.1 UKSPF and REPF funding has been allocated and used in line with the principles that were agreed at Council in 2022, as follows:

- UKSPF is additional to existing funding, so will be applied where there are gaps or areas of most need
- UKSPF will be invested in line with our existing [2020-2024] Strategic Framework, ways of working and West Suffolk's approach (partnership working, building capacity, prevention, behaving more commercially, subsidiarity, user pays, digital transformation)
- Where possible, we will fund projects with revenue funding for three years, to give stability to partners, and will require an exit strategy or longer-term sustainable solution
- As was the case for EU funding, there is an expectation of match funding, commitment and support with delivery where appropriate – for example, business support and town centre improvement initiatives
- There will be a balance of investment according to evidence of challenges, opportunities, outcomes and benefits, across rural and urban locations
- We will encourage projects that support net-zero objectives as a cross-cutting theme
- Details of investments will need to change or evolve over the three years. Cabinet will take the lead in shaping future changes

- 2.2 Perhaps the biggest challenge of the schemes has been the difficulty of communicating effectively about UKSPF and REPF, given how multi-stranded the programmes have been and over a long period of time (see paragraph 2.8 below). Further work is in hand to communicate the remaining elements of funding and the outcomes that have been achieved for West Suffolk.
- 2.3 At the same time, West Suffolk Council has experienced a number of challenges that have arisen as a result of the design of the funds by Government, as set out below. This initial learning will continue to be shared with Government officials through UKSPF webinars and other opportunities as appropriate.

### **Issues and challenges with implementation of UKSPF and REPF**

#### **2.4 Delayed decisions and release of funding**

There were long delays on the part of central government in announcing, confirming and releasing funding to councils. For example, the funding for 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 did not arrive with West Suffolk until 12 July 2023 (Rural England Prosperity Fund) and 14 July 2023 (UK Shared Prosperity Fund). These delays have meant that some contracts had to be entered into 'at risk', without having certainty that the funding would arrive. In the case of partnership contracts (for example, Suffolk-wide), this is particularly challenging as legal work needs to be done to ensure that the lead authority for procurement has sufficient reassurances that funding will be forthcoming from the other councils should the Government funding not be received. In future, funding should be made available ahead of the start of the new financial year.

#### **High degree of prescription over future funding plans**

- 2.5 It was very challenging for councils to produce investment plans giving firm funding commitments and specific outputs and outcomes that would be delivered two years ahead of the projects being commissioned. This was especially challenging given local elections taking place between 2023-24 and 2024-25 and the need to allow the new administration the ability to set their direction.
- 2.6 It was also difficult to predict what outputs and outcomes would be achieved through open grant programmes for community funding (one of the recommended allocation methods for UKSPF), in advance of knowing what bids would be put forward. In future, there should be greater flexibility between years to allocate funding in response to emerging circumstances and changes in council leadership.

#### **Amounts of funding so small because of multiple interventions**

- 2.7 The one-size-fits-all approach to UKSPF meant that councils receiving smaller amounts of money, such as West Suffolk, were attempting to cover many of the 41 interventions in our investment plan, which resulted in very small allocations to each intervention. The wide approach to engagement

that was encouraged meant that there was local support for a very wide range of interventions, which in turn added weight to the approach of spreading the funding across a large number of projects. In future, the number of interventions should be reduced and councils asked to select those that best fit their strategic priorities.

### **Reporting – outputs and outcomes**

- 2.8 The reporting arrangements for UKSPF and REPF faced a number of significant problems at the national level. Several months after the outputs and outcomes were set by Government and used in council investment plans, many of the indicators were changed from percentages to actual numbers. This was challenging in the case of district councils where, to take the example of leisure and sport, increases in participation could vary from 5 to 50 depending on whether a grant was allocated to a rural or urban sports facility. A percentage was much more suited to this context.
- 2.9 Further, the PowerApp introduced by the Government for the first six monthly report of 2023-24 was poorly designed and then had to be withdrawn and relaunched, causing significant additional work for officers. In the future, reporting should be based on percentage changes and any reporting mechanisms should be tested before being launched to over 300 councils.

## **3. Alternative options that have been considered**

- 3.1 This report was requested by Overview and Scrutiny Committee to give an update on UKSPF and REPF implementation. No alternative options were considered.

## **4. Consultation and engagement undertaken**

- 4.1 The UKSPF and REPF investment plans were put together in response to Cabinet's priorities, following a stakeholder engagement exercise during which submissions were received from 66 organisations, individuals or councillors and a meeting of the Local Partnership Group. The three local MPs were also consulted and supported the plan.
- 4.2 More information on the consultation outcomes is given in section 4 the report to Council in July 2022 (see section 8.1 below).
- 4.3 Delegated authority to implement the West Suffolk Council investment plans for UKSPF and REPF was given by Council to the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Property in 2022. Each time a decision has been taken on the details of the funding agreement to be made in order to implement an intervention, there has been consultation with other Portfolio Holders, members, officers and other relevant stakeholders.



## **5. Risks associated with the proposals**

- 5.1 The proposal to give feedback to Suffolk County Council and the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities on UKSPF and REPF is very low risk, if handled in positive, constructive and collaborative way.

## **6. Implications arising from the proposals**

- 6.1 Financial – none  
6.2 Legal compliance – none  
6.3 Personal data processing – none  
6.4 Equalities – none  
6.5 Crime and disorder – none  
6.6 Safeguarding – none  
6.7 Environment or sustainability – none  
6.8 HR or staffing – none  
6.9 Changes to existing policies – none  
6.10 External organisations (such as businesses, community groups) - none

## **7. Appendices referenced in this report**

- 7.1 Appendix A: UKSPF year one (2022-23) - Projects supported  
7.2 Appendix B: UKSPF year two (2023-24) – Projects supported  
7.3 Appendix C: REPF year one (2023-24) – Projects supported  
7.4 Appendix D: UKSPF year three and REPF year two (2024-25)

## **8. Background documents associated with this report**

- 8.1 Item 236 – Referral from Cabinet: UK Shared Prosperity Fund: investment plan allocations (Report number: COU/WS/22/015 and addendum)  
[Agenda for Council on Tuesday 26 July 2022, 7.00 pm \(westsuffolk.gov.uk\)](#)
- 8.2 Item 411 – UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity Fund (Report number: CAB/WS/22/059)  
[Agenda for Cabinet on Tuesday 8 November 2022, 6.00 pm \(westsuffolk.gov.uk\)](#)

**Appendix A: UKSPF Year one (2022-23) - Projects supported**

1. £235,858 was paid out to a range of organisations by 31 March 2023, in line with the investment plan agreed by Council in July 2022.
2. The projects funded in year one are shown below. A monitoring report was submitted to DLUHC on these projects in May 2023.

<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UKSPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds	Outreach activities	E6: Local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities	14,702
Greater Anglia	Contribution to new cycle storage facilities at Bury St Edmunds Rail station	E7: Support for active travel enhancements in the local area	14,702
Forest Heath Schools Sports Partnership - Sports and Clubs Fayre	Sports and Clubs Fayre	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	2,000
Expansion of Fit Villages programme in rural West Suffolk	Physical activity sessions for adults aged over 55 in rural areas	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	12,702
Our Special Friends	Installation of client system that will help manage referrals	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	2,250
West Suffolk Hive Community Interest Company	Funding for new fully insulated and heated community building	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	1,688

<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UKSPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
Haverhill Community Trust	Funding to offer warmth, exercise, a hot meal, refreshments for parents or carers	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	3,660
Bury Drop in Centre	To assist in the delivery of the existing provision at Bury Drop In (homelessness services)	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	4,750
ONE Haverhill	ONE Haverhill Partnership to strengthen ongoing work to benefit local communities	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	1,000
The Salvation Army	Creation of a database of local organisations, services, groups and clubs	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	3,500
REACH Community Projects	Funding to employ a Drug and Alcohol Recovery Officer	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	2,500
Art Branches Community Interest Company	To support ten Creative Steam workshops at Steam House Café	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	1,735
St Mary's Church, Kentford	Installation of a servery and toilet inside St Mary's for community use	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	2,500
Christchurch Newmarket Mobility Aids Loan Service	Funding towards cost of new boiler to heat the hall	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	1,500

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<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UKSPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
Worlington Village Hall	Contribution towards costs of providing the village hall as a safe warm space for residents	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	3,358
Pakenham Village Hall and Playing Field Association	Replacement of existing Children’s Play Area on Pakenham Playing Field	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	3,500
Development of Rural Coffee Caravan Information Project	For ongoing work to help tackle rural isolation and improve health and wellbeing	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	5,000
The Racing Centre	The free of charge service engaging with community and will also establish a fruit and veg stand	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	4,400
Gatehouse - Caring in East Anglia	To help with energy costs associated with Gatehouse to continue community lunches	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	3,957
Haverhill Winter Family Café	To extend warm hub at Haverhill Winter Family Café for families in need	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	4,750
Lightwave Red Lodge, Energy Support	To help people living on low incomes to conserve energy	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	2,245

<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UKSPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
Bury St Edmunds Women's Aid Centre	To provide energy saving equipment and measures to support families in West Suffolk	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	4,750
Wood Monkey Works Community Interest Company	Energy costs towards its work helping disadvantaged, excluded and children with special educational needs	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	1,000
Suffolk West Citizens Advice Bureau Warm Hub	To help provide advice in a warm, comfortable and safe space	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	2,500
St Edmundsbury Cathedral	Funding to provide welcoming warm space with free hot drinks	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	2,000
Church of Our Lady Immaculate & St Etheldreda - Warm Hub	To help people during winter and provide food, entertainment, and companionship	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	2,500
Newmarket Open Door Foodbank Project	Funding towards costs of running of foodbank	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	5,000
Community Action Suffolk	Feasibility studies	E14: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies	10,000
Installation of charging points for market traders	Procurement of electric charging points for Clare market stalls to use during the market	E16: Investment in open markets and improvements in town centre retail and service sector infrastructure, with wraparound support for small businesses	8,910

<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UKSPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
Bury St Edmunds and Beyond digital marketing campaign	Digital marketing campaign to promote the town and wider area to tourism visitors	E17: Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally	11,806
Discover Newmarket digital marketing campaign	Digital marketing campaign to promote the town and wider area to tourism visitors	E17: Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally	11,806
Newmarket Incubation and Co-working space	Grant provided to the Newmarket Charitable Foundation allowing them to create an incubation space in Newmarket	E21: Funding for the development and support of appropriate innovation infrastructure at the local level.	9,532
Grant funding for business start-up support	Start Up and new business support with training, advice and access to funding	E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment	39,000
Minding the Gap local youth employment support	A youth employment project for 16-24 year olds residing in West Suffolk	E33: Employment support for economically inactive people: Intensive and wrap-around one-to-one support to move people closer towards mainstream provision and employment, supplemented by additional and/or specialist life and basic skills (digital, English, maths* and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) support where there are local provision gaps.	21,222

**Appendix B: UKSPF Year two (2023-24) - Projects supported**

£452,645 had been paid out to a range of organisations by 1 March 2024, in line with the investment plan agreed by Council in July 2022. The projects funded in year two are shown below. A monitoring report was submitted to DLUHC on these projects in January 2024.

<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UKSPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
Town and parish councils and BIDs	Funding for high street improvements	E1: Funding for improvements to town centres and high streets, including better accessibility for disabled people, including capital spend and running costs.	38,109
Haverhill Town Council	Haverhill Mutiny in Colour outreach	E6: Local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities	24,307
Greater Anglia	Contribution to new cycle storage facilities at Bury St Edmunds Rail station	E7: Support for active travel enhancements in the local area	14,708
Haverhill Town Football Club	Footballs and training equipment	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	774
Lakenheath Youth Football Club	Mini goals, training kit and football starter kit	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	860
Lakenheath Football Club	Training poles, footballs, strimmer	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	740
The New Croft Foundation	Training equipment including SEN provision	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	900

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<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UKSPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
Breckland Netball Club	Training equipment and team kit	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	850
Worlington Cricket Club	Portable roll-on cricket practice net	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	1000
Mildenhall and District Swimming Club	Training equipment	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	852
Bardwell Cricket Club	Training equipment	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	802
Mildenhall Cricket Club	Training equipment	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	992
Hundon Football Club	Junior goalposts	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	969
Eastgate Amateur boxing club	Treadmill, body protector and large first aid kit	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	737
St Edmund Pacers running club	Gazebo and flags for race day	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	738
Stoke-by-Clare bowls club	Practice bowls	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	825



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<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UKSPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
Moulton Panthers Football club	Footballs and training equipment	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	343
Thurlow youth football club	Footballs and training kit	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	934
Risbygate sports club. BSE	Sports equipment	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	750
Bury St Edmunds cricket club	Additional equipment for female cricket	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	935
St Edmundsbury bowls club	Junior bowls	E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	720
Haverhill Men’s sheds	To purchase a shed and to help with rental costs, tools, insurance, and travel costs	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	7,800.00
Vogue athletics	To outfit fit-for-purpose gymnastics-style gym and community hub in Newmarket.	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	10,000.00
Mildenhall and Newmarket Sea Cadets	To purchase a secure shed at Lackford Lakes	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	6,000.00
The Racing Centre	To establish an ethnic minority health and wellbeing program in Newmarket	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	5,400.00

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<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UKSPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
Citizens Advice	Advocacy and advice around cost of living support	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	14,708
West Suffolk Council (Families and Communities Team)	For feasibility studies by VCSE groups	E14: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies.	4,000
West Suffolk Council Markets team	Improvements in markets equipment and infrastructure	E16: Investment in open markets and improvements to town centre retail and service sector infrastructure, with wrap around support for small businesses.	8,916
Bury St Edmunds and Beyond and Discover Newmarket	Digital marketing campaigns	E17: Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally	23,624
West Suffolk College	Innovation equipment	E21: Funding for the development and support of appropriate innovation infrastructure at the local level.	19,545
YTKO	Growth Hub – business advice and support	E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment	27,010
Groundwork	Net zero business advice and support	E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment	21,222
Various small businesses	Small business grants	E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment	87,415
MENTA	Start up and new business support with training, advice and access to funding	E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment	78,000
Minding the Gap	Local youth employment support	E33: Employment support for economically inactive people: Intensive and wrap-around one-to-one support to move people closer towards mainstream provision and employment, supplemented by	47,160

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<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UKSPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
		additional and/or specialist life and basic skills (digital, English, maths* and ESOL) support where there are local provision gaps.	

**Appendix C: REPF Year one (2023-24) - Projects supported**

£138,000 had been paid out to a range of organisations by 1 March 2024, in line with the investment plan agreed by Council in July 2022. The projects funded in year two are shown below. A monitoring report was submitted to DLUHC on these projects in January 2024. Announcements on the remaining £50,000 will be made shortly.

<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>REPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
Various small businesses	Small business grants	1.1: Capital grant funding for small scale investment in micro and small enterprises in rural areas	39,000
Bradfield St Clare Village Hall	Building works with enlarging and modernising the dated kitchen facilities to better serve the community and regain our status as a Polling station.	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	5,660.00
Brandon In Bloom	Capital purchases to improve the high street	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	4,375.00
Cavenham Village Green Limited	Purchase and installation on playground equipment	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	9,387.00
Honington & Sapiston Village Hall	Renovate a piece of land to provide community sports, social events.	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	5,000.00
Ingham Parish Council	Renovate the lynch gate	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	2,300.00
Lidgate Village Hall	To provide a multiuse toddler unit with two slides, a toddler swing	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	9,386.00

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<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>REPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
	with safety matting and a bench.		
Pakenham Village Hall	Purchase playground equipment	2.2: Capital grant funding for investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	2,892.00
West Suffolk Council grounds maintenance team	Greenspace improvements (Newmarket)	2.3 capital grant funding for creation and improvements to local rural green spaces	60,000

**Appendix D: UKSPF year three (2024-25)**

**Multi-year programmes and Suffolk-wide skills programme**

<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UKSPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
MENTA, YTKO, Groundwork	Business start up support	E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment	231,729
Various organisations	Suffolk-wide skills support	E33: Employment support for economically inactive people	288,000

**Funding agreed through a portfolio holder decision taken in February 2024**

<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UKSPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
Town and parish councils and BIDs	Funding for high street improvements (in same way as for 2023-24 – open to local bids)	E1: Funding for improvements to town centres and high streets, including better accessibility for disabled people, including capital spend and running costs	192,662
Various community groups	Grant funding for capacity building to support variety of community goals	E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups	68,106
Suffolk Community Food Partnership	For new Community Food Partnership Officers to enable support to be available to the food banks, groups supporting sustainable food and the establishment of a food network	E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency and combat fuel poverty and climate change	34,053
West Suffolk College	A new post to engage with employers with under-employed staff and offer	E37: Tailored support to help people in employment, who are not supported by	20,000

<b>Funding recipient</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>UKSPF intervention</b>	<b>Funding amount (£)</b>
	skills training and qualifications to enable them to take up full-time jobs, with a focus on those likely to be leaving or not returning to the workplace	mainstream provision to address barriers to accessing education and training courses. This includes supporting the retention of groups who are likely to leave the labour market early.	
West Suffolk College	To create new skills training opportunities to enable local people to access local skilled jobs, particularly in areas of shortage and growth	E38: Support for local areas to fund local skills needs. This includes technical and vocational qualifications and courses up to level 2 and training for vocational licences relevant to local area needs and high-value qualifications where there is a need for additional skills capacity that is not being met through other provision.	100,000
West Suffolk College	To extend the access and availability of green skills courses to both employed and unemployed utilising newly created training facilities and qualifications	E39: Green skills courses targeted around ensuring we have the skilled workforce to achieve the government’s net zero and wider environmental ambitions.	25,000

**Funding yet to be allocated to specific projects**

<b>Fund and intervention</b>	<b>Amount (R = revenue, C = capital)</b>
UKSPF: E6: Support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities.	£34,053 (R)
UKSPF: E7: Support for active travel enhancements in the local area	£34,053 (C)
UKSPF: E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues to bring people together	£34,053 £1362 (R) £32691 (C)
UKSPF: E14: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies	£50,000 (R)

UKSPF: E16: investment in open markets and improvements in town centre retail and service sector infrastructure, with wraparound support for small businesses	£10,000 (C)
UKSPF: E17: Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails tours and tourism products more generally	£44,053 (R)
UKSPF: E21: Funding for the development and support of appropriate innovation infrastructure at the local level	£20,698 (C)

**Rural England Prosperity Fund (2024-25)**

<b>Fund and intervention</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Agreement reached at Cabinet in November 2022</b>
REPF: Rural business	190,000 (C)	Agreed to be used as capital grants for businesses
REPF: Rural communities	190,000 (C)	Agreed to be used as capital grants for community groups
REPF: E3: greenspace infrastructure	140,000 (C)	Continuation of 2023-24 (£60,000). Improvements in Brandon, Haverhill, Mildenhall, Newmarket
REPF: E26: waste and streetscene improvements	45,000 (C)	In Haverhill, Newmarket and villages