

Bolsover District Council

Meeting of Council

1st February 2023

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Report of the Monitoring Officer

Classification	This report is public
Report By	Assistant Director of Governance & Monitoring Officer Jim.fieldsend@bolsover.gov.uk 01246 242472
Contact Officer	As above

PURPOSE / SUMMARY OF REPORT

- To provide the Council with an update on the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).
- To approve the suspension of the Contract Procedure Rules in relation to procurement relating to the UKSPF.

REPORT DETAILS

1 Update

- 1.1 The UKSPF is a central pillar of the Government's Levelling Up agenda. It provides £2.6 billion of funding for local investments.
- 1.2 In order to access the UKSPF allocation, each local authority was asked to submit an Investment Plan setting out measurable outcomes it is looking to deliver, and what interventions will be prioritised. Bolsover District Council's Investment Plan was approved on 12th January 2023 and funding is eligible over a three year period from 2022/23 to 2024/25. Payments will be received in accordance with the following table.

Allocation 2022/23	Allocation 2023/24	Allocation 2024/25
£258,349	£476,697	£1,248,947

- 1.3 A number of schemes have already been agreed and outlined below. Some of the schemes will be delivered internally however other schemes will be delivered by external organisations. Many of the internally provided schemes will also require an element of external procurement. The identified schemes are as follows:

- Bolsover CCTV redeployable cameras (internal);
- Cultural Arts Corridor (internal);
- Tourism and Culture (internal);
- This Girl Codes (external);
- Cycle and Explore (internal);
- You V Train (ASB) (internal);
- Youth Based Intervention Programme (internal);
- Visitor economy business support (internal);;
- Business growth grant scheme (internal);
- Hyper local small business support (internal);
- Hyper local Net Zero innovation programme (internal);
- Bolsover Community Grants

1.4 For the schemes that need to be delivered by external organisations and for the internally delivered schemes that require the purchase of external supplies, the Council will still need to undertake a procurement exercise. All procurements need to follow the procedures as set out in the Council's Contract Procedure Rules. However the UKSPF have set conditions for procurement which do not align with the Council's rules. The differences are set out below; BDC requirements are as follows;

BDC Contract Procedure Rules Requirements

Value of contract	Minimum procedure
£0 - £1,000	an oral or written quote
£1,001-£5,000	3 written quotes or prices sought from relevant suppliers of goods, works and/or services
£5,001 to £75,00	Request for Quotation
Over £75,000	Formal tender process

UKSPF Requirements

Value of contract	Minimum procedure
£0 - £2,499	Direct award
£2,500 - £24,999	3 written quotes or prices sought from relevant suppliers of goods, works and/or services
Over £25,000	Formal tender process

1.5 Therefore below £25,000 the Council's requirements are stricter however above £25,000 and up to £75,000 UKSPF's is more onerous. We could look to combine the two procurement regimes so that the most onerous requirements apply however this would mean that the way we do things will be out of step with the funder's intentions. Also having one set of standards would make the procurement process easier to navigate. In order to resolve this it is proposed that the Council agrees to relax our procurement rules so that officers follow the UKSPF rules but only in relation to the UKSPF schemes. Any contracts that require a formal tender would still be undertaken with the support of the Council's Procurement Team.

2 Reasons for Recommendation

To enable officers to procure goods and services for UKSPF schemes in accordance with the UKSPF requirements.

3 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

To amend the Contract Procedure Rules to merge the Council and UKSPF requirements. This is rejected as this would mean the requirements would be stricter than what UKSPF had intended.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. To note that the Council's UKSPF Investment Plan application has been approved;
2. To agree to suspend the Council's Contract Procedure Rules as set out in the report.

Approved by the Portfolio Holder – Finance

IMPLICATIONS:

Finance and Risk: Yes No

Details:

As the cost of the schemes are provided by external grant funding there is no impact on the Council's budgets.

On behalf of the Section 151 Officer

Legal (including Data Protection): Yes No

Details:

The Contract Procedure Rules forms part of the Council's Constitution. The Council may make amendments to the Constitution and the changes proposed in this report amount to such amendments.

On behalf of the Solicitor to the Council

Environment:

Please identify (if applicable) how this proposal/report will help the Authority meet its carbon neutral target or enhance the environment.

Details:

Environmental implications are not applicable for this report.

Staffing: Yes No

Details:

On behalf of the Head of Paid Service

DECISION INFORMATION

<p>Is the decision a Key Decision? A Key Decision is an executive decision which has a significant impact on two or more District wards or which results in income or expenditure to the Council above the following thresholds:</p> <p>Revenue - £75,000 <input type="checkbox"/> Capital - £150,000 <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <i>Please indicate which threshold applies</i></p>	No
<p>Is the decision subject to Call-In? <i>(Only Key Decisions are subject to Call-In)</i></p>	No

District Wards Significantly Affected	
<p>Consultation: Leader / Deputy Leader <input type="checkbox"/> Executive <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SLT <input type="checkbox"/> Relevant Service Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Members <input type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>Details: Portfolio Holder- Finance</p>

Links to Council Ambition: Customers, Economy and Environment.

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Appendix No.	Title