

REDDITCH TOWNS DEAL BOARD – 30th JUNE 2023, 9.30 AM

Notes of the Meeting

5.	<u>UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND</u> Nothing to add to note/message sent out by Georgina with agenda.	
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TOWN DEALS BOARD

30 JUNE 2023

UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND BRIEFING NOTE

1. Project Selection

- 1.1 In January 2023, the UKSPF task & finish sub-group assessed project proposals for strategic fit and deliverability. All projects under the Supporting Local Business investment priority were assessed and Communities & Place projects for years 1 and 2 were assessed. Assessment of People & Skills projects was deferred. Following this process, the Town Deals Board made recommendations to the council as to which projects responded best to the challenges and opportunities identified in the investment plan and would deliver the outputs and outcomes.
- 1.2 These recommendations were considered by the Head of Economic Development & Regeneration, following consultation with the portfolio holder for planning, economic development, commercialism and partnerships. Appendix 1 is a list of the approved projects.
- 1.3 Projects with a total value of £1,118,073 have been approved. This represents 44.7% of the total £2.5m allocation. Contracts have been issued to all of the external project deliverers.
- 1.4 A second round of project assessments has been undertaken by the UKSPF task & finish sub-group. These assessments relate to Communities & Place and Supporting Local Business projects. Appendix 2 is a list of the projects recommended for funding to be considered by the Council. If these recommendations are approved, a further £395,559 will be committed.
- 1.5 There will be a third meeting of the UKSPF task & finish sub-group in late July / early August to consider project proposals for the People & Skills investment priority. Following discussions with neighbouring districts, it has been agreed to accept proposals for county-wide projects to be considered alongside existing submissions.

2. Financial Position

2.1 The current financial position in Redditch is:

	2023/24	2024/25
Available Funding	£836,339*	£1,591,109
Administration	£50,041	£50,041
Funding Allocated	£714,591	£328,880
TDB Recommendations	£36,500	£359,059
People & Skills Funding	-	£720,590
Underspend	£35,207	£132,539

* including 2022/23 underspend

2.2 The release of 2023/24 funding is subject to approval of the credible plan to use 2022/23 underspend in year 2. As yet, the Government have not approved the year 2 plan or released the funding.

2.3 Assuming that the projects recommended for funding by this group are approved, 64% of the fund will have been allocated. The split between investment priorities is 33% - Communities & Place, 27% - Supporting Local Business, and 4% - Administration.

2.4 Based on projects approved and recommendations from this group, there is currently forecast to be an £35,207 underspend in 2023/24 of which £18,750 is capital.

2.5 Borough Council officers are developing proposals for those interventions that have no projects. These will also be considered by the task & finish sub-group at their next meeting. If approved, the underspend will be allocated to them.

APPENDIX 1 – LIST OF APPROVED PROJECTS IN REDDITCH

Project	Value	Description
Act on Energy Intensive Caseworker	£67,940	Support to those experiencing fuel poverty
Redditch Community Grants	£23,000	Grants to voluntary organisations
The Canopies event Space	£51,250	Development of a new, town centre events space
Town Centre Improvements – Lighting	£63,000	Scheme to improve lighting in town centre conservation area
Designing Out Crime Housing Improvement Programme	£120,000	Built environment improvements to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour

Moons Moat Volunteer Programme	£2,900	Volunteer led site improvements to a scheduled ancient monument
Volunteer It Yourself	£60,000	Community infrastructure projects creating volunteering and work experience opportunities
The Volunteer Centre	£14,071	Training and "matchmaking" volunteers with local organisations
Morton Stanley Park Improvements	£58,500	Improvements to neighbourhood park
Support to Local Business	£377,412	Support and grants for business start-up, innovation and clean growth
Betaden	£120,000	Commercial technology accelerator
Worcestershire Growth Hub	£160,000	Business support service providing diagnostics, advice, referrals and account management
Total	£1,118,073	

Approved April 2023

APPENDIX 2 – LIST OF PROJECTS RECOMMENDED FOR APPROVAL IN REDDITCH

Project	Value	Description
Act on Energy Intensive Caseworker	£73,394	Support to those experiencing fuel poverty. This is the continuation of a year 2 project.
The Canopies event Space	£6,000	Development of a new, town centre events space. This is the continuation of a year 2 project.
Town Centre Improvements – Lighting	£63,000	Scheme to improve lighting in town centre conservation area. This is the continuation of a year 2 project.
Designing Out Crime Housing Improvement Programme	£80,000	Built environment improvements to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour. This is the continuation of a year 2 project.
Moons Moat Volunteer Programme	£1,200	Volunteer led site improvements to a scheduled ancient monument. This is the continuation of a year 2 project.
Volunteer It Yourself	£30,000	Community infrastructure projects creating volunteering and work experience opportunities. This is the continuation of a year 2 project.

The Volunteer Centre	£19,547	Training and "matchmaking" volunteers with local organisations. This is the continuation of a year 2 project.
Room for Risk	£33,000	Provision of grants to community groups for the delivery of creative activities in unusual, redundant spaces.
Get Redditch Creating	£25,262	A cultural engagement project that will create a platform for the existing town centre cultural offer; develop community-led cultural activity; and develop new audiences for Reimagine Redditch, Creative People and Places.
Support to Local Business	£24,156	Energy efficiency support and grants for community organisations. This is the continuation of a year 2 project
Digital Heritage Trail	£40,000	The project will bring to life through digital arts technology the iconic heritage Royal Enfield Motorcycles and the Paolozzi Mosaic Murals in the Kingfisher Shopping Centre.
Total	£395,559	