

Item 13 - Welcome Back Fund

The attached report was considered by the Improvement & Innovation Advisory Committee on 23 June 2022. The relevant Minute extract is below.

Improvement & Innovation Advisory Committee (23 June 2022, Minute 9)

Members considered the report presented by the Economic Development & Programme Manager which reviewed the Welcome Back Fund Project. He explained to the Committee that the funding of £214,212 (available as £107,106 per year between 2020 and 2022) was for temporary projects that supported the high street.

He explained how the project worked closely with Town and Parish Councils to ensure local needs were met. The Committee heard that the Council successfully spent 99% of the allocation, with 100% of the claims on the funding paid in full. The Committee then heard an outline of the projects successfully funded in this way. He further explained that the UK Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan would develop upon these projects. The Committee discussed the success of the Project in forming relationships with smaller businesses and how these could be developed upon in the future.

Resolved: That the successful delivery of the Reopening High Street Safely/Welcome Back Fund and the positive impacts the interventions had across the district, be noted