



UK Government

LEVELLING  
— UP —



# UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)

# Background and Aims of fund

Building Pride in Place

Increasing Life Chances

Levelling Up

- Boost productivity
- Spread opportunities
- Restore a sense of community
- Empower local leaders and communities
- Based on local needs and opportunities

# Funding allocation

- £1,000,000 allocation for Sevenoaks District
- Funding from 2022 - 2025
- Investment Plan approval late Dec 22
- Guidance for monitoring and reporting still awaited
- Interventions from prescribed list
- Capital and Revenue
- Investment Priorities; Community & Place, Supporting Local Business and People & Skills

# Linkages



**SEVEN  
OAKS** DISTRICT  
SO MUCH MORE



Better Together A Community Plan for  
Sevenoaks District 2022–2032

- Sevenoaks District Business Board
- Town and Parish Councils
- Town Teams / Business Partnerships / Business Support
- Businesses, Community/Voluntary Orgs, Rural businesses
- Skills providers
- District MP's
- Existing partnership groups

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# Community and Place Projects

2022 -2025



£374,000

# Community & Place Interventions

- Capacity building and infrastructure to support local groups
- Community engagement and local regeneration
- Creation of an improvement to local green spaces
- Improvements to Town Centres and High Streets
- Enhancing existing cultural historic and heritage institutions

# Community & Place Interventions

Project Name	Description	Intervention	Outputs	Outcomes
<b>Social Value engine</b>	Tool for showing social value outcomes which can help leverage further investment and in managing grants	E11 - Capacity building and infrastructure to support local groups	Organisations receiving grant funding	Accurate analysis of outcomes and improvement in engagement numbers of residents
<b>Community Mobilisation</b>	To support and deliver community grants, mobilisation and community hub projects.	E12 - Community engagement and local regeneration	20 local community led projects or events supported	Improvement in engagement numbers of residents participating in community activities
<b>Community mobilisation grants</b>	Grant funding to support community mobilization projects	E12 - Community engagement and local regeneration	20 community based organisations receiving grants	Increase in users of facilities/ amenities
<b>Rural isolation</b>	Community Pop ups to bring people together and build community links	E12 - Community engagement and local regeneration	100 individuals reached	Increase in users of facilities / amenities
<b>Improving Green Spaces</b>	Sensory garden to be created	E3 - Creation of an improvement to Local Green Spaces	One facility supported	Increase in users of facilities/ amenities
<b>Supporting Town Centres</b>	Capital project covering small public realm and greening improvements in our key centres	E1- Improvements to Town Centres and High Streets	Amount of public realm created or improved	Improved perception of amenities
<b>Cultural / Creative Sector support</b>	Support cultural and creative businesses through seedfunding to showcase cultural and experiential offer	E6 Enhancing existing cultural, historic and heritage institutions offer	10 organisations receiving grants	Improved numbers of residents engaging with arts

# Supporting Local Business Projects

2022 -2025



£293,000



# Supporting Local Business Interventions

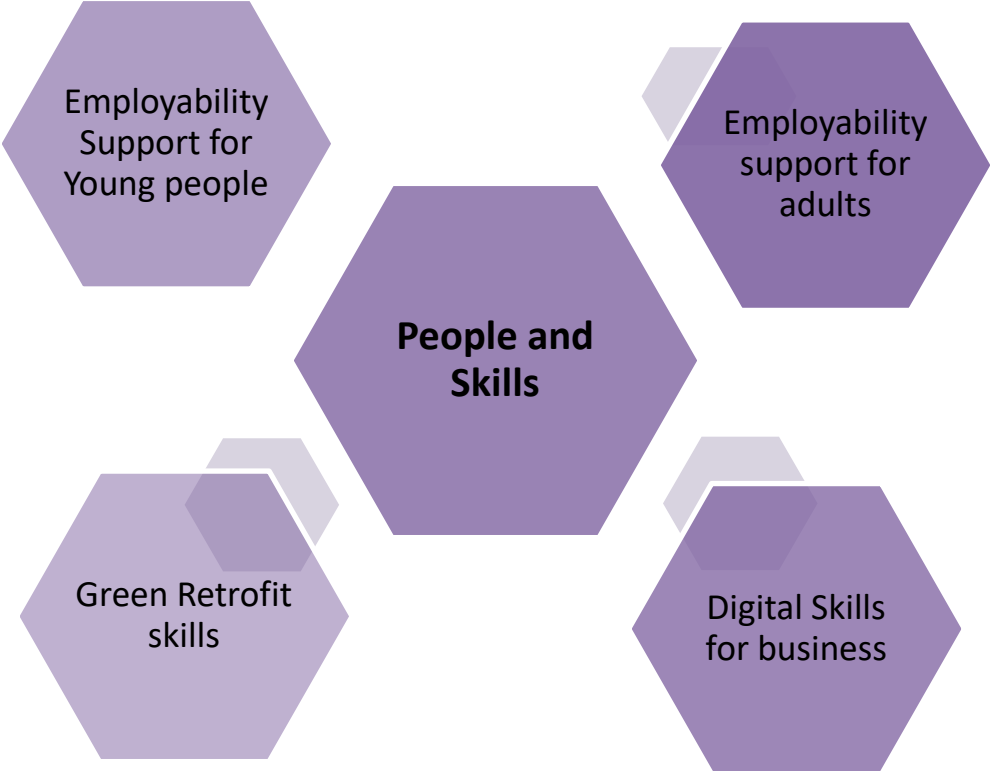
- Supporting decarbonisation and improving natural environment
- Funding for new and improvements to existing training hubs, business support offers, 'incubators' and 'accelerators' for local enterprise
- Support relevant feasibility studies
- Open markets and town centre retail and service sector
- Development and promotion of visitor economy

# Supporting Local Business Interventions

Project Name	Description	Intervention	Outputs	Outcomes
<b>West Kent Green Business Grant Scheme (partnership with TMBC)</b>	A grant scheme to encourage local businesses to move towards zero carbon through grants.	E29 - Supporting decarbonisation & improving natural environment	15 businesses receiving grants	10 businesses adopting new to firm technologies
<b>West Kent business support Programme (partnership with TMBC and TWBC)</b>	A co-ordinated programme of business support across West Kent with events, training and mentoring service as well as seed funding grants.	E24 - Training hubs, business support offers, incubators and accelerators	20 businesses receiving non-financial support  20 businesses receiving grants	15 early stage firms which increase their revenue following support
<b>Sector Skills Research</b>	Study to investigate key sectors and skills within the District	E31 - Support relevant feasibility studies	Number of feasibility studies supported	Increase in knowledge of sectors as a result of research, future skills and support needs identified
<b>Town Centre Activities</b>	Events and promotions to support town centres, development and to grow cultural offer across all our town centres	E16 - Open markets and town centre retail and service sector	Supporting markets, retail, leisure and hospitality sector	Increased footfall
<b>Alternative Visitor Economy Accommodation</b>	Supporting the visitor economy by encouraging alternative and pop up accommodation across the District	E17 - Development and promotion of visitor economy	Number of businesses receiving non-financial support	Increase in visitor numbers
<b>Digital Heritage and Visitor Economy Project</b>	Feasibility study to utilise augmented and virtual reality to promote heritage and visitor economy assets	E31 - support relevant feasibility studies	Number of feasibility studies supported	Increase in projects funded as a result of feasibility study

# People and Skills Projects

2024 -2025



£332,000

# People & Skills Interventions

- Employment support for economically inactive people
- Green skills courses
- Funding to support digital skills

No spending on this priority permitted until 2024/5

# People & Skills Interventions

Project Name	Description	Intervention	Outputs	Outcomes
<b>Growth Gurus</b>	Community hub pilot to delivery support and access to services and preventing worklessness via triage service and holistic approach delivering training, signposting and employability support to young people.	E33 - Employment support for economically inactive people	Number of people accessing mental and physical health support leading to employment	Number of people reporting increased employability through the development of interpersonal skills
<b>Support for Economically inactive adults</b>	Interventions for economically inactive adults who face barriers to employment. Outreach provision with specialist support provided	E33 - Employment support for economically inactive people	Number of people supported to access basic skills	Number of people engaged in job searching following support
<b>Green Retrofit skills</b>	Improved coverage and understanding of retrofit agenda in the District with training provided	E39 - Green Skills courses	Number of people gaining a qualification following support	Number of people completing a course following support
<b>Upskilling in Digital Skills</b>	Supporting business growth by delivering digital training to fill skills gaps.	E41 - Funding to support local digital skills	Number of people gaining a qualification on completion of a course	Number of people completing a course following support

# Rural England Prosperity Fund

## Additional funding to support rural areas for Supporting Local business & Community and Place

- £500,000 Capital only allocation for Sevenoaks District
- Supporting projects in rural areas
- Addendum submitted in November awaiting approval
- Spend to begin April 2023- end March 2025
- Expecting definition of rural to cover majority of District

## REPF Addendum - subject to approval

- West Kent business Capital grant programme based on feedback from businesses
- Small Business / Community Organisations
- Grants up to max of £25k
- Standard grant intervention rate of 50%
- West Kent authorities funding appointment of Rural support officer to support.

# Delivery

- Monitoring and evaluation is key to releasing the full funding allocation
- Investment plan states agreed project allocations outcomes and outputs to deliver
- Expanded Business Board to provide local partnership group to oversee funding
- Working in partnership key to successful delivery



# Key Next Steps

- Set up budgets and monitoring processes
- Recruitment of:
  - UKSPF Projects Officer
  - Town Centre Projects Officer
  - Rural Projects Officer
- Convene steering groups
- Set up business support programme
- Advertise grant opportunities

Further queries, please contact:

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Economic Development Team