

YORK UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND PARTNERSHIP BOARD (UK SPF PB)

10.30 – 12:30, 30th November 2023
Snow Room, West Offices, York

Meeting notes and action points

Attendees:

Chair: Councillor Pete Kilbane (Cllr K) City of York Council
Councillor Katie Lomas (Cllr L), City of York Council
Andrew Leeming (AL), York and North Yorkshire LEP
Jan Thornton (JT), Representing Rural issues
Liz Hutchinson (LH), DWP/ Job Centre Plus
Chris Russell (CR), University of York
Alison Semmence (AS), York CVS
Joy Kettle (JK), York College
Marc Fleetham (MF), York St John University
Kathryn Blacker (KB), York Museums Trust
Laura Williams (LW), City of York Council
Simon Brereton (SBr), City of York Council

In attendance:

Natasha Barbar-Evans (N B-E) Better Connect
Alex Kelley (AK), Better Connect
Alison Edeson, Bev Wills, Lou Edge, Penny Nicholson (City of York Council)

Apologies:

Penny Bainbridge (York Environment Forum), Carolyn Frank (Federation of Small Businesses), Sarah Loftus (Make It York), Tim Whitaker (Askham Bryan College)

1. Welcome and opening remarks from Cllr Pete Kilbane

Councillor Kilbane welcomed the members of the Partnership Board to the meeting and reminded them that the minutes would be published on the Council website. He drew the Boards' attention to the Terms of Reference and the requirement to register conflicts of interest.

2. Programme update

SBr gave an update on the progress of UK SPF in York, including an explanation of the outputs and outcomes tracker. 23 projects have now been commissioned, and further projects will begin soon following previous financial commitments. He outlined the results of the light touch review and presented the contents of his update report. Key points put to the Board were:

- E1 improvements to Acomb Front Street in Phase 1 have resulted in a scheme that does not fully meet the expectations of the local community. UKSPF Capital funding should be prioritised to support development and implementation of Phase 2 of Acomb Front Street, including engagement with residents and businesses – allowing the improvement works to be completed in a collaborative way with the local community.
- The funding of Archaeology on Prescription under E35. This is a social practical prescribing programme, and one of the highest scoring applications received
- Digital Inclusion to be commissioned for a further 12 months with York Learning under E36
- Unallocated capital funding from E22 (capital workspace) is re-focused to support other priorities in the Business Investment strand (revenue) and E1 (capital high street improvements), recognising the need to focus on project deliverability in the remaining 18 months of the plan.
- Exploration with York College for onsite training on green construction and retrofitting
- Better Connect (RISE) contract extension for an additional 12 months to allowed continued delivery of their work
- Delivery of work around post-16 NEET prevention and inclusive digital skills
- The Partnership Board should be expanded to include rural representation to steer REPF implementation and trade union

representation to better inform skills and in-work progression activities

- The move towards a Mayoral Combined Authority will impact current UK SPF and the Board should proactively look to retain and influence funding and decision making in York

The Board confirmed their approval of the findings of the light touch review, the allocations for E35 and E36, the extension of E33 for a further year, and the proposal to extend membership to include rural representatives and the Trade Unions.

3. Delivery update: presentation from RISE project

N B-E and AK outlined how UK SPF funding from York has enabled the RISE project to support people from vulnerable or minority groups into employment.

Proposals for an extension to the funding already provided are being developed, with consideration as to how this work will flow into other projects after 2025.

Cllr K extended his thanks and appreciation for their work.

4. People and Skills phase of UK SPF

SBR introduced Alison Edeson and Bev Wills from the Council's Skills team who will have a key role in delivering this phase of UK SPF with the Economy Team.

Opportunities are being explored around the 'work and employer' experience and digital options, such as media arts. Other sector ideas will also be considered. This stage is currently in the design phase, with a need to have a clear plan by the end of the current college year for Year 12 and 13 students who may be pre-NEET.

There will be a number of strands under this and SBr outlined some of the potential pipeline programmes including Archaeology on Prescription, digital inclusion and training for construction and retrofitting jobs.

5. Rural England Prosperity Funding (REPF)

There is £400k for the rural funding in the York local authority area. The proposed breakdown for the application of this funding, and a map, is included.

Discussions are underway with key organisations including the NFU, Community First Yorkshire and the Federation of Small Businesses as to how this can be put to most effective use, with the next development meeting to be scheduled for January 2024.

KB suggested that the Diocese of York may be able to support and Cllr K advised that Belgium and Dijon also have some interesting food sustainability projects that could be explored.

6. York UK SPF Assurance Framework overview

PN gave an outline of the work that had been undertaken on the UK SPF Assurance Framework for York.

Cllr L requested a minor amendment to the Equality section and noted that in future Equality Impact Assessments within the Council will also include Human Rights.

7. AOB

None

8. Next meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday 18th March 2024 from 13:30 to 15:30 in the Snow Room at West Offices.

ENDS

Declarations of Interest for the meeting of 30th November 2023

From	Declaration
Jan Thornton MBE	Vice Chair, Yorkshire Food, Farming & Rural Network Vice Chair, Community First Yorkshire Vice Chair, Fix Our Food Commission Deputy Chair, Grow Yorkshire York & North Yorkshire LEP Board member