

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Update to Partnership Board

Report of: Simon Brereton, Head of Economy

Date: 29th October 2024

Summary

1. We are now 2½ years into our 3 year UKSPF programme. Projects are delivering under all Priority Themes and all of our £5.1m budget is allocated to commissioned projects.
2. Since the last Partnership Board, key areas of progress have been:
 - Agreement by CYC Executive of Phase 2 for Acomb Front Street Improvements
 - Commissioning of the Construction Skills and Retrofit projects, with an additional feasibility study for Skills Village on York Central
 - Allocation of REPF to 11 rural community buildings
 - Allocation of Local Business funding to the Traders Fund (decisions imminent), two BID projects and to support the social enterprise ecosystem
 - Commissioning of two additional skills projects to support management and leadership development in early years settings and to develop the capacity of employability projects to engage with employers
 - Initial work has commenced to commission a programme-wide evaluation
 - Government headline announcement of an additional year at 60% of Year 3, detail awaited.

Financial Performance (see Appendix 1)

3. We are on track to spend 100% of the available funding, with the final split between the themes being 35% on Communities and Place, 28% on Supporting Local Business and 25% on People and Skills. The fixed allocation for REPF is 7% of the total, and the remaining 4% represents CYC management costs.
4. Although the Autumn Budget announced an additional transition year for UKSPF with 60% of the Year 3 budget, no local allocations have yet been announced for 2025-26. A recent email from MHCLG was clear that no funding would be able to be carried forward from 2024-25 to next year, regardless of the Budget announcement. It is not yet clear whether next year's transitional funding will be for separate City of York Council and North Yorkshire Council programmes, or for a single Mayoral Combined Authority programme.
5. Three elements of the programme are still dependent on uptake. Both the Construction Skills and Retrofit projects have £100k training funds, and the REPF business decarbonisation project has a £130k allocation. These are all in the early stages of delivery, so demand is to some extent unknown. For REPF, there may be scope to transfer any underspend to the community buildings fund, or to increase the allocation to the Biorenewables Development Centre. For the training funds, if there is underspend it is proposed to transfer these to the E1 pot under Communities and Place and fund further work in Acomb and/or the City Centre as in Year 1.

Recommendation: To ensure 100% spend is achieved, the Partnership Board is recommended to support the strategy set out in paragraph 5.

Delivery of Outputs and Outcomes (see Appendices 1 & 2)

6. Output and Outcome information for Q2 2024-25 is incomplete, and the figures shown in Appendices 2 & 3 are thus also incomplete. That said, delivery is strong against the targets, with some of the key indicators already close to or above 100% on Output measures. The Programme as a whole is performing well in developing volunteering opportunities, adapting the public realm, and supporting businesses.

7. For Outcomes, there is an inevitable lag in results arising from support, and we are only now beginning to see outcomes from projects. This is particularly apparent in the Business elements of the programme, where support providers are only now going back to those they have helped to ascertain the impacts on employment, innovation and business growth. For the Communities and Skills strands, there are Outcomes which have been achieved in full, and it is particularly pleasing to see the impacts on employability which have arisen the Better Connect and Archaeology on Prescription projects.

Updates since April 2024 Partnership Board

8. In April 2024, the Partnership Board highlighted the following:
- Development of additional case studies
 - Extending funding for York Unlocked
 - Creative and Tech ecosystem support
 - Construction Skills Initiative
 - REPF Business and Community Grants
9. These recommendations are reflected in the revised budget as shown in Appendix A.

Specifically, for these recommendations:

- A series of video case studies is being developed by the CYC Comms Team, including the following:
 - https://youtu.be/oozYKY_sniM?si=lrv4FxoEaIL_xK
 - <https://youtu.be/DBXrfwpOdsg?si=r6InALCVWJtTXOE4>
 - <https://youtu.be/XnB6jAl1b08?si=7KFIVhDyt61rRtle>
 - <https://youtu.be/9WYw5LJqE4c?si=cSYdZx78ZPLZguXb>
 - <https://youtu.be/jygGNrkbz2s>
- York Unlocked received additional funding for this year's event

- Aesthetica have been appointed to run the Creative and Tech ecosystem support project as part of their UNESCO Reignite work
- CHY Consultants have been appointed to run the Construction Skills Initiative, and have launched the Construction York site as a front door to the training they are coordinating. See <https://constructionyork.co.uk/>.
- York College, with partners from the Scarborough Construction Village and the Retrofit Academy, are running the Retrofit skills project.
- The Growth Company are working with rural businesses to develop decarbonisation plans and implement the findings through bespoke grants.
- Community First Yorkshire have identified 11 potential projects to make investments in rural community buildings which will improve environmental sustainability and/or digital connectivity

Autumn Budget 2024

10. The Budget Statement includes a commitment to “Continuing the UK Shared Prosperity Fund at a reduced level for a further year, providing £900 million; this transitional arrangement will allow local authorities to invest in local growth, in advance of wider funding reforms.”
11. This represents 60% of the current year budget, although the detail has yet to be announced. We assume that this will mean a 2025-26 budget of approximately £1.9m for York, and that this will remain as a Council fund, rather than going to the Combined Authority.
12. In preparation for our recent reporting window to MHCLG, we also received an announcement that no money would be allowed to be carried forward from 2024-25 to 2025-26. What was said is that “Any UKSPF, Multiply or REPF underspends at the end of 2024/25 must be repaid to MHCLG. Regardless of the outcome of the Budget on 30 October, there will be no mechanism to carry forward any UKSPF underspends into future years.”

13. This may, of course, change as the detail for Year 4 emerges in the coming weeks. However we are expecting to need to reduce the scale of the programme by 40% for 2025-26.

Evaluation

14. To support decisions for how best to allocate funding in Year 4, and to help partners understand the impact of the projects we have run, we are commissioning an evaluation of the overall programme. This will run in parallel with the North Yorkshire evaluation which is already underway.

ENDS

ECONOMIC GROWTH TEAM

Appendix A: Programme spend and budget as at September 30th 2024

| York UKSPF Programme | Actual 2022-23 | | Actual 2023-24 | | Budget 2024-25 | | Total Budget | | Overall Total |
|---|----------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| | Revenue | Capital | Revenue | Capital | Revenue | Capital | Revenue | Capital | |
| Communities & Place | 317,992 | 64,464 | 394,039 | 161,160 | 352,891 | 660,000 | 1,064,922 | 885,624 | 1,950,546 |
| E1 Town centres & High Streets | 293,392 | 64,464 | 200,557 | 161,160 | 13,275 | 660,000 | 507,224 | 885,624 | 1,392,848 |
| <i>Xmas 2022</i> | <i>10,000</i> | | | | | | <i>10,000</i> | | <i>10,000</i> |
| <i>Acomb Front Street</i> | <i>181,144</i> | <i>64,464</i> | <i>61,763</i> | <i>153,291</i> | | <i>643,000</i> | <i>242,907</i> | <i>860,755</i> | <i>1,103,662</i> |
| <i>City Centre access and security</i> | <i>102,248</i> | | <i>138,794</i> | <i>7,869</i> | <i>13,275</i> | <i>17,000</i> | <i>254,317</i> | <i>24,869</i> | <i>279,186</i> |
| E6 Arts, culture and events | | | 42,316 | | 89,948 | | 132,264 | | 132,264 |
| <i>VIY</i> | | | <i>20,000</i> | | <i>40,000</i> | | <i>60,000</i> | | <i>60,000</i> |
| <i>York Unlocked</i> | | | <i>9,500</i> | | <i>19,314</i> | | <i>28,814</i> | | <i>28,814</i> |
| <i>Aesthetica</i> | | | <i>6,766</i> | | <i>13,534</i> | | <i>20,300</i> | | <i>20,300</i> |
| <i>Next Door But One</i> | | | <i>6,050</i> | | <i>12,100</i> | | <i>18,150</i> | | <i>18,150</i> |
| <i>YNY Culture Strategy</i> | | | | | <i>5,000</i> | | <i>5,000</i> | | <i>5,000</i> |
| E9 Volunteering support | | | 48,000 | | 96,000 | | 144,000 | | 144,000 |
| <i>York Volunteer Centre</i> | | | <i>48,000</i> | | <i>96,000</i> | | <i>144,000</i> | | <i>144,000</i> |
| E11 VCS infrastructure support | | | 48,000 | | 72,000 | | 120,000 | | 120,000 |
| <i>York CVS support to VCS</i> | | | <i>48,000</i> | | <i>72,000</i> | | <i>120,000</i> | | <i>120,000</i> |
| E13 Community energy advice | 10,200 | | 53,834 | | 55,000 | | 119,034 | | 119,034 |
| <i>York Community Energy</i> | <i>10,200</i> | | <i>53,834</i> | | <i>55,000</i> | | <i>119,034</i> | | <i>119,034</i> |
| E14 Feasibility studies | 14,400 | | 1,332 | | 26,668 | | 42,400 | | 42,400 |
| <i>York CVS support to VCS projects</i> | <i>14,400</i> | | <i>1,332</i> | | <i>26,668</i> | | <i>42,400</i> | | <i>42,400</i> |
| Local Business | 104,667 | - | 442,057 | - | 1,006,064 | - | 1,552,788 | - | 1,552,788 |
| E16 Open markets | | | 31,607 | | 220,181 | | 251,788 | | 251,788 |
| <i>Open for Business: HVM project</i> | | | <i>1,500</i> | | | | <i>1,500</i> | | <i>1,500</i> |

ECONOMIC GROWTH TEAM

| York UKSPF Programme | Actual 2022-23 | | Actual 2023-24 | | Budget 2024-25 | | Total Budget | | Overall |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|------------------|---------|------------------|---------|------------------|
| | Revenue | Capital | Revenue | Capital | Revenue | Capital | Revenue | Capital | Total |
| <i>Purple Flag</i> | | | 16,000 | | 16,000 | | 32,000 | | 32,000 |
| <i>Blue Badge Consultation</i> | | | 14,107 | | 17,102 | | 31,209 | | 31,209 |
| <i>BID City Centre Projects 2025</i> | | | | | 53,333 | | 53,333 | | 53,333 |
| <i>Our City Centre</i> | | | | | 80,000 | | 80,000 | | 80,000 |
| <i>Traders fund</i> | | | | | 53,746 | | 53,746 | | 53,746 |
| E23 Ecosystem support | | | 5,000 | | 61,326 | | 66,326 | | 66,326 |
| <i>UNESCO REIGNITE</i> | | | 5,000 | | 43,000 | | 48,000 | | 48,000 |
| <i>Social economy ecosystem</i> | | | | | 18,326 | | 18,326 | | 18,326 |
| E24 Business support offers | 80,800 | | 275,770 | | 530,674 | | 887,244 | | 887,244 |
| <i>Start-Up Saturday</i> | 25,000 | | | | | | 25,000 | | 25,000 |
| <i>Courageous females</i> | | | 4,500 | | | | 4,500 | | 4,500 |
| <i>York Sector Growth Programme</i> | 55,800 | | 151,395 | | 297,566 | | 504,761 | | 504,761 |
| <i>Innovate York</i> | | | 10,814 | | 43,256 | | 54,070 | | 54,070 |
| <i>Start and Grow York</i> | | | 109,061 | | 164,852 | | 273,913 | | 273,913 |
| <i>YNYMCA Skills & Workforce</i> | | | | | 25,000 | | 25,000 | | 25,000 |
| E26 Social enterprise support | | | 41,145 | | 54,855 | | 96,000 | | 96,000 |
| <i>IGNITE Social Enterprise</i> | | | 41,145 | | 54,855 | | 96,000 | | 96,000 |
| E29 Decarbonisation business support | | | 76,685 | | 115,028 | | 191,713 | | 191,713 |
| <i>Growth Company</i> | | | 76,685 | | 115,028 | | 191,713 | | 191,713 |
| E31 Feasibility studies | 23,867 | | 11,850 | | 24,000 | | 59,717 | | 59,717 |
| <i>Regen team technical support</i> | 23,867 | | 11,850 | | 24,000 | | 59,717 | | 59,717 |
| People & Skills | - | - | 264,000 | - | 1,110,876 | - | 1,374,876 | - | 1,374,876 |
| E33 Supported employment | | | 264,000 | | 433,000 | | 697,000 | | 697,000 |
| <i>Better Connect RISE project</i> | | | 264,000 | | 264,000 | | 528,000 | | 528,000 |

ECONOMIC GROWTH TEAM

| York UKSPF Programme | Actual 2022-23 | | Actual 2023-24 | | Budget 2024-25 | | Total Budget | | Overall |
|--|----------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | Revenue | Capital | Revenue | Capital | Revenue | Capital | Revenue | Capital | Total |
| <i>Fresh Start</i> | | | | | 169,000 | | 169,000 | | 169,000 |
| E35 Volunteering | | | | | 85,000 | | 85,000 | | 85,000 |
| <i>Archaeology on Prescription</i> | | | | | 85,000 | | 85,000 | | 85,000 |
| E36 Digital inclusion | | | | | 88,096 | | 88,096 | | 88,096 |
| <i>Inclusive Digital - York Learning</i> | | | | | 88,096 | | 88,096 | | 88,096 |
| E38 Local priorities | | | | | 376,000 | | 376,000 | | 376,000 |
| <i>CSI York - CHY</i> | | | | | 299,740 | | 299,740 | | 299,740 |
| <i>Skills Village Feasibility</i> | | | | | 18,000 | | 18,000 | | 18,000 |
| <i>Skills Team</i> | | | | | 9,260 | | 9,260 | | 9,260 |
| <i>Early Years t pre-bootcamp</i> | | | | | 10,000 | | 10,000 | | 10,000 |
| <i>Ambitious about employment</i> | | | | | 39,000 | | 39,000 | | 39,000 |
| E39 Green skills | | | | | 128,780 | | 128,780 | | 128,780 |
| <i>Housing retro housing skills</i> | | | | | 128,780 | | 128,780 | | 128,780 |
| Evaluation | | | | | 25,000 | | 25,000 | | 25,000 |
| Management and Administration | - | | 74,381 | | 129,919 | | 204,300 | | 204,300 |
| <i>Veritau assurance costs</i> | | | 4,144 | | 2,604 | | 6,748 | | 6,748 |
| <i>York SPF Team</i> | | | 70,237 | | 127,315 | | 197,552 | | 197,552 |
| Rural England Prosperity Fund | | | | - | | 400,000 | | 400,000 | 400,000 |
| <i>BioYorkshire via BDC</i> | | | | - | | 100,000 | | 100,000 | 100,000 |
| <i>Business Grants</i> | | | | | | 130,000 | | 130,000 | 130,000 |
| <i>Community Grants</i> | | | | | | 170,000 | | 170,000 | 170,000 |
| Total | 422,659 | 64,464 | 1,174,477 | 161,160 | 2,624,750 | 1,060,000 | 4,221,886 | 1,285,624 | 5,507,510 |

Appendix B: Outputs Tracker

(Outputs as at 29th October 2024, prior to receipt of all project reporting)

| Output | Delivered | Contracted | DHLUC Plan | Committed | Delivered |
|---|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Public realm created or improved (M2) | 1202 | 2500 | 2000 | 125% | 60% |
| Low or zero carbon energy infrastructure installed | 15 | 5 | 5 | 100% | 300% |
| Land made wheelchair accessible/step free (M2) | 2383 | 2600 | 2600 | 100% | 92% |
| Organisations supported to receive grants | 4 | 10 | 10 | 100% | 40% |
| Organisations receiving non-financial support | 223 | 249 | 249 | 100% | 90% |
| Households receiving support | 153 | 200 | 200 | 100% | 77% |
| Households supported to take energy efficiency measures | 64 | 100 | 100 | 100% | 64% |
| Local events or activities supported | 81 | 81 | 81 | 100% | 100% |
| Potential entrepreneurs assisted to be enterprise ready | 74 | 85 | 74 | 115% | 100% |
| Volunteering opportunities supported | 558 | 679 | 679 | 100% | 82% |
| Projects successfully completed | 25 | 18 | 18 | 100% | 139% |
| Number of people reached | 478 | 1000 | 1000 | 100% | 48% |
| People attending training sessions | 82 | 160 | 160 | 100% | 51% |
| Feasibility studies developed as a result of support | 11 | 15 | 15 | 100% | 73% |
| Local markets created or supported | 3 | 3 | 3 | 100% | 100% |
| Enterprises receiving non-financial support | 635 | 696 | 646 | 108% | 98% |
| Potential entrepreneurs assisted to be enterprise ready | 52 | 212 | 182 | 116% | 28% |
| People attending training sessions | 271 | 95 | 95 | 100% | 285% |
| Decarbonisation plans developed as a result of support | 22 | 75 | 75 | 100% | 29% |
| People engaging with keyworker support services | 182 | 230 | 200 | 115% | 91% |
| People supported to engage with the benefits system | 21 | 20 | 20 | 100% | 105% |

ECONOMIC GROWTH TEAM

| Output | Delivered | Contracted | DHLUC Plan | Committed | Delivered |
|---|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| People accessing health support leading to employment | 21 | 20 | 20 | 100% | 105% |
| People supported to engage in job-searching | 18 | 17 | 17 | 100% | 106% |
| People receiving support to gain employment | 40 | 119 | 76 | 157% | 53% |
| People supported to engage in life skills | 67 | 60 | 50 | 120% | 134% |
| Number of volunteering opportunities supported | 144 | 115 | 50 | 230% | 288% |
| People taking part in work experience programmes | 107 | 195 | 50 | 390% | 214% |
| People retraining | - | 12 | 12 | 100% | 0% |
| People in employment engaging with the skills system | 30 | 55 | 12 | 458% | 250% |
| People receiving support to gain a vocational licence | - | 50 | 50 | 100% | 0% |
| People supported to gain a qualification | 51 | 58 | 44 | 132% | 116% |

Appendix C: Outcomes Tracker

(Outputs as at 29th October 2024, prior to receipt of all project reporting)

| Outcome | Delivered | Contracted | DHLUC Plan | Committed | Delivered |
|--|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Increased footfall | 31249 | 31299 | 31249 | 100% | 100% |
| Increased visitor numbers | 4294 | 5550 | 5550 | 100% | 77% |
| People reporting improved facilities/amenities | 856 | 1162 | 1162 | 100% | 74% |
| Improved engagement numbers | 223 | 223 | 223 | 100% | 100% |
| New community-led programmes | 29 | 41 | 41 | 100% | 71% |
| Volunteering opportunities created | 416 | 450 | 450 | 100% | 92% |
| Households taking up energy efficiency measures | 153 | 218 | 218 | 100% | 70% |
| Projects arising from funded feasibility studies | 1 | 5 | 5 | 100% | 20% |
| Jobs created as a result of support | - | 97 | 65 | 149% | 0% |
| Jobs safeguarded as a result of support | 4 | 80 | 80 | 100% | 5% |
| New enterprises created as a result of support | 3 | 74 | 40 | 185% | 8% |
| Increased amount of investment (£) | 129775 | 150000 | 150000 | 100% | 87% |
| Enterprises adopting new technologies or processes | 4 | 10 | 10 | 100% | 40% |
| Estimated Tonnes of CO2e reduced emissions | 120 | 450 | 375 | 120% | 32% |
| Enterprises adopting new/improved products or services | - | 49 | 49 | 100% | 0% |
| Projects arising from funded feasibility studies | - | 10 | 10 | 100% | 0% |
| People engaging with benefits system | 21 | 20 | 20 | 100% | 105% |
| People in supported employment | 11 | 10 | 10 | 100% | 110% |
| People engaging with mainstream healthcare service | 7 | 5 | 5 | 100% | 140% |
| People engaged in job-searching | 21 | 20 | 20 | 100% | 105% |

ECONOMIC GROWTH TEAM

| Outcome | Delivered | Contracted | DHLUC Plan | Committed | Delivered |
|---|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| People in employment/self-employment | 17 | 37 | 37 | 100% | 46% |
| People sustaining employment for 6 months | - | 15 | 15 | 100% | 0% |
| People in education/training following support | 5 | 23 | 23 | 100% | 22% |
| People with basic skills following support | 14 | 12 | 12 | 100% | 117% |
| People experiencing reduced structural barriers | 107 | 149 | 50 | 298% | 214% |
| People familiarised with employers expectations | 101 | 155 | 50 | 310% | 202% |
| People gaining a qualification or completing a course | - | 128 | 84 | 152% | 0% |
| People gaining qualifications, licences and skills | 33 | 34 | 12 | 283% | 275% |