

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: 'Communities and Place' supports events in towns - will events in rural areas be supported too?

A: There will be opportunities across the region that include our villages and communities

Q: Can farm businesses be supported to diversify and create jobs?

A: Yes, depending on the nature of the proposal and that it cannot be funded through other grant schemes and fits with the SPF priorities.

Q: Is there capacity to support with the applications?

A: There is some capacity available via the UK SPF teams in both Local Authorities however both teams are not yet fully resourced.

Q: What is the total funding pot for this 'application opening' for Powys

A: For the first 2 calls publicised, there is up to £900k available under Communities and Place, up to £1.7m for Supporting Local Business and £983k for Multiply. People & Skills is not open for applications in the first two open calls.

Q: What happens with potential collaborative projects with one partner in Ceredigion and one in Powys?

A: Due to the difference in the focus of the calls in both Local Authorities, projects of a regional nature should contact both areas to seek advice. Applicants should complete Q20 of the application form to provide information on how the project intends to deliver regionally.

Q: Could you explain the "at least £50k"?

A: In Powys we are looking for minimum grant applications of £50k and maximum amounts of £250k per annum, apart from feasibility studies, whereby the minimum application for funding is £10k and the maximum amount is £50k.

Q: If we are looking for projects to continue to the end of 2024/25 (financial year end, March 25), do we need to get in touch with you to discuss that before submission?

A: If applicants apply for funding that goes into financial year 2024/25, funding for that year will initially be approved in principle and will be dependent upon project delivery in 2023/24 and upon confirmation of budget allocation from UK Government for 2024/25.

Q: Why do projects need to end delivery in December 2024 when the Programme runs to 31st March 2025?

A: We are currently only supporting project activity to the end of December 2024. This is due to needing sufficient time to close the programme for the region.

Q: What is the level of capital and revenue funding that can be applied for within an application?

A: The UKSPF is mainly a revenue fund with a small amount of capital funding. Capital is only available in the two investment priorities of 'Communities and Place' and 'Supporting Local Business'. Each project will be different so we cannot be prescriptive in terms of the level of capital and revenue and each application will be assessed on a case by case basis. Any application will need to ensure that the funding being requested (capital / revenue) meets the requirements of the project, to ensure successful delivery of the outcomes.

Q: Would you consider two bids from the same organisation, specifically one to Communities & Place and another to supporting Local Businesses?

A: Yes there is no limit on the number of applications that can be submitted by one organisation but applicants should ensure that they have the capacity to deliver should more than one application be approved.

Q: Can you please explain what, if any, match funding applications are required or are grants 100%?

A: There is no requirement for match funding however any match funding contributions would help with the value for money assessment of your application, particularly with larger projects.

Q: Can SPF funding be used to match Welsh Government or National Lottery funding?

A: Potentially but we would suggest that you check with the relevant funding provider. We would also need further details on the project and the type of match funding you are intending to use.

Q: If my application is unsuccessful, will I be able to reapply?

A: Depending on the reasons for your application being unsuccessful, there may be an opportunity to reapply following discussions with the relevant delivery team and should sufficient funds be available.

Q: Why aren't Powys accepting applications within People & Skills in the first two Open Calls?

A: The People and Skills budget has been prioritised for internal Powys County Council projects. This is because the local authority opened up an internal round for 2022/23 for projects that were ready to deliver, in order to safeguard the budget. Some of these projects had a longer delivery period which meant that budget was also allocated for 2023/24 & 2024/25. This has resulted in very little budget being available in 2023/24 within People & Skills. However, if funding becomes available within 2023/24, open calls under this theme will be considered.

Q: It was stated in the webinar on 16th March 2023, that the following budget was available for open calls 1 & 2 in Powys:

- Communities & Place - £900k
- Supporting Local Business – £1.7m
- People & Skills - £0
- Multiply - £983k

Why is this different to what was outlined in the Regional Investment Plan?

A: UK Government had stressed that if our Year 1 allocation (£3.4m) was not spent, there was a real risk that we would lose it. Therefore, like many other local authorities across Wales, Powys County Council made the decision to open an internal call for projects, that were ready to deliver and spend budget before 31/03/23. There would not have been time to go out to open call for external applications unfortunately, due to application and appraisal timescales, given the delayed announcement and release of funding. 33 projects were approved, with budget allocated to 2022-23 and further funding for 2023-24 & 2024-25 approved in principle but dependant upon performance. This has had an impact on the available budget overall. A list of the internal projects will be made available on the Powys website [UK Shared Prosperity Fund Open For Applications - Powys County Council](#).