



Report to Policy Committee

Author/Lead Officer of Report: Ben Morley, Head of Programmes and Accountable Body

Tel: 07909898754

Report of: *Kate Martin*

Report to: *Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee*

Date of Decision: *21st June 2022*

Subject: *UK Shared Prosperity Fund*

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given?				
Has appropriate consultation taken place?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a Climate Impact Assessment (CIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-				
<p><i>“The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”</i></p>				

Purpose of Report:

This report provides the Economic Development and Skills Policy Committee with an update of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) announced by Government in April 2022 and identifies several issues that are developing through the process to develop an SPF Investment Plan for South Yorkshire.

The report also identifies several projects currently funded by European Structural Investment Funds (ESIF) that will be coming to an end over the next twelve to eighteen months and how they might benefit from SPF funding in the future.

Recommendations:

That the Committee notes the report and supports:

- The Council promoting the engagement of key City organisations in the consultation process associated with the development of the Shared Prosperity Fund Investment Plan.
- The development of potential Shared Prosperity Fund projects and activity that might benefit support from Year 1 funding.
- The undertaking of internal evaluations of existing EU Funded projects to determine whether they would benefit from Shared Prosperity Fund support in the future, either continuing in their current form. being adapted to improve performance or ended.

Background Papers:

UKSPF Prospectus, April 2022

Lead Officer to complete:-		
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.	Finance: Gill Brailsford
		Legal: David Hollis
		Equalities & Consultation: Annemarie Johnston
		Climate: Jessica Rick
	<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>	
2	EMT member who approved submission:	<i>Kate Martin</i>
3	Committee Chair consulted:	<i>Cllr Martin Smith</i>
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Committee by the EMT member indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.	
	Lead Officer Name: <i>Ben Morley</i>	Job Title: <i>Head of Programmes and Accountable Body</i>
	Date: 31 st May 2022	

1. PROPOSAL

1.1.1 This report provides the Economic Development and Skills Committee with information in respect to the recently launched UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) and sets out the process for its implementation in South Yorkshire.

1.1.2 The report also identifies several projects currently funded by European Structural Investment Funds (ESIF) that will be coming to an end over the next twelve to eighteen months and how they might benefit from SPF funding in the future.

1.2 UK Shared Prosperity Fund

1.2.1 The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) is the Government's major economic development fund, replacing EU Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) and aims to contribute to 'Levelling Up' agenda by providing financial assistance (largely revenue) to boost productivity, tackle geographical inequalities and improve life chances, especially in deprived areas.

The four the Levelling Up objectives are:

- Boost productivity, pay, jobs and living standards by growing the private sector, especially in those places where they are lagging
- Spread opportunities and improve public services, especially in those places where they are weakest
- Restore a sense of community, local pride and belonging, especially in those places where they have been lost
- Empower local leaders and communities, especially in those places lacking local agency

Government's primary goal of the SPF is to build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK. This aligns with Levelling Up White Paper 'missions', particularly: 'By 2030, pride in place, such as people's satisfaction with their town centre and engagement in local culture and community, will have risen in every area of the UK, with the gap between the top performing and other areas closing.'

1.2.2 The SPF has three Investment Priorities and will operate over the next three years. The Investment Priorities and their objectives are:

Community and Place

- Strengthening our social fabric and fostering a sense of local pride and belonging, through investment in activities that enhance physical, cultural and social ties and access to amenities, such as community infrastructure and local green space, and community-led projects.
- Building resilient, healthy and safe neighbourhoods, through investment in quality places that people want to live, work, play and learn in, through targeted improvements to the built and natural environment innovative approaches to crime prevention.

Supporting Local Business

- Creating jobs and boosting community cohesion, through investments that build on existing industries and institutions, and range from support for starting businesses to visible improvements to local retail, hospitality and leisure sector facilities.
- Promoting networking and collaboration, through interventions that bring together businesses and partners within and across sectors to share knowledge, expertise and resources, and stimulate innovation and growth.
- Increasing private sector investment in growth-enhancing activities, through targeted support for small and medium-sized businesses to undertake new-to-firm innovation, adopt productivity-enhancing, energy efficient and low carbon technologies and techniques, and start or grow their exports.

People and Skills

- Boosting core skills and support adults to progress in work, by targeting adults with no or low level qualifications and skills in maths, and upskill the working population, yielding personal and societal economic impact, and by encouraging innovative approaches to reducing adult learning barriers (Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland only. In England, this is delivered through the Department for Education's Multiply programme).
- Reducing levels of economic inactivity through investment in bespoke intensive life and employment support tailored to local need. Investment should facilitate the join-up of mainstream provision and local services within an area for participants, through the use of one-to-one keyworker support, improving employment outcomes for specific cohorts who face labour market barriers.
- Supporting people furthest from the labour market to overcome barriers to work by providing cohesive, locally tailored support including access to basic skills.
- Supporting local areas to fund gaps in local skills provision to support people to progress in work, and supplement local adult skills provision e.g., by providing additional volumes; delivering provision through wider range of routes or enabling more intensive/innovative provision, both qualification based, and non-qualification based. This should be supplementary to provision available through national employment and skills programmes.

People and Skills funding only becomes available in the third year and Government has ringfenced a proportion of SPF for an Adult Numeracy programme known as 'Multiply'.

For each Investment Priority there are a set of 'Interventions' with associated outputs and outcomes. Investment Plans for SPF are required to select some or all the Interventions and this will become the basis for the future use of the funding. A full list of Interventions is provided in Appendix 1.

- 1.2.3 The South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (MCA) will administer SPF in South Yorkshire and the region has been allocated of £38m of 'Core SPF' plus Multiply. The South Yorkshire level of funding is determined by notional allocations to each Local Authority. As such the calculation for Sheffield as part of the SY allocation is £15.5m of which £13m is revenue. In addition, there is a further £7m to South Yorkshire for 'Multiply'. The profile of funding is provided in the table below:

SPF - SY	22-23	23-24	24-25	Total
Capital	£ 857,930	£ 1,501,378	£ 3,217,238	£ 5,576,545
Revenue	£ 5,127,628	£ 8,973,350	£ 19,228,607	£ 33,329,585
Total	£ 5,985,558	£ 10,474,727	£ 22,445,844	£ 38,906,130

Multiply	£2,203,768	£2,526,270	£2,526,270	£7,256,309
-----------------	------------	------------	------------	-------------------

SPF - Sheffield	22-23	23-24	24-25	Total
Revenue	£ 2,156,423	£ 3,647,949	£ 7,188,077	£ 12,992,448
Capital	£ 239,603	£ 545,096	£ 1,797,019	£ 2,581,718
Total	£ 2,396,026	£ 4,193,045	£ 8,985,096	£ 15,574,166

Multiply	£446,878	£782,037	£1,675,793	£2,904,708
-----------------	----------	----------	------------	-------------------

Importantly the guidance indicates that all funding must be spent 'in year' with any underspend returned to Government. It also worth noting the 'ramping up' of SPF over the three years as it starts to replace EU funding.

1.2.4 The final year SPF allocation in 24/25 is broadly in line with the level of current ESIF funding available in South Yorkshire. However analysis suggests that in 2021 South Yorkshire would have fallen from its current EU 'Transition Region' to 'Less Developed Region' which would have seen a significant increase in funding from the EU which has been estimated at £125m per annum.

1.2.5 As nominated Lead Body for SPF the MCA and has responsibility to:

- set out the Plan for the funds, in collaboration with partners and stakeholders (the SPF Investment Plan),
- manage the funding allocation,
- assess and approving applications,
- process payments,
- undertake day-to-day monitoring,
- report into central government, and
- evaluate the impact of the funding.

1.2.6 The Investment Plan

The MCA is required to submit an Investment Plan by 1st August 2022 with the Plan addressing three core issues:

1. Local context: This an opportunity for places to set out their local evidence of opportunities and challenges through the lens of the three investment priorities for SPF.
2. Selection of Outcomes and Interventions: This is where places will identify the outcomes they wish to target based on local context, and the interventions they wish to prioritise, under each investment priority, from the menu of options. These should be clearly linked to local opportunities and challenges.
3. Delivery: The Plan is also required to cover:
 - Approach to delivery and governance.

- Expenditure and deliverables (outputs and outcomes)
- Capacity and resource requirements.

The Investment Plan itself is not required to set out specific projects that will be supported by SPF funding but rather sets out a justification for investment against the Interventions selected from the pre-determined list in Appendix 1.

1.2.7 Engagement/Consultation

Government guidance suggests that there is no formal statutory consultation required, nor a requirement to establish a new formal “board”, but every effort must be made to engage meaningfully.

Time and capacity issues significantly constrain the ability to engage and consult. However, it is proposed that a South Yorkshire Partnership Board is established to oversee the SPF process and that every effort is made to undertake consultation with interested parties.

1.2.8 Accessing Funding

Whilst SPF guidance suggests that the funding can be provided via procurement or commissioning by the Lead Authority it is most likely that funds will be provided as grants to successful applicants following the publication of a ‘Call for Proposals’. ‘Calls’ will set out the need for projects to generate outputs and outcomes that address the issues and interventions raised in the Investment Plan. Any party will then be able to submit an application to deliver the activity that aligns with the Call. As such the Calls process will have an element of competition with the MCA assessing projects to determine which ones deliver the best outcomes for the funding available.

1.3 UKPSF Progress to Date

1.3.1 SYMCA must submit the Investment Plan to Government by 1st August 2022 and has started to work with the four SY LAs to consider the development of the Investment Plan. Key points to note following meetings with SYMCA to date are:

1. The SPF Interventions and Outcomes are expected to align with the South Yorkshire Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) as well as local strategies where applicable. For Sheffield this will include the One Year Plan, the (Covid) Business Recovery Plan and the emerging Local Economic Assessment and City Strategy.
2. Given the limited resources provided with SPF it is necessary to consider how other funding streams might align with the interventions.
3. As can be seen from Appendix 1 there are a broad range of SPF Interventions most of which have some form of alignment with the SEP. With limited funding available the Investment Plan will need to have focus on those Interventions that have a significant impact and/or cannot be funded from other sources.
4. There is an agreed need for meaningful engagement across a range of South Yorkshire organisations and to this effect the MCA are proposing webinars to

allow interested parties to have an opportunity to influence the final version of the Investment Plan.

5. There is expectation that some SPF will be used to fund Business Support and People and Skills activity at a regional level to minimise delivery costs, but the Community and Place activity might see some local devolvement.
6. An advisory Programme Board is likely to be established for looking at the design of calls and advising on proposals. The Programme Board will have representation from a range of organisations across South Yorkshire including the business community (eg Chamber of Commerce), higher education and the voluntary/community sector.
7. How SPF can be used to address the loss of European funding in Years Two and Three (see below) in particular the impact on the Voluntary and Community sector who may be required to deliver activity across all three SPF themes.

1.3.2 Whilst the process is being run by SYMCA, Sheffield City Council officers are supporting and influencing where it can. Some key points to date include:

1. Whether projects in Year One should, subject to eligibility, focus on the immediate issues of the Cost of Living crisis and the recovery of a post Covid economy. In doing so, this would suggest a requirement to engage and support the Vol-Com sector as they themselves recover from the impacts of Covid whilst helping their communities.
2. Highlighting the importance of progressing quickly to ensure Year One activity starts as soon as possible to avoid any underspend. This included the potential for SYMCA to progress at risk and look to seek project applications and award funding ahead of Government approval of the Investment Plan.
3. Whether Year One is, in effect, devolved (financially and/or administratively) to the Local Authorities so that they can co-ordinate activity quickly to ensure Year One expenditure. This may mean Year One budgets in line with the Government allocations and will potentially constrain the ability to construct South Yorkshire wide project activity, but the following two years would look to address this.
4. Ensuring that the consultation process is as inclusive as possible given the time and capacity constraints.

1.3.3 Without an Investment Plan drafted at this stage it is not possible to identify what projects might be appropriate for Year One activity however potential projects are starting to be considered that might be able to respond to Calls for Proposals once they are published.

1.3.4 SYMCA has now appointed a consultant to assist with the development of the Investment Plan to ensure it is submitted on time. It is expected that Government's approval of the Plan and confirmation of the funding will be made in October.

1.4 EU Funded Projects

1.4.1 At the end of December 2020, the current European Programme of Structural Funds (ESIF) came to an end. The Programme allows both European Social Fund (ESF) and European Regional Development Funds (ERDF) to be defrayed for a further three years meaning of project activity and expenditure must be completed by the end of 2023.

1.4.2 Sheffield, the City Council, together with South Yorkshire partners, have benefitted significantly from ERDF and ESF funding for over 20 years and still have several 'live' projects providing economic and social benefits to businesses and communities. In addition, there are several national programmes that benefit the city. However, with the end of the EU funding projects will cease resulting in a loss of key support activity and will have other implications for groups and staff involved in project delivery.

1.4.3 A summary of existing EU revenue projects operating in Sheffield is provided below (excluding national programmes):

ERDF - Project Name	Brief Description	Accountable Body	Sheffield Only or SY	Total Sheffield Cost £	SHEFFIELD ERDF	Delivery End Date
Launchpad	Support for pre start and early stage businesses (up to 2 years) through workshop programme and 121.	BMBC	SY & Princes Trust	£1,002,289	£601,734	01/03/2023
Business Productivity	Support for Growth Business (at least one year trading) through 121 business support and a grant of £12,500	BMBC	SY	£462,064	£277,238	01/06/2023
RISE Enhancement	Support for SME's to recruit Graduates with a grant to subsidise the first 3 months salary costs	SCC	OLD SCR	£1,282,772	£769,663	01/06/2023
Low Carbon	Support for businesses to reduce carbon (tonnes) within their business with a grant of up to 12,500 to support implementation of carbon reducing measures	SCC	SY	£2,304,683	£1,382,810	01/06/2023
ESF - Project Name	Brief Description	Accountable Body	Sheffield Only or SY	Total Sheffield Cost £	Sheffield ESF £	Delivery End Date
Ambition (Pathways To Progression)	Furthest from the labour market into employment	SCC	SY	£4,647,360	£3,013,213	31/12/2023
Pathways to Success	Furthest from the labour market into employment	SCC	SY exc Doncaster	£5,804,730	£3,599,325	31/12/2023
Sector Routeways*	Sector specific employment scheme	SCC	SCC & BMBC	£2,521,213	£1,514,213	31/12/2023
Advance Digital*	Digital upskilling for SMEs and their employees	BMBC	SCC & BMBC	£1,274,164	£727,108	31/12/2023
Advance SCR*	Specialist employment and skills brokerage for SMEs	DMBC	DMBC, SCC & BMBC	£1,032,531	£619,519	31/12/2023

1.4.4 A number of these projects have been delivered at a South Yorkshire level reflecting the similar nature of the issues facing the business and resident communities across all four Local Authorities. Where appropriate the ESIF Programme has encouraged a single Lead partner to deliver the project with named partners who assist with the delivery of the activity within their areas. In these cases, partners are not just other LA's but can include the private or vol-com sectors. As such these organisations also face the prospect of funding coming to an end over the next two years with implications for the activity and staffing.

1.4.5 The UKSPF is seen as a potential source of funding to maintain these projects or enable them to adapt to a post-covid and cost of living crises environment. However given the expected demands on SPF from all sectors it is likely that these projects cannot simply continue without some prioritisation to determine whether they should continue, adapt or end. It is therefore proposed to undertake an appropriate level of evaluation to determine the approach to take. These choices will need to not only

consider the implications on the project outputs and outcomes but also other implications such as staffing requirements.

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE ?

2.1 The SPF Investment Plan will be designed to align with the South Yorkshire Strategic Economic Plan and the local economic priorities of the four SY Local Authorities. The Plan will identify interventions that will have three primary benefits to Sheffield:

- Investment in places and their communities.
- Investment in local businesses
- Investment in people and skills.

SYMCA's engagement with the Council and local partners should ensure the Investment Plan delivers support to a number of priority areas of the Sheffield economy and as such will contribute directly to parts of the One Year Plan, the Business Recovery Plan and the emerging City Strategy.

2.2 Existing and previous EU funding has enabled significant investment in Sheffield's physical environment, its people and businesses. An internal evaluation of existing and recent activity will determine whether SPF funding or alternative sources are best used in continuing this activity or being used to support new projects whose outcomes are better aligned with the City's needs and priorities.

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

3.1 There has been no consultation in respect to the contents of this report however the development of a SPF Investment Plan will require engagement with a number of key organisations in the city to ensure the Plan reflects local expertise across a number of sectors.

3.2 At the Council's request, SYMCA has agreed to run online consultation events to allow South Yorkshire organisations to contribute to the development of the Investment Plan. Officers will promote the event once details are available to relevant organisations active in Sheffield to ensure they are included and that the events are accessible.

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1 Equality of Opportunity Implications

4.1.1 There are no equalities implications, positive or negative, from proposed implementation process of the UKSPF.

4.1.2 The UKSPF is designed to address many issues facing residents and communities across the City, in particular the Investment Priorities of Communities and Place and People and Skills will set out to address economic and social inequalities as part of the Levelling Up agenda. The Investment Plan consultation will inclusive and accessible to all relevant organisations to ensure the Investment Plan reflects the needs of the residents, businesses and communities. SYMCA will be expected to

design Calls for Proposals that align with these Investment Priorities and should help address these equality issues.

- 4.1.3 Should the Council develop any projects with UKSPF funding it will be expected that an EIA will be required as part of the approval process.

4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

- 4.2.1 There are no direct Financial and Commercial implications as a result of this report. However, the report does highlight two issues to note:

a) The opportunity to access SPF funding for future project activity in Sheffield and South Yorkshire.

b) That ERDF and ESF funding will be coming to an end in 2023 with implications for service delivery, staff retention and potential redundancies if alternative activity/funding is not secured.

4.3 Legal Implications

- 4.3.1 There are no Legal Implications contained within this report.

4.4 Other Implications

4.4.1 HR Implications

The termination of a number of EU funded projects might have HR implications for permanent members of staff whose posts are in part, or in full, are funded by that project. Staff might face redundancy unless funding can be found for project continuation or alternative activity.

The evaluation of project activity and consideration of future activity will be an important part of determining what options are progressed in line with the strategic needs of the City.

4.4.2 Climate Change

The contents of this report do not have any direct impact on the City's approach to Climate Change and is provided for information only.

The consultation events will give an opportunity to raise the need to develop an Investment Plan that takes account of Climate Change whilst focussing on the three Investment Priorities.

Future project activity, funded with SPF or otherwise will need to consider their impact on Climate Change. Furthermore, some SPF funded projects may have benefits directly associated to mitigating Climate Change.

5. **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 In respect to the SPF activity ultimately it will be the SYMCA that submits the Investment Plan based on the advice provided to it from local partners. There will be options to consider in respect to the contents of this Plan which SYMCA will need to determine.

5.2 As such the Council has two options:

Option 1: It can fully engage with the SPF development process being undertaken by SYMCA and use its influence to ensure the Investment Plan reflects the needs of the City.

Option 2: It can choose not to engage with the SPF development process which might mean the Investment Plan does not address the economic and social needs of the City.

Option 1 is considered the preferred option.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 The Committee is asked to note the report for information so that it can consider future recommendations with a better understanding of the strategic and external funding context.

6.2 The engagement of key organisations in the development of the SPF Investment Plan is considered essential to ensure there is full 'buy in' to a plan that has 'Place' as one of main categories of intervention.

6.3 That the Council is well placed to quickly respond to Year One Call for Proposals published by SYMCA to maximum SPF impact for the benefit of Sheffield residents and businesses.

6.4 An internal evaluation of current and recent EU funded projects will determine whether future funding bids should be developed for their continuation or whether alternative routes are required to deliver the same or alternative benefits. The outcome of the evaluation will also inform potential HR implications that will result from external funding ending.

APPENDIX 1: LIST OF INTERVENTIONS

Communities and Place

- E1: Funding for improvements to town centres and high streets, including better accessibility for disabled people, including capital spend and running costs.
- E2: Funding for new, or improvements to existing, community and neighbourhood infrastructure projects including those that increase communities' resilience to natural hazards, such as flooding. This could cover capital spend and running costs.
- E3: Creation of and improvements to local green spaces, community gardens, watercourses and embankments, along with incorporating natural features into wider public spaces.
- E4: Enhanced support for existing cultural, historic and heritage institutions that make up the local cultural heritage offer.
- E5: Design and management of the built and landscaped environment to 'design out crime'.
- E6: Support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities.
- E7: Support for active travel enhancements in the local area.
- E8: Funding for the development and promotion of wider campaigns which encourage people to visit and explore the local area.
- E9: Funding for impactful volunteering and/or social action projects to develop social and human capital in local places.
- E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues; to bring people together.
- E11: Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups.
- E12: Investment in community engagement schemes to support community involvement in decision making in local regeneration.
- E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency, and combat fuel poverty and climate change.
- E14: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies.
- E15: Investment and support for digital infrastructure for local community facilities.

Supporting Local Business

- E16: Investment in open markets and improvements to town centre retail and service sector infrastructure, with wrap around support for small businesses.
- E17: Funding for the development and promotion (both trade and consumer) of the visitor economy, such as local attractions, trails, tours and tourism products more generally.
- E18: Supporting Made Smarter Adoption: Providing tailored expert advice, matched grants and leadership training to enable manufacturing SMEs to adopt industrial digital technology solutions including artificial intelligence; robotics and autonomous systems; additive manufacturing; industrial internet of things; virtual reality; data analytics. The support is proven to leverage high levels of private investment into technologies that drive growth, productivity, efficiency and resilience in manufacturing.
- E19: Increasing investment in research and development at the local level. Investment to support the diffusion of innovation knowledge and activities. Support the commercialisation of ideas, encouraging collaboration and accelerating the path to market so that more ideas translate into industrial and commercial practices.
- E20: Research and development grants supporting the development of innovative products and services.

- E21: Funding for the development and support of appropriate innovation infrastructure at the local level.
- E22: Investing in enterprise infrastructure and employment/innovation site development projects. This can help to unlock site development projects which will support growth in places.
- E23: Strengthening local entrepreneurial ecosystems and supporting businesses at all stages of their development to start, sustain, grow and innovate, including through local networks.
- E24: Funding for new and improvements to existing training hubs, business support offers, 'incubators' and 'accelerators' for local enterprise (including social enterprise) which can support entrepreneurs and start-ups through the early stages of development and growth by offering a combination of services including account management, advice, resources, training, coaching, mentorship, and access to workspace.
- E25: Grants to help places bid for and host international business events and conferences that support wider local growth sectors.
- E26: Support for growing the local social economy, including community businesses, cooperatives, and social enterprises.
- E27: Funding to develop angel investor networks nationwide.
- E28: Export Grants to support businesses to grow their overseas trading, supporting local employment.
- E29: Supporting decarbonisation and improving the natural environment whilst growing the local economy. Taking a whole systems approach to invest in infrastructure to deliver effective decarbonisation across energy, buildings and transport and beyond, in line with our legally binding climate target. Maximising existing or emerging local strengths in low carbon technologies, goods and services to take advantage of the growing global opportunity.
- E30: Business support measures to drive employment growth, particularly in areas of higher unemployment.
- E31: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies.
- E32: Investment in resilience infrastructure and nature-based solutions that protect local businesses and community areas from natural hazards including flooding and coastal erosion.

People and Skills

- E33: Employment support for economically inactive people: Intensive and wrap-around one-to-one support to move people closer towards mainstream provision and employment, supplemented by additional and/or specialist life and basic skills (digital, English, maths* and ESOL) support where there are local provision gaps.
- E34: Courses including basic skills (digital, English, maths (via Multiply) and ESOL), and life skills and career skills** provision for people who are unable to access training through the adult education budget or wrap around support detailed above. Supplemented by financial support for learners to enrol onto courses and complete qualifications.
- E35: Activities such as enrichment and volunteering to improve opportunities and promote wellbeing.
- E36: Intervention to increase levels of digital inclusion, with a focus on essential digital skills, communicating the benefits of getting (safely) online, and in-community support to provide users with the confidence and trust to stay online.
- E37: Tailored support to help people in employment, who are not supported by mainstream provision to address barriers to accessing education and training courses. This includes supporting the retention of groups who are likely to leave the labour market early.

- E38: Support for local areas to fund local skills needs. This includes technical and vocational qualifications and courses up to level 2 and training for vocational licences relevant to local area needs and high-value qualifications where there is a need for additional skills capacity that is not being met through other provision.
- E39: Green skills courses targeted around ensuring we have the skilled workforce to achieve the government's net zero and wider environmental ambitions.
- E40: Retraining support for those in high carbon sectors.
- E41: Funding to support local digital skills.