

Report to:	Cabinet	Date: 11 June 2025
Subject:	Local Growth and Place Flexible Grant (formerly UKSPF Y4)	
Report of	Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Growth	

Summary

1. This note provides an update regarding GM UK Shared Prosperity Fund Years 1-3 and the extension of this now called Local Growth and Place Flexible Grant (LGPFPG) programme for Bury including Bury's grant allocation.

Recommendation(s)

2. Cabinet members note the update and the allocations for the Local Growth and Place Flexible Grant Funding

Reasons for recommendation(s)

3. n/a

Alternative options considered and rejected

4. n/a

Report Author and Contact Details:

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Background

5. GM UKSPF Year 1-3 Programme Update

- 5.1 Bury Council was allocated UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) through the following interventions:
 - Communities and Place Investment Priority fund (E1/3/6 Investment Interventions). A total of £1,662,478 was awarded. The funding has been allocated to 10 projects consisting of council projects and external projects.
 - Investing in enterprise infrastructure and employment/innovation site development projects (E22 Investment Intervention). A total of £1,270,423 was awarded. This funding is supporting the delivery of the Radcliffe Enterprise Centre (Radcliffe Works). However, due to numerous issues a

contingency project of Radcliffe Market Chambers was used to complete the defrayment of the funding and an internal funding swap has been approved. This means the capital for the Market Chambers will now be used for the completion of the Radcliffe Library

- 5.2 The final submission was made to GMCA on 14th April 2025 in line with their deadline request.
- 5.3 This will be the final update on UKSPF.

6. Local Growth and Place Flexible Grant 2025/2026

- 6.1 An additional year of funding (formerly UKSPF Year 4 programme) was confirmed with the key focus on Local Growth and Place to feed into the expected outputs and outcomes linked to integrated settlement and the Greater Manchester Strategy. The grant could be used to continue existing UKSPF activity, and fund "shovel ready" capital projects however, the projects proposed could not replace existing committed projects, they must be projects that couldn't exist without the flexible grant i.e. must be new activity. It was also stressed that funding would be to support additional activity and should not be used to deliver core services/fill funding gaps in resources that do not deliver the outcomes directly.
- 6.2 The total amount awarded to Bury is £1,794,628. This amount includes an award for administration costs of £65,000 which means the total amount available for project delivery is £1,729,628. LGPFG will form a single flexible grant includes what was E1,3,6 and E22 under UKSPF Years 1- 3.
- 6.3 Reporting templates are yet to be received however will be lighter touch, on a quarterly basis, with payments made quarterly in arrears based on evidence of spend.

7. Project shortlisting

- 7.1 All project leads were asked to complete a Local Authority Project Template providing an overview/description of the Flexible Grants proposal demonstrating how the project fits with Outcomes and Outputs Framework. Project leads were asked to demonstrate ability to deliver the project spend and provide a financial profile.
- 7.2 Project submissions were assessed by an internal project panel against deliverability, outcomes and outputs, VFM and alignment with corporate priorities.
- 7.3 The submitted projects were evaluated against grant criteria, corporate priorities, delivery of outputs and outcomes and deliverability and reach by an internal panel. The panel included: Eamonn O'Brien (Leader), Cllr Charlotte Morris, Paul Lakin, Jacqui Dennis, Laura Pollington

- 7.4 The table at appendix A shows final projects recommended by the internal panel.
- 7.5 These have been submitted to GMCA on the by the deadline of 5th March 2025.

Project Name	Description	Total Project Costs
Bury Means Business Creative Content/Place Promoter (borough wide)	Post to promote Place and growth across all media channels	£43,500
Bury Culture Project (borough wide)	A range of projects including events to support visitor economy, creative industries and investment in our venues and spaces with the community	£236,000
Bury Indoor Market Development	Commission study to support the development of the indoor Market Hall location	£170,000
Town Centres Regeneration	Deliver a series of public realm initiatives to enhance key areas within our town centres and deliver some of the aspirations of existing the Town Plans.	£680,128
Radcliffe Enterprise Centre and business Support	Completion of the transformation of Radcliffe Library to Enterprise centre.	£600,000
Admin Fee	Costs set out in the GFA to manage the programme.	£65,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURE SUMMARY		£1,794,628

8. Next Step

- 8.1 Project Leads have been notified and templates for reporting will be shared once received from GMCA.
- 8.2 LGPFG Deliver Project Board has been set up with Terms of Reference produced and monthly meeting scheduled.
- 8.3 Governance of schemes that are to be defrayed through other organisations to be agreed and confirmed (e.g. Culture grants to community organisations)

Links with the Corporate Priorities:

Please summarise how this links to the Let's Do It Strategy.

9. Local – Town Centre improvements across Bury, Whitefield and Ramsbottom to support delivery Town Plans. Bury Market development proposals.
10. Enterprising – Radcliffe Enterprise Centre completion to deliver SFR aspirations to support local businesses and deliver growth in the town
11. Together – Bury Culture Strategy delivery and support communities to engage.
12. Strengths - Place Promotion post to promote Bury to residents, businesses and visitors.

Equality Impact and Considerations:

*Please provide an explanation of the outcome(s) of an initial or full EIA and make **specific reference regarding the protected characteristic of Looked After Children**. There must be a signed off EIA template appended with a full analysis or explanation as to why an analysis is not needed for the report to be put forward to cabinet.*

Intranet link to EIA documents is [here](#).

Sign off to be completed by the Council's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Manager (contact l.cawley@bury.gov.uk for advice).

13. EIA not required as this is an update on this Grant Funding Agreement with GMCA with no changes to policy or practices within the council.

Environmental Impact and Considerations:

*Please provide an explanation of the Environmental impact of this decision. Please include the impact on both **Carbon emissions** (contact climate@bury.gov.uk for advice) and **Biodiversity** (contact c.m.wilkinson@bury.gov.uk for advice)*

14. n/a

Assessment and Mitigation of Risk:

Risk / opportunity	Mitigation
Inability to spend funding within timeframe	Project Management governance in place to monitor and manage
Costs exceeding budget	Cost planning before start and monitor and manage monthly with Project Board
Third Party grants via Culture	Governance to be set up and monitor and manage in service

Legal Implications:

15. The receipt and allocation of the Local Growth and Place Flexible Grant is subject to the provisions of the Subsidy Control Act 2023 and the Council must ensure that the use of the Grant does not constitute an unlawful subsidy. Lawful procurement processes should be used to select commercial recipients of grant money or grant agreements used where appropriate.

Financial Implications:

To be completed by the Council's Section 151 Officer.

16. Finance notes the report above and are working with the grant administrators & project managers to accurately monitor expenditure and support on grant returns.

Appendices:

Background papers:

Please list any background documents to this report and include a hyperlink where possible.

Please include a glossary of terms, abbreviations and acronyms used in this report.

Term	Meaning
UKSPF	United Kingdom Shared Prosperity Fund
LGPFPG	Local Growth and Place Flexible Grant