

EX10. UK Shared Prosperity Fund

The Executive considered a report by the Director of Place Services which updated on the development of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund award. The fund covered the period April 2022 to March 2025 to help build pride in place and increase life chances. Falkirk had been awarded £6,183,623 which included £1,067,855 to support the national Multiply programme for maths skills.

The UK Government had identified three investment priorities: support local business; people, skills, and investment; and communities and place. Each investment priority had set interventions with outputs and outcomes to be achieved that aligned to the missions set out in the White Paper for levelling up. The UK Government had also allocated funds to each local authority to deliver the Multiply programme.

A management Steering Group to govern the programme with nominated sub leads for each investment priority and Multiply had been set up. Regular meetings had taken place to prepare the Investment Plan being submitted on 25 July 2022 to UK Government.

The funding would be released to Councils: 12% in year 1, 24% in year 2 and 64% in year 3, from that allocation a further % of spend must be capital: 10.4% in year 1, 12.5% in year 2 and 17.9% in year 3. An overview of the proposed plan for delivery was detailed in the report.

Through the Multiply programme Falkirk Council Employment and Training Unit and Community Learning and Development Team would work with Forth Valley College, wider stakeholders and providers to co-ordinate and deliver a range of community based and online numeracy and maths skills courses to key priority groups. A blended approach would be deployed.

The final Investment Plan would be presented to Group Leaders before submission to UK Government on 25 July 2022.

Decision

The Executive:-

- (1) noted the financial award to Falkirk Council from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund;**
- (2) agreed the activity within each investment priority is delivered as summarised in section 5.7;**
- (3) agreed the funding for each investment priority is allocated as outlined in section 7.1; and**
- (4) noted the final Investment Plan will go to Group Leaders for information before being submitted to UK Government on 25 July 2022.**