

Impact Assessment

UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Mid Wales Regional Investment Plan



DRAFT

14/07/2022

Reference: 1203-5407-6449-3854

Impact Assessments (IA) are a process of assessing how our proposals and decisions might impact upon different types of people and communities and developing proposals in line with relevant legislation.

This is a legal requirement, and ensures the Council considers key legislation, including Equalities, Welsh language, Future Generations, Socio-economic Duty and Risk when developing proposals.

It will also help the Council make the best possible decisions for the people of Powys.

1. Proposal Information

Author name	Rebecca Jeremy, Economic Strategy and Climate Lead
Head of service	Diane Reynolds, Head of Digital Services
Portfolio holder	David Selby, portfolio holder for Cabinet Member for a More Prosperous Powys
Proposal title	UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Mid Wales Regional Investment Plan
Description of proposal	<p>The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a central pillar of the UK government's ambitious Levelling Up agenda and a significant component of its support for places across the UK. It provides £2.6 billion of new funding for local investment by March 2025, with all areas of the UK receiving an allocation from the Fund via a funding formula rather than a competition.</p> <p>The UKSPF will support the UK government's wider commitment to level up all parts of the UK by delivering on each of the levelling up objectives. There are three UKSPF investment priorities: Communities and Place, Supporting Local Business and People and Skills (including Multiply).</p> <p>Powys County Council is required to work with Ceredigion County Council to develop a Regional Investment Plan for Mid Wales, that is to be submitted to UK Government by 1st August 2022 – that will set the framework for the investment. This will then allow projects to come forward for funding.</p> <p>It is expected that projects developed under the SPF will be aware of and address, the wellbeing of current and future generations, whilst addressing the needs of the people Powys County Council currently serves.</p>

2. Savings and Consultation requirements

Profile of savings delivery

Consultation requirements

Consultation required?	No
Justification	Public and staff consultations have taken place.

3. Impact on other service areas, geographical areas and data protection

3a. Impact on other service areas

[Redacted]

3b. Impact on geographical locations

The entire county

3c. Data protection impact assessment

Will the proposal involve processing the personal details of individuals?	No
Is Powys County Council the data controller?	No
Further information	[Redacted]

4. Impact on Vision 2025

4a. The economy

<p>Impact</p>	<p>The Supporting Local Business investment priority will enable places to fund interventions that support local businesses to thrive, innovate and grow.</p> <p>The Communities and Place investment priority will enable places to invest to restore their community spaces and relationships and create the foundations for economic development at the neighbourhood level. The intention of this is to strengthen the social fabric of communities, supporting in building pride in place.</p> <p>The People and Skills investment priority can provide funding to help reduce the barriers some people face to employment and support them to move towards employment and education. This theme can also target funding into skills for local areas to support employment and local growth.</p> <p>Multiply (as part of the People and Skills Investment Priority) will provide support for adult numeracy.</p>
<p>Impact rating</p>	<p>Very good</p>
<p>Mitigation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
<p>Mitigated impact rating</p>	<p>Very good</p>

4b. Health and care

<p>Impact</p>	<p>The SPF will provide investment into the following which will support this priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment in Skills Investment for Local Business Investment in Communities and Place Supporting People into Employment
<p>Impact rating</p>	<p>Very good</p>

Mitigation	Each place will have the flexibility to invest across a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, increase life chances, to help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

4c. Learning and skills

Impact	<p>The People and Skills investment priority can provide funding to help reduce the barriers some people face to employment and support them to move towards employment and education. This then can also target funding into skills for local areas to support employment and local growth. This will increase life chances, and will help spread and create opportunity for all.</p> <p>Multiply (as part of the People and Skills Investment Priority) will provide support for adult numeracy. This will reduce barriers to employment and improve employment opportunities and outcomes for families living in poverty. This will have a positive impact on all generations accessing education.</p>
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	We will provide high quality educational opportunities for all our learners. We will embrace the challenges of being a large rural organisation and use technology to improve access for all.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

4d. Residents and communities

Impact	The Communities and Place investment priority will enable places to invest to restore their community spaces and relationships and create the foundations for economic development at the neighbourhood level. The intention of this is to strengthen the social fabric of communities, supporting in building pride in place.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	The Communities and Place investment interventions will contribute to the PCC priority of 'Connected Communities'.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

4e. Evidence

The UKSPF is a 3 year fund from 21-22 to 24-5. It provides the opportunity for Services to progress existing priorities within corporate strategies and plans in the short-medium term that work towards our long-term priorities. Projects will need to be informed by existing Corporate Strategies/plans and Impact Assessed accordingly.

5. Impact on well-being goals including Welsh language and equalities

5a. A prosperous Wales

Impact	The Supporting Local Business investment priority will enable places to fund interventions that support local businesses to thrive, innovate and grow. The People and Skills investment priority can provide funding to help reduce the barriers some people face to employment and support them to move towards employment and education. This then can also target funding into skills for local areas to support employment and local growth. It will be an opportunity to contribute to the progressive plan to encourage locally owned and run small businesses at the heart of thriving towns and villages, contributing to a circular economy creating local and sustainable jobs.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	PCC service areas have collaborated and contributed to the UKSPF application process and will continue to do so for the life-time of the fund.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

5b. A resilient Wales

Impact	<p>The Communities and Place SPF investment priority will enable places to invest to restore their community and green spaces and create relationships and to enhance the foundations for social and economic development at the neighbourhood-level. The intention of this is to strengthen the social fabric of communities, supporting in building pride in place.</p> <p>The funding can also be used to increase communities' resilience to natural hazards such as flooding and can be used to transition the community to low carbon living.</p>
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Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Ensure that projects complement PCC's Climate Strategy.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

5c. A healthier Wales

Impact	Funding via the three UKSPF investment priorities of Communities and Place, Supporting Local Business and People and Skills will positively benefit people's physical and mental well-being with interventions that will share prosperity with all sectors of the communities in Powys. Many projects will directly address issues highlighted in the The Progressive Partnership for Powys document where Supporting Vulnerable People is a priority.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	The Communities and Place SPF investment priority will enable places to create the foundations for improved health and wellbeing. The intention of this is to strengthen the social and economic fabric of communities and build pride in place.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

5d. A Wales of cohesive communities

Impact	Many of the UKSPF interventions chosen by PCC will improve, enhance or support communities, with thorough opportunities to be involved, community spaces, and improved safe places. Active travel and internet or mobile connectivity are included in the proposed interventions. A public consultation exercise has been successfully delivered to contribute to the choice of interventions being put forward.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	All funded projects, will look to generate wealth, provide jobs and training by efficiently using funding from the programmes. In addition, improvement to transport and green infrastructure will improve accessibility, connecting people more effectively to facilities and jobs.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

5e. A globally responsible Wales

Impact	<p>The fund of £27 million from the UKSPF will improve the broad outcomes for everyone by sharing prosperity through interventions that help Communities and Place, Support Local Businesses and enhance the Skills of people of all abilities. Vulnerable, disadvantaged or seldom heard communities will be helped directly and indirectly by many of the interventions chosen by PCC.</p> <p>All projects will seek to improve the economic, social and cultural well-being of the community.</p>
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Awareness of the PCC Climate Change Strategy, including commitment to the circular economy and local procurement.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

5f. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Using Welsh

Impact	<p>The three UKSPF investment priorities: Communities and Place, Supporting Local Business and People and Skills will support the PCC priority of Developing Prosperous towns and villages and will in turn help to sustain Welsh speaking communities.</p> <p>Organisations who benefit from funding will be expected to comply with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, the Council's Welsh Language Standards and assist in meeting actions in the Welsh Language Strategy.</p>
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Projects will align with the actions in the Council's Welsh Language Strategy, working in partnership with Welsh medium local organisations for support and delivery where needed.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

Promoting Welsh

Impact	The use of the Welsh language will be promoted and organisations who benefit from funding will be expected to comply with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, the Council's Welsh Language Standards and assist in meeting the actions in the Welsh Language Strategy.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Projects will align with the actions in the Council's Welsh Language Strategy, working in partnership with Welsh medium local organisations for support and delivery where needed.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

Sports, Art & Recreation

Impact	UKSPF Interventions offer a wide range of opportunities for projects that can positively contribute to the overall participation in sport, art and recreation. For example, there are specific interventions relating to sports facilities, culture and heritage.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Not specified

5g. A more equal Wales

Age

Impact	UKSPF Interventions can be offered to all citizens of all abilities and ages.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Not specified

Disability

Impact	The UKSPF offers broad interventions that can help citizens of all abilities with a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, increase life chances, to help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Not specified

Gender Reassignment

Impact	The UKSPF offers broad interventions that can help all citizens with a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, increase life chances, to help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Not specified

Marriage or Civil Partnership

Impact	The UKSPF offers broad interventions that can help all citizens with a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, increase life chances, to help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Not specified

Race

Impact	The UKSPF offers broad interventions that can help all citizens with a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, increase life chances, to help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Not specified

Religion or Belief

Impact	The UKSPF offers broad interventions that can help all citizens with a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, increase life chances, to help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Not specified

Sex

Impact	The UKSPF offers broad interventions that can help all citizens with a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, increase life chances, to help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Not specified

Sexual Orientation

Impact	The UKSPF offers broad interventions that can help all citizens with a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, increase life chances, to help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Not specified

Pregnancy and Maternity

Impact	The UKSPF offers broad interventions that can help all citizens with a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, increase life chances, to help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Not specified

Socio-economic Duty

Impact	The UKSPF offers broad interventions that can help all citizens with a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, increase life chances, to help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging. The People and Skills and Multiply interventions will be available to all people and will equally enhance the life chances of participants.
Impact rating	Very good
Mitigation	Not specified

5h. Evidence

Each place will have the flexibility to invest across a range of activities that represent the right solutions to improve local pride in place, increase life chances, to help spread and create opportunity, and a sense of community and belonging.

The balance of priorities should reflect local need and opportunity. The evidence to support each intervention is being gathered to support the preparation of the Local Investment Plan.

6. Impact on key guiding principles & workforce

6a. Sustainable development principles

Long-term

<p>Impact</p>	<p>The UKSPF will support the UK government's wider commitment to level up all parts of the UK by delivering on each of the levelling up objectives to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <p>The primary goal of the UKSPF is to build pride in place and increase life changes across the UK.</p> <p>It is anticipated that the £27 million investment in Powys will have a long lasting impact and legacy in the county.</p>
<p>Impact rating</p>	<p>Good</p>
<p>Mitigation</p>	<p>Not specified</p>

Collaboration

<p>Impact</p>	<p>Working with other organisations will be key to the successful delivery of the SPF Investment Plan.</p>
<p>Impact rating</p>	<p>Good</p>

Mitigation	Ensure full consultation and engagement with stakeholders throughout the lifetime of the programme.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

Involvement (including Communication and Engagement)

Impact	<p>An external consultation exercise was undertaken in June to capture views on what people felt were the priority investments for Powys and Ceredigion. A total of 176 responses were received from across all sectors.</p> <p>A webinar is being held on 11th July to further engage with the communities within Powys and Ceredigion.</p>
Impact rating	Good
Mitigation	Not specified

Prevention

Impact	<p>A process of internal and external engagement has been undertaken throughout May and June including: thematic workshops; meetings with key stakeholders; cross-party working group meetings; MP engagement; presentations at the Regional Skills Partnership and Growing Mid Wales Partnership meetings.</p> <p>An evidence base has been gathered to inform need and demand for specific interventions and a mapping exercise has taken place to map interventions against corporate priorities and other strategic documents.</p>
Impact rating	Good
Mitigation	Continually monitor and review throughout the lifetime of the Fund.
Mitigated impact rating	Very good

Integration

Impact	None
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6b. Impact on the workforce

Impact	There will be additional workload as a result of receiving the funding allocation however the Economy Service has been restructured to be able to manage the anticipated additional workload. Should further resource be required, there is sufficient budget within the Fund to allow for additional staff to be recruited.
Impact rating	Neutral
Mitigation	Not specified

6c. Impact on payroll

Impact	None
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6d. Welsh language impact on staff

Impact	None
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6e. Impact on apprenticeships

Impact	None
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6f. Evidence

No evidence is provided as it is not envisaged that there will be an impact on the workforce.

The only requirement may be additional staff resource to manage the Fund but there is sufficient budget for this from UK Government and won't impact on existing staff.

7. Likelihood and risks

Risk 2

Description	Not fulfilling UK Government's requirements in terms of completion of the Regional Investment Plan				
Likelihood score	3	Impact score	4	Risk rating	12.0
Mitigation	Yes - regular liaison with Officers from UK Government should ensure that requirements are being met.				

Residual likelihood score	2	Residual impact score	2	Residual risk rating	4.0
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Risk 2

Description	Failure to spend to profile				
Likelihood score	3	Impact score	4	Risk rating	12.0
Mitigation	Yes - regular communication with UK Government to inform of progress. UK Gov has also advised that there is flexibility to reprofile once the programme progresses.				
Residual likelihood score	2	Residual impact score	2	Residual risk rating	4.0

8. Overall summary and judgement

Outline assessment

The Shared Prosperity Fund will have the potential to have a positive effect on all aspects covered within this Impact Assessment.

The Investment Plan will seek to improve the economic, social and cultural well-being of the community and leave a lasting positive impact. Proposals developed by Powys County Council & partner organisations under this Plan will prevent problems occurring or getting worse. The SPF will look

to develop interventions and outputs that respond to local issues and will:

- 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

Cabinet reference

9. Additional evidence

10. Ongoing monitoring arrangements and governance

Monitoring arrangements

The Shared Prosperity Fund will have grant award conditions issued by the UK Government that will set out robust monitoring arrangements for delivery of the Investment Plan.

On an operational level, a project management team will have responsibility for monitoring the impact of the project over time. It is likely that an external evaluation will also be commissioned but we await further guidance from UK Gov.

A partnership will be set up to provide the strategic oversight of programme delivery.

Review date	23/01/2023
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