

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Hereford City Bike Share – UKSPF Allocation
Date of decision:	
Decision maker:	Corporate Director, Economy and Environment
Authority for delegated decision:	Cabinet decision to approve the acceptance and expenditure of the £6,642,187 of UKSPF allocated to Herefordshire dated 15 th December 2021. https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/s50105612/To%20Accept%20and%20Spend%20Any%20Approved%20UK%20Shared%20Prosperity%20Plan%20and%20Rural%20Prosperity%20Funds%20Approved%20by%20Go.pdf
Ward:	Belmont Rural, Bobblestock, Central, College, Eign Hill, Greyfriars, Hinton & Hunderton, Holmer, Kings Acre, Newton Farm, Redhill, Tupsley, Whitecross
Consultation:	Cabinet Member Infrastructure and Transport and the Section 151 officer. The UKSPF Investment Plan included extensive engagement with a wide range of stakeholders across a diverse range of groups, organisations and sectors. Business Support was included as a key part of the Investment Plan under the ‘supporting local business’ investment priority.
Decision made:	To allocate up to £25k of revenue from Herefordshire’s UKSPF to subsidise the Hereford City public bike share scheme run by Beryl from 22 nd December 2022 to 31 st March 2023.
Reasons for decision:	In April 2022, government launched the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), to replace the European Union funded structural funds. The primary goal of the UKSPF is to build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK. This aligns with the Levelling Up White Paper missions. Funding is targeted where it is needed most: building pride in place, supporting high quality skills training, supporting pay, employment and productivity growth and increasing life chances. The council has been allocated £7,545,330 to be spent between 2022 and 2025, of which, £903,194 is for ‘Multiply’ adult numeracy support which is subject to a separate decision. Government announced approval of the Investment Plan on the 5 December 2022, and Cabinet took the decision to accept and spend these funds on 15th December, 2022 https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?!D=9216 The Hereford city bike share scheme is continuing to grow new users and to increase active, clean journeys in the city. 228,504 journeys have been taken by 16,905 unique users from launch. Users and journeys are expected to rise further with the arrival of an additional 72 e-bikes in February/ March. The allocation of up to £25k will support maintenance and growth of the scheme as well as continuing to provide subsidised ride costs to the public.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	Finance: Utilising UKSPF to subsidise rides to end users for the period reduces the contingent liability on the council which is otherwise covered initially by the directorate revenue budget, and ultimately is otherwise a call on reserves. Reputational Risk: There is a reputational risk if the council chooses not to

	deliver this activity. It is recommended that the council subsidises rides to users, to meet the aims and objectives of the UKSPF Investment Plan and support delivery of the outcomes and outputs.
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	Do not subsidise the cost of the bike share scheme. This option was discounted as the Council would need to seek other sources of grant revenue to avoid pressure on the Directorate budget.
Details of any declarations	N/A

Signed

Date: