

# Cabinet

28 January 2025

## Dorset Shared Prosperity Fund Extension

### Appendix 1:

## Dorset Shared Prosperity Fund Addendum

Dorset Council has been allocated £1,451,159 Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) total for 2025/26: A minimum of £267,930 for capital expenditure and up to 4% (£58,046) for administration, leaving £1,183,229 revenue.

- No carry forward of the original SPF funding to the extension year is allowed.
- No new Investment Plan is requested
- Updated guidance on outputs and evaluation is forthcoming.
- Consideration has been given to [Invest 2035: the UK's modern industrial strategy - GOV.UK](#) Green Paper, [Get Britain Working White Paper - GOV.UK](#), and the Dorset Council Plan [Dorset Council Plan 2024 to 2029 - Dorset Council](#)

The key government mission SPF is designed to support is **Kickstart Economic Growth**, with a lesser role for the others:

- Mission 1: Kickstart economic growth
- Mission 2: Make Britain a clean energy superpower
- Mission 3: Take back our streets
- Mission 4: Break down barriers to opportunity
- Mission 5: Build an NHS fit for the future

The previous 53 SPF interventions in three investment priorities have all been simplified into five themes and twelve sub-themes.

There is considerable overlap, particularly around economic growth, with the 2024-2029 Dorset Council Strategic Priorities:

- Provide affordable and high-quality housing
- Grow our economy
- Communities for all
- Respond to the climate and nature crisis

Invest 2035, the draft modern industrial strategy, proposes to focus on eight growth driving sectors: advanced manufacturing, clean energy industries, creative industries, defence, digital and technologies, financial services, life sciences, and professional and business services

Dorset has strengths in most of these areas, particularly advanced manufacturing and defence, with a potential for exponential growth in clean energy.

Dorset's allocation will be used as follows: Scheme rules allow for funding to be reallocated to different SPF subthemes without the need to gain government permission:

Priority	Theme	Subtheme	Allocation
Communities and Place	Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities	Healthy: Improve health and wellbeing	£200,000
		Inclusive: Bringing communities together	£150,159
	Thriving Places	Development of the visitor economy	£118,000
Supporting Local Business	Support for Business	Advice and support to business	£400,000
		Zero Carbon Business support	£125,000
		Enterprise culture and startup support	£200,000
People and Skills	Skills	Employment related skills	£200,000
Project administration costs (4% allowed by government)			£58,000
Total			£1,451,159

Proposed delivery routes are shown below:

Subtheme	Delivery route	Allocation
Healthy: Improve health and wellbeing	Healthy Homes Dorset – home energy improvements	£200,000
Inclusive: Bringing communities together	Community sector (including parish council) grants	£150,159
Development of the visitor economy	Visit Dorset, Dorset's official destination management organisation	£118,000
Advice and support to business	Commissioned business support and productivity grants	£400,000
Zero Carbon Business support	Zero Carbon Dorset, a DC-led initiative	£125,000
Enterprise culture and startup support	Commissioned services	£200,000
Employment related skills	(i) Employer demand-led skills training, digital skills (ii) DC Digital Place Service	£200,000