**Mansfield District UK Shared Prosperity Fund 2025/26**

**Communities and Place Application Form**

**Introduction**

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) provided three years of funding between 2022/23 and 2024/25 for local investment, with all areas of the UK receiving an allocation, including Mansfield DC. The primary goal of the UKSPF was to build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK. That programme saw significant success in supporting community-based activity.

In the Autumn Budget, 2024, the UK Government announced the continuation of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) at a reduced level for a further year in 2025/26.

For 2025/26, UKSPF funding has been allocated to the East Midlands County Combined Authority (EMCCA) as the lead authority. The EMCCA Board has agreed to a ‘mixed model’ in what is a transitional year, with some funding retained within EMCCA for regional wide business support activity and the remainder allocated to district level authorities, to develop its approach based on local needs and issues.

The funding for 2025-26 is intended as a transitional arrangement, that provides stability in advance of wider local growth funding reforms due to take affect from 2026-27. Therefore, a balanced approach to delivery is proposed whereby some elements of delivery from the previous phase of UKSPF are extended into 2025/26 whilst also providing the opportunity to introduce new activity to meet local needs.

As such Mansfield District Council is currently running a call for projects under the Communities and Place Priority. The Council is looking for projects that align with the following sub themes:

* Healthy: Improve health and wellbeing
* Inclusive: bringing communities together, tackling homelessness

**What type of activities can be funded**

The following are examples of the type of eligible activities that may be considered for funding. This list is not exhaustive:

* Funding for new, or improvements to existing, community and neighbourhood infrastructure including local green spaces
* Funding for innovative community crime prevention initiatives
* Funding for impactful volunteering and/or social action
* Funding for local sports facilities
* Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for community groups
* Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including measures to improve energy efficiency, and combat fuel poverty and climate change
* Support for community activities to improve health and wellbeing

How much funding is available

There is both capital and revenue funding available. As a guide, we are looking for applications seeking a maximum of around £50,000 in total. However, we will consider applications for more if they can demonstrate significant community benefit and offer good value for money in terms of delivering the required outputs and outcomes.

**Who can apply?**

You can apply for a grant provided that:

* you are a not-for-profit organisation.
* you have a constitution/written set of rules for the organisation.
* you have a bank account in your group’s name and at least two people (not related to one another) are required to sign any cheque or withdrawal from the account;
* you have a set of accounts and make these available for inspection.
* your group can run the activity and complete the form. The contact for the grant and the person signing the form must be a member of the group or its management committee.
* your activities begin and costs are incurred after receipt of the grant. You must also spend the entire grant and complete activities we have funded by **10th March 2026**. If you are successful with an application to the Grant Fund, you may apply again at a later stage but for different additional reasons, should future UKSPF funding be made available to MDC via EMCCA.
* your group or activity is open to everyone. If your activity is not open to everyone, you need to tell us why and the Assessment Panel will decide if your application is eligible.
* your proposed project is based in Mansfield district, with local people involved in the project.

**How will applications be assessed?**

At Annex 1, you will find a copy of the Assessment Framework against which each application will be scored.

**Who will make the decision on which projects are funded?**

Projects will be independently scored against the assessment framework and reviewed by a funding panel. The ultimate responsibility sits with Mansfield District Council.  Whilst this is a competitive bidding process, a mix of competition and commissioning is encouraged and therefore, depending on what applications come forward, Mansfield District Council reserves the right to undertake some commissioning of its own and / or may potentially ask projects to collaborate where there is a clear rationale for doing so. A coherent set of projects is key to the Council’s delivery of the overall UKSPF programme.

**Payment of funds**

All funding must be spent and defrayed by 10th March 2026 to allow reporting to take place in March 2026. Mansfield District Council will consider paying a maximum of 50% of the allocated funding upfront (expected to be end of July 2025).

Further payments will be made once projects have provided acceptable evidence of progress and expenditure through quarterly monitoring reports.

If your final costs are less than originally estimated, or the activities are not delivered as agreed in the Grant Award letter, or any of the Grant conditions are not met, Mansfield District Council reserve the right to request full repayment or any unspent/unused grant monies to be returned.

Where the applicant has stated on the application form that they can reclaim VAT, the grant offer is based on the net value of the eligible scheme costs.

**Ineligible Expenditure**

The funding cannot be used for any of the following:

* paid for lobbying, entertaining, petitioning or challenging decisions, which means using the Fund to lobby (via an external firm or in-house staff) in order to undertake activities intended to influence or attempt to influence Parliament, government or political activity including the receipt of UKSPF funding; or attempting to influence legislative or regulatory action
* payments for activities of a party political or exclusively religious nature
* VAT reclaimable from HMRC
* gifts, or payments for gifts or donations
* statutory fines, criminal fines or penalties
* payments for works or activities which the lead local authority, project deliverer, end beneficiary, or any member of their partnership has a statutory duty to undertake, or that are fully funded by other sources.
* contingencies and contingent liabilities
* dividends
* bad debts, costs resulting from the deferral of payments to creditors, or winding up a company
* expenses in respect of litigation, unfair dismissal or other compensation
* costs incurred by individuals in setting up and contributing towards private pension schemes
* activities that run contrary to the ambitions of UKSPF and the Council’s corporate plan and service delivery
* Request for funding AFTER the activity or project has taken place
* Requests for funding for activities / projects which do not benefit individuals who live in Mansfield.
* Requests for funding from private organisations or individuals
* Where there is potential reputational risk for MDC
* Feasibility studies
* Replacement items
* Vehicles, Stock and consumables
* Further and higher education training
* New website, Advertising and Marketing
* Leased or rented equipment, including Hire Purchase (HP).
* Cosmetic or non-essential improvements (e.g. painting, landscaping, construction of walls or fences, etc); replacements due to ‘wear and tear’ or faults; subscriptions.
* Temporary or removable improvements.
* Any equipment that is not purchased outright, for example, hire purchase or under a finance agreement.
* Pre-existing commitments.

**Publicity and Promotion**

If applicable, successful applicants will acknowledge the UK Shared Prosperity Fund in any publicity material and press releases about the project. The precise wording and images to be used will be provided to successful applicants being dependent upon the scale and nature of the award but will include the Government’s own logo as well as those of the East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA) and Mansfield District Council.

**What are the reporting requirements?**

Successful applicants will need to sign a grant funding agreement with Mansfield District Council and provide evidence of expenditure and monitoring data. Evidence of expenditure and monitoring reports will be required quarterly to confirm that the projects applied for are progressing as planned – October 2025 and March 2026. Successful applicants will also be required to participate, at a later date, in an evaluation of their project to understand whether the proposed outcomes have been met. Full reporting, monitoring and evaluation information will be provided to successful applicants.

Following project completion on or before 10th March 2026, successful applicants will be asked to submit a Grant Outputs and Outcomes Report, detailing the activities which have taken place, and the outcomes achieved because of the funding. Additional evidence such as letters of support, testimonials and photographs may also be submitted along with the report.

**Further Information**

Should you require any clarification regarding completion of this form, please contact [regeneration@mansfield.gov.uk](mailto:regeneration@mansfield.gov.uk)

If you would like to submit an application for consideration, please complete this form and submit it electronically by **12pm on Monday** **14th July 2025** to [regeneration@mansfield.gov.uk](mailto:regeneration@mansfield.gov.uk)

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| **APPLICATION FORM** | |
| Date Received: | |
| **SECTION 1: APPLICANT INFORMATION** | |
| Applicant name *(organisation)* |  |
| Lead contact name |  |
| Lead contact position |  |
| Contact email address |  |
| Contact telephone |  |
| Postal address |  |
| Please confirm the type of organisation | ☐Local Authority  ☐Public Sector Organisation  ☐Higher/Further Education Institution  ☐Private Sector Company  ☐Voluntary Organisation  ☐Registered Charity  ☐Other (Please Specify): |
| VAT Registration Number |  |

| **SECTION 2: PROJECT SUMMARY** | | |
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| **Project name** |  | |
| Which of the following sub themes does your project contribute to? | Healthy: Improve health and wellbeing  Inclusive: bringing communities together, tackling homelessness | |
| **What project activities will take place and where?** | Project activity | Location |
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| Who will deliver the activities and how will they be delivered? Are there any project partners |  | |
| Who will be the target beneficiaries of the project in Mansfield District |  | |
| How do you know there is a need for the project? |  | |

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| SECTION 3: OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES | | | |
| Which UKSPF outputs and outcomes will the project deliver? (Please refer to the UKSPF Indicators spreadsheet for OP and OC categories and provide the target number for each category you hope to deliver on along with estimated dates that these would be achieved. These figures will be used in any subsequent agreement / grant conditions) | | |  |
| Outputs | | Estimate (to be delivered by 28 February 2026) | |
| OP2 | Amount of green or blue space created or improved |  | |
| OP4 | Amount of rehabilitated land |  | |
| OP5 | Number of amenities/facilities created or improved |  | |
| OP6 | Number of low or zero carbon energy infrastructure installed |  | |
| OP8 | Number of tourism, culture or heritage assets created or improved |  | |
| OP12 | Number of local events or activities supported |  | |
| OP13 | Number of tournaments supported |  | |
| OP17 | Number of people reached |  | |
| OP23 | Number of households receiving support |  | |
| OP24 | Number of households supported to take up energy efficiency measures |  | |
| OP25 | Number of organisations receiving grants |  | |
| OP26 | Number of organisations receiving non-financial support |  | |
| OP27 | Number of volunteering opportunities supported |  | |
| OP28 | Number of feasibility studies developed as a result of support |  | |
| Outcomes | | Estimate (to be delivered within 6 months of project completion) | |
| OC2 | Increased use of cycleways or foot paths |  | |
| OC3 | Number of vacant units filled |  | |
| OC4 | Increased users of facilities/ amenities |  | |
| OC5 | Increased visitor numbers |  | |
| OC6 | Increase in visitor spending |  | |
| OC7 | Premises with improved digital connectivity as a result of support |  | |
| OC18 | Improved engagement numbers |  | |
| OC19 | Number of community-led arts, cultural, heritage and creative programmes as a result of support |  | |
| OC27 | Estimated carbon dioxide equivalent reductions as a result of support |  | |
| OC28 | Neighbourhood crimes |  | |
| OC29 | Number of volunteering opportunities created as a result of support |  | |
| OC30 | The number of projects arising from funded feasibility studies |  | |

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| **SECTION 4: PROJECT COSTS** | |
| **Total Project Costs** | £ |
| **Amount of UKSPF funding sought** | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | Capital | £ | | Revenue | £ | | Total | £ | |
| **Co-funding / match funding to be provided** | |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | | Capital |  | | Revenue |  | | Total |  | |
| **Where will the match funding come from?**  *If some of the match funding is ‘in-kind’ (E.g. Volunteer time) please state how this has been calculated.* | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Match Funding** | Amount (£) | | Mansfield Community Fund |  | | Own Funds |  | | Fundraising |  | | In- Kind |  | | Other (please specify) |  | |  |  | |  |  | | **Total Income** |  |   Notes for In-kind contribution: |
| **Are these matched funds secured yet?**  *If not, when do you anticipate they will be secured?* |  |
| **What specifically will the funding pay for? Please provide an itemised breakdown of how the funding will be used:** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Items** | Amount (£) | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | |  |  | | **Total Cost** |  | |

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| **SECTION 5: PROJECT TIMESCALES** | | |
| **Please list the key milestones in the delivery of your project. Include start and completion dates.** | **Milestone** | **Target month** |
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| **SECTION 6: SUBSIDY CONTROL AND DECLARATIONS** | |
| I understand that grant funding of this type may be subject to certain restrictions under the Subsidy Control Regime. Applicants are required to comply with the UK Subsidy Control Regime. Mansfield District Council is not able to give legal advice on subsidy control. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the project is delivered compliantly.  I confirm that we will comply with the relevant guidance and legislation in respect of the grant funding and co-operate with the Council to ensure any grant funding issued is done so in compliance with such subsidy control regime.  I confirm that the project has not yet commenced, and that no expenditure has been incurred to date. I understand that any UKSPF offer will be invalid if the project commences prior to the date of an offer from Mansfield District Council.  I confirm that the information provided herein is correct to the best of my knowledge.  In line with the Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR, Mansfield District Council is the data controller and collects your personal data in order to process your UK Shared Prosperity Fund application. We will only collect the personal data from you we need for assessing and administering the funding application. We may need to contact you for further information to support your application. We will retain your information for monitoring, analysing and targeting and may contact you by phone or email. We may share your data with contractors of the Council for monitoring and evaluation purposes. | |
| Name:­­ |  | |
| Signature: |  | |
| Signed on behalf of: |  | |
| Date: |  | |

**Annex 1 - Mansfield UKSPF – Communities and Place Bidding Round**

**Assessment Framework**

| **Criteria** | **Score** | | | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** |
| **Alignment** |  |  |  |  |
| Alignment with UKSPF sub themes for Communities and Place | Limited alignment with UKSPF sub themes | Some alignment with UKSPF sub themes at a general level | Strong, clear alignment with at least one UKSPF sub theme | Strong, clear alignment with at least two or more UKSPF sub themes. |
| **Impact** |  |  |  |  |
| Responds to identified local challenges / needs | No link to identified local challenges | Limited link to identified local challenges | Good link to identified local challenges | Strong / transformative link to identified local challenges |
| Outputs/ Outcomes | Unlikely to deliver UKSPF specific outputs and outcomes | Limited potential to deliver UKSPF specific outputs and outcomes | Good potential to deliver UKSPF specific outputs and outcomes | Strong potential to deliver UKSPF specific outputs and outcomes |
| Additionality | No clear additionality to existing provision | Limited additionality to existing provision | Some / good additionality to existing provision | Strong additionality to existing provision |
| Transformative potential for beneficiaries | Business as usual approach – no or limited transformational impact likely | Limited potential for transformational impact | Good potential for transformational impact | Strong potential for transformational impact |
| Value for Money | Project offers very poor value for money when considering UKSPF request v Total Cost v impact as assessed above | Project offers limited value for money when considering UKSPF request t v Total Cost v impact as assessed above | Project offers reasonable value for money when considering UKSPF request v Total Cost v impact as assessed above | Project offers strong value for money when considering UKSPF request v Total Cost v impact as assessed above |
| **Deliverability** |  |  |  |  |
| Costs | Budget appears significantly insufficient / lack of detail for proposed activities. | Budget potentially insufficient/ limited detail for proposed activities. | Budget broadly looks appropriate for proposed activities / appropriate level of detail | Budget considered robust for proposed activities and appropriate level of detail. |
| Risk Assessment / experience of delivery | High level of risk that project will fail to deliver as outlined. | Moderate level of risk to project delivery | Limited delivery risk | Minimal delivery risk |