

VS6 – Working together to build a stronger Liverpool City Region



UK Shared Prosperity Fund: Making the Case for Liverpool City Region's VCFSE Sector

Hosted by VS6 Partnership in collaboration with the Liverpool City
Region Combined Authority

Chair: Sally Yeoman, Vice Chair, VS6

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Introduction to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Andy Churchill
Network for Europe

UK Shared Prosperity Fund

- European Funding running out by 2023
- UKSPF promised in last two Manifestos
 - Consultations promised, but scrapped
 - £1.5bn a year – significant funding
 - UK wide – all four countries
- Announcement 27th Oct – full funding delayed to 2024/25
 - £0.4bn 2022/3 £0.7bn 2023/4 £1.5bn 2024/5
 - Less £0.56bn over three years for Multiply - basic maths for 19 +
- **Pre-Launch Guidance** 2 Feb with Levelling Up White paper
- **Prospectus** and documents 13th April

13th April

- Provisional Allocations, our Lead Authority is **LCR Combined Authority**
- Fifty one Intervention
- Outputs and Outcomes
- Deadlines

- A few more papers to be written (due Summer)
 - Monitoring and Evaluation
 - Subsidy Control (State Aids)
 - Branding
- **Not much time**

Timing

- 2 Feb Pre-launch Guidance
 - VCFSE/LA/Partners start on Local Investment Plan
- 13 Apr Prospectus and provisional allocations
- 30 Jun DfE deadline for Plan for Multiply
- 30 Jun-1 Aug DLUHC Deadline for Plan for Core UKSPF
- Sept/Oct UK Govt starts to agree 250 Plans, makes first payments
- Sept/Oct Lead LAs start UKSPF for their area (or from last April)
 - They commission and/or deliver in house
 - They handle cash and record outcomes
 - Funds for Capacity Building/Technical Assistance

Multiply – basic maths for 19 +

- UKSPF is split 4:7:15 over the three years 22/3, 23/4, 24/5
- Multiply is split 30:35:35 over the three years
- For LCR-CA 16% of UKSPF to Multiply
- Run by DfE – not the same as DLUHC
- Multiply tackles the barriers that hold people back
- May or may not lead to a qualification
- For parents that want to help their kids, people tackling debt. Those leaving Care, or Prison. Confidence building. Help to progress in work. Activities in partnership with community organisations, engaging hardest to reach

£m for LCR-CA

(totals may vary due to rounding)

	22/3	23/4	24/5	Three years
Core	5.584	11.282	27.514	44.380
Multiply	2.532	2.922	2.922	8.375
Total UKSPF	8.116	14.203	30.436	52.756
Capital (Core)	0.558	1.467	5.503	7.528

Pride in Place Investment Priorities

- **This is not ESF**
 - Local Places
 - Local Enterprises
 - Local People
 - Not for People in England until 2024/5
 - Error in press release
 - Cliff Edge. Lead LA can fund VCFSE providers at risk due to ESF tail off if they will be funded in 2024/5

51 Interventions

- 15 for Local Places
- 17 for Local Enterprises
- 9 for Local People
- 10 for Multiply

Local Pride and Belonging

- Resilient, safe and healthy neighbourhoods. Community and n'hood infrastructure projects, local green spaces, water, community gardens. Design out crime. Culture, arts, heritage, creative. Volunteering. Social Capital. Sports facilities, tournaments and leagues to bring people together. Capacity building and infrastructure for community groups. Community engagement in decision making for regeneration. Community measures to reduce cost of living (energy, food). Digital infrastructure for communities. Feasibility studies. Local startups and support, social enterprises, community development. Open markets. Health and Wellbeing. Economically inactive. Wrap around and one to one support. Healthier & more independent lives.
- Not much about equality and diversity, but we will add that back in.

Grants, procurement, in house

- Not clear how this will operate, and if any issues with Subsidy Control (State Aids) and procurement
- Presumably, the intention is to deliver through locally based organisations with a good track record.
- If Partner Organisations are named in the Local Investment Plan before it is sent to Government, is this enough?
 - It was for ESF-BBO

Partnership Working

- Local Authorities can't do this on their own
- They need a strong partnership, especially with the Third Sector
- We have plenty of ideas and experience of how to make a difference locally
- Read through the fifty one interventions
- Prepare examples of projects, unit costs, outcomes
- Activities we wanted to do, but couldn't with the old employment based training
- No point in lots of individual organisations lobbying the Combined Authority
- We need to work together to deliver change in the City Region

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VS6 UK-SPF Approach

A framework to encourage UK-SPF investment into the VCFSE sector

Warren Escadale, Chief Executive, Voluntary Sector North West

The VS6 Partnership

- Launched 2015
- Partnership of 10 borough & thematic infrastructure support organisations
- Provide formal point of contact to engage with the 8,600 LCR VCFSE groups
- Sector conduit to influence & shape policy at an LCR level
- Developed close links with the Combined Authority, Mayoral Office & LEP
- Influence the LCR approach to UK-SPF



UK-SPF Activity

- Work to identify LCR CA Lead for UK-SPF
- Gathered sector learnings from the Community Renewal Fund
- Advocacy for the sector re. ESF Cliff Edge, consultation & engagement:
- VS6 discussions with LCR CA Senior Leadership Team
- VS6 representation – raising UK-SPF & ESF cliff edge into Liverpool LEP
- Expressed concerns re. ESF cliff edge & need to sustain this work

- Developing connectivity between agendas

- Cross-referenced strategic priorities within:



- To inform the development of an LCR VCFSE UK-SPF Investment Framework

LCR VCFSE UK-SPF Framework

10 priority VCFSE investment areas – aligned with UK-SPF priorities:

Communities & Place

1. Unlock community assets
2. Digital inclusion
3. Affordable Fuel
4. Sustainable & Affordable Food
5. Integrated Health Neighbourhoods
6. Mental Health & Wellbeing

Local Businesses

7. LCR Community Supply Chains
8. VCFSE driven green communities

People & Skills

9. Create opportunities in the sector
10. Skills development

Multiply

Equalities – a theme running through all priority areas

Communities & Place - Examples

Objectives:

- Strengthening social fabric, sense of local pride & belonging through **investment in activities that enhance physical, cultural and social ties and amenities** such as **community infrastructure, green space & community led projects.**
- Building resilient, safe and healthy neighbourhoods through **investment in quality places that people want to live, work, play and learn.**

LCR VCFSE Manifesto Priority:
Unlock the potential of Community Assets

LCR CA Priority Area
Community Wealth Building

UK-SPF Prospectus Interventions

- Funding for improvements to town centres/high streets
- Funding for impactful volunteering and/or social action projects to develop social and human capital
- Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society & community groups

VCFSE Possibilities

Enhance Community Centres – digital access & green energy
Accessible communities – High streets with community services
Community approaches to Digital Inclusion

Supporting Local Business - Example

Objectives:

- Creating jobs and boosting community cohesion through investments that build on existing industries and institutions
- Promoting networking and collaborations through interventions that bring together partners across sectors
- Increasing private sector investment in growth-enhancing activities through targeted support for small and medium sized businesses...energy efficient and low carbon technologies

LCR VCFSE Manifesto Priority:

Grow & prioritise community based supply chains

LCR CA Priority Area

Embed Social Value Framework

UK-SPF Prospectus Interventions

- Support for growing the local economy, including community businesses, cooperatives & social enterprises
- Supporting businesses at all stages of their development to start, sustain, grow and innovate
- Funding for the development and support of appropriate innovation infrastructure at a local level

VCFSE Possibilities

Closing the loop – A circular economy & encouraging local buying
Social enterprises – Opportunities to develop ethical & eco social businesses
Community energy supply

People & Skills - Example

Objectives:

- Boosting core skills and support adults to progress to work
- Reducing levels of economic inactivity through investment in bespoke intensive life and employment support tailored to local need
- Supporting people furthest from the labour market
- Fund gaps in local skills provision to support people to progress into work

LCR VCFSE Manifesto Priority:

Addressing fundamental exclusion with community approaches

LCR CA Priority Area

Pipeline of employment and skills projects

UK-SPF Prospectus Interventions

- Intensive wraparound one-to-one support to move people closer to mainstream provision and employment
 - Activities such as enrichment and volunteering to improve opportunities and wellbeing
 - Intervention to increase levels of digital inclusion

VCFSE Possibilities

Wrap around support – Employment skills, digital, financial
Build financial resilience and wellbeing
Boosting confidence in adults to develop new skills

Alignment with Multiply Interventions

Multiply - Example

Objectives:

- More adults achieving maths qualifications courses
- Improved labour market outcomes
- Increased adult numeracy across the population

Multiply Prospectus Interventions

- Courses designed to increased confidence with numbers
- Courses designed to help people use numeracy to manage money
- Courses for parents to increase their numeracy skills to help their children
- Numeracy courses for prisoners
- Numeracy courses for 19+ care leavers
- Numeracy activities developed in partnership with community organisations engaging the hardest to reach learners

VCFSE Possibilities

- Working with harder to reach communities
- Intensive wrap around support – e.g. financial literacy
- Community Numeracy Champions
- “Touch points” e.g. advice services, community housing

LCR VCFSE UK-SPF Delivery

- Draft potential models for VCFSE delivery:
 - Consideration of ESF cliff edge projects in VCFSE sector aligned with UK-SPF/Multiply
 - A VCFSE Resilience and Capacity Building Investment Programme
 - Potential to be rolled out in the 6 boroughs and aligned to local strategic priorities?
 - Thematic areas for investment?
- Builds upon:
 - VCFSE Resilience and Capacity Fund proposal - Build Back Better Submission (£25m)
 - Recent £480k LCR Cares Grants Programme (Catalyst grants)
 - £2m LCR Cares Fund (COVID-19 support)
 - £5m Kindred investment – Social Enterprise