


## DECISIONS DELEGATED TO OFFICERS

<b>Decision title:</b>	Award of revenue grant funding to OxLEP Skills to deliver 'No Limits 3'
<b>Decision date:</b>	18 July 2024
<b>Source of delegation:</b>	<p>Cabinet, <a href="#">on 19 October 2022</a>, approved the council's UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) investment plan and resolved to:</p> <p>2. Delegate authority to the Executive Director (Development) to take the necessary decisions and actions to oversee the UKSPF investment plan, including implementing and administering the scheme and the resulting projects in accordance with the requirements and priorities of the prospectus and fund.</p>
<b>What decision was made?</b>	<p>To direct award £60,000 revenue grant funding to OxLEP Skills to deliver 'No Limits 3' through working with SOFEA and Aspire Oxfordshire. OxLEP Skills will enter into a Grant Agreement with Oxford City Council and will receive the grant funding as Recipient and provide the quarterly performance reporting and evaluation.</p> <p>The project will support the delivery of outputs and outcomes supporting the council's UKSPF investment plan under interventions: 'E33: Supporting people into employment and training; E39: Green Skills.</p> <p>The funding has been allocated from an overall UKSPF revenue budget of £723,007 for 2024/25.</p> <p>The opportunity was advertised on the Council's website on 25 April 2024 and organisations were invited to submit an expression of interest. The grant funding was awarded to OxLEP.</p> <p><a href="#">Shared Prosperity Fund: Inclusive Skills and Employment Pathway grant funding   Oxford City Council</a></p>
<b>Purpose:</b>	<p>This funding will pay for 1 FTE experienced triage worker from Aspire to continue working in the district to support people experiencing reduced structural barriers into employment and into skills provision and signposting them to relevant training and Green Skills opportunities.</p> <p>From the funding to March 2025, the project aims to</p>


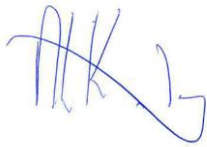
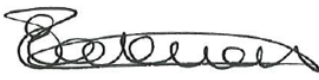
	<p>achieve the following outputs/outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Number of people experiencing reduced structural barriers into employment and into skills provision - 42</li> <li>- Number of people in education/training following support - 11</li> <li>- Number of people with basic skills following support - 33</li> <li>- People gaining a qualification or completing a course following support – 21</li> </ul>
<b>Reasons:</b>	<p>The Council recognises that a complex range of structural and personal factors can inhibit engagement with training and employment opportunities and that this is particularly true in certain communities and geographies.</p> <p>OxLEP and its delivery organisations have strong relationships in those target communities and geographies and have relevant and specific expertise to engage with the ‘hardest to reach’. The grant supports the delivery of UKSPF outputs and outcomes and supports the shared aim of Supporting People into Employment &amp; Training and Green Skills.</p>
<b>Decision made by:</b>	Tom Bridgman, Executive Director (Development)
<b>Other options considered:</b>	<p>To commission support packages through a national employment &amp; skills provider. This was rejected due to the need for support to be relationship based and locally embedded.</p> <p>To commission support packages through other local employment &amp; skills providers – the grant was advertised openly to all local partners via the Oxford City Council website and then the successful delivery organisation was selected due to the unique focus on its established pathways to support the hardest to reach in target communities and geographies through specific expertise and tailored support.</p>
<b>Documents considered:</b>	<p>Shared Prosperity Fund: Inclusive Skills and Employment Pathway grant funding call for applications: <a href="https://www.oxford.gov.uk/oxfords-economy/shared-prosperity-fund-inclusive-skills-employment-pathway-grant-funding">https://www.oxford.gov.uk/oxfords-economy/shared-prosperity-fund-inclusive-skills-employment-pathway-grant-funding</a></p>
<b>Key or Not Key:</b>	Not key

<b>Wards significantly affected:</b>	None
<b>Declared conflict of interest:</b>	Councillor Susan Brown, Leader of Oxford City Council is also a Board Director (local authority representative) of OxLEP; however she is no longer portfolio holder for Economic development and partnerships
<b>This form was completed by:</b> <b>Name &amp; title:</b> <b>Date:</b>	Clayton Lavallin Economic Development Team Leader  15th July 2024

### Approval checklist

<i>Approver</i>	<i>Name and job title</i>	<i>Date</i>
<b>Decision maker</b>	Tom Bridgman, Executive Director (Development) 	18 July 2024

### Consultee checklist

<i>Consultees</i>	<i>Name and job title</i>	<i>Date</i>
<b>Senior officer</b>	Carolyn Ploszynski, Head of Regeneration & Economy 	10 July 2024
<b>Head of Financial Services</b>	Nigel Kennedy, Head of Financial Services 	16 July 2024
<b>Head of Law and Governance</b>	Emma Jackman, Head of Law and Governance 	10 July 2024
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Councillor Alex Hollingsworth, Cabinet Member for Business, Culture and An Inclusive Economy	10 July 2024