

Report for: Cabinet Member Signing – 25 June 2025

Item number:

Title: **Acceptance of UKSPF grant 25/26**
Report

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Lead Officer: **Helen McDonough Head Of Inclusive Economy**

Ward(s) affected: **All**

Report for Key/

Non Key Decision: **Key decision**

1. Describe the issue under consideration

This report seeks Cabinet approval to accept £1,007,516 UK Shared Prosperity Funding (UKSPF) from the Greater London Authority (GLA) for a period up to March 2026. The funding is split into £672,739 capital and £334,777 revenue funding.

UKSPF funding aims to support London Growth Plan priorities and to improve pride in place and increase life chances across the UK, investing in communities and place, supporting local business, and people and skills at a Haringey Level.

The UKSPF Revenue Funding will be used to deliver projects that align with Opportunity Haringey priority actions, supporting entrepreneurship, businesses and residents into work.

The UKSPF Capital Funding will be used to deliver projects that support Shaping Wood Green and Shaping Tottenham placemaking priorities.

2. Cabinet Member Introduction

I am recommending that we accept just over £1mil of grant funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund to deliver key growth priorities under Shaping Tottenham, Shaping Wood Green and Opportunity Haringey.

In Haringey, we have a higher percentage of our population inactive in the Labour market compared to the London average. Haringey Works has a proven track record in helping people who are seeking employment into good, well-paid jobs. We have over 13,000 business in Haringey and the UKSPF funding will go towards providing tailored support to businesses (especially supporting young people to get them off the ground?).

Haringey has almost 15,000 households living in fuel poverty. Last year UKSPF saved households an average of £245 per year on their energy bills. With energy

bills predicted to rise £111 per household per year, the grant funding from UKSPF will make a real difference to our residents' financial security.

Shaping Wood Green and Shaping Tottenham are plans for creating spaces where people can thrive that have been created in partnership with communities as part of the Haringey Deal. Using the grant funding for projects in these plans will reduce our borrowing and secure funding for key initiatives.

3. Recommendations

It is recommended that Cabinet Member for Placemaking and Local Economy;

- 3.1** approve acceptance of £1,007,516 UKSPF for 2025/26 from the GLA to deliver projects that align with Shaping Tottenham, Shaping Wood Green and Opportunity Haringey Priorities. This is in accordance with Contract Standing Order 21.1 Where the Council receives a grant from an external body, the process for approving or varying the agreement for the grant shall be the same as that set out in CSO 2 (i.e. the Director may approve receipt of a grant valued at less than £500,000. For approval of receipt of grants valued at £500,000 or more, a Cabinet decision is required).
- 3.2** approve use of £672,739 capital UKSPF Funding to support the placemaking priorities set out in Shaping Tottenham and Shaping Wood Green plans.
- 3.3** approve the use of £334,777 UKSPF revenue funding to enable a fairer and stronger and greener economy through supporting Opportunity Haringey priorities.
- 3.4** delegate authority to the Director of Placemaking and Community Development to allocate UKSPF funding accordingly.

4. Reasons for decision

The GLA have advised borough's that the focus for UKSPF funding needs to be on government growth missions and the London Growth Plan. These missions align with Shaping Tottenham, Shaping Wood Green and the Opportunity Haringey strategies all of which align with the London Growth Plan.

UKSPF Revenue:

The £334,777 UKSPF revenue funding will fund:

- Business and entrepreneur support
- Haringey Works employment support
- Fuel Poverty Advice service

Haringey Works

Although the number of unemployed residents has significantly decreased since the pandemic Haringey continues to experience relatively high levels of unemployment. As of March 2025, around 6% of our population were claiming

out of work benefits compared to a London average of 5.1%. In line with national and London trends we have also seen a growing number of residents who are inactive in the Labour Market and in particular for reasons of ill health including mental health. Currently around 24% of our population is inactive in the Labour Market this compares to a London average of 20%.

The previous UKSPF allocation for Haringey supported an impactful programme of engagement and support for residents with some of the most challenging employment barriers, to help them either find jobs or progress on a pathway to employment. The recommendation is for UKSPF funds to continue to fund Haringey Works employment advisors, as well as wrap around support for residents finding employment such as tackling digital exclusion and help fund training and child-care support as required.

Business Support

Haringey's businesses create tens of thousands of jobs and other business opportunities for local people. We are home to more than 12,000 businesses, 92% of which are micro businesses employing fewer than ten people. Residents and businesses tell us they would like to see more support for young people to start their own businesses; more business-to-business networking opportunities; and a more co-ordinated approach to working with the council. Previous UKSPF allocations have provided funding for a range of targeted business support programmes meeting gaps in provision both locally and regionally at a critical time for businesses in borough these included support for the creative sector support/entrepreneur support/business growth programmes targeting high growth businesses/cost savings and sustainability support and support for Migrants and refugee entrepreneurs. The recommendation is to continue to provide targeted business support through UK SPF.

Fuel Poverty

Haringey has 14,983 households (13.3%) living in Fuel Poverty, the 3rd highest percentage in London. Last year or fuel poverty support was oversubscribed, and as of December 2024, with the previous UKSPF allocation we assisted 833 residents with 224 having Energy Doctor visits, saving on average of £245 per household per a year in their energy bills. From April 2025, energy bills will rise by an average £111 a year, or about £9.25 a month. This increases bills for households using the typical amount of gas and electricity by 6.4%, from £1,738 to £1,849 a year. The recommendation is to continue to use UKSPF to deliver this much needed support in Haringey.

UKSPF Capital:

The £672,739 UKSPF Capital will be used to support the placemaking priorities set out in Shaping Tottenham and Shaping Wood Green plans

Shaping Wood Green and Tottenham are Haringey's placemaking plans for the borough developed through extensive engagement with residents stakeholders and businesses and this helped shape the priorities contained within the plan. Given the Council's financial position it is essential that where possible external grant funding is used to support and progress projects ready for delivery. The

recommendation is to allocate UKSPF Capital funding to support projects in line with these plans.

5. Alternative options considered

To not accept the grant. This was discounted as the funding provides funding for key activities supporting the Corporate Delivery Plan and in the case of Capital replaces council borrowing.

6. Background information

The UKSPF 25/26 allocation was announced by the GLA in February 25 and London boroughs were asked to submit a delivery plan for their allocation by 31st March 25. This year the London local authorities have had a steer from the GLA that the focus for UKSPF funding needs to be on government growth missions and the London Growth Plan. These missions align with Shaping Tottenham, Shaping Wood Green and the Opportunity Haringey strategies all of which align with the London Growth Plan. The UK Government's Growth Mission are:

- Kickstart Economic Growth
- Breakdown Barriers to Opportunity
- Build an NHS fit for the future
- Make Britain a clean energy superpower
- Take back our streets

The London Growth Plan ambitions are:

- Productivity: Raise productivity growth rates to 2% average per year over 2025 to 2035.
- Inclusion: Raise the real household weekly income (after housing costs) of the lowest earning 20% of Londoners by 20% by 2035. This would mean that at least a million London households would have on average an extra £50 to spend each week after paying for housing costs.
- Accelerate progress towards achieving London's net zero target for 2030.
- 04. A global capital: Grow London's services exports by an average of 6% per year.

Haringey's allocation for 2025/26 is £1,007k (Capital £672k, Revenue £334k) which must be spent by 31st March 2026. This is a significant reduction from previous years UKSPF funding which in 24/25 alone was roughly £1.5m revenue and a lower 500k capital. The GLA's UKSPF Investment Plan, which we must comply with, sets out that activity related to capital funding should have a link to high streets and places and be able to demonstrate that activity benefits local high streets and places in some way, even where activity is not directly to improve high streets and places.

A pragmatic and permissive approach will be taken by the GLA on the project activities.

7. Contribution to the Corporate Delivery Plan 2022-2024 High level Strategic outcomes'?

This funding would support the Place and Economy through supporting the building an Inclusive Economy and Shaping Tottenham and Wood Green priorities

8. Carbon and Climate Change

This agreement for the UKSPF will impact on carbon reduction and climate resilience directly and indirectly across the proposed workstreams.

Directly – this will be in the form of energy advise and efficiency measures through the funding towards the Fuel Poverty Function of the Council. This funding will support the Council in accessing and delivering larger funding streams that align, such as the GLA's Warmer Homes Programmes.

Indirectly – Many of the public realm improvements supported will deliver mitigation to the risks that Haringey faces in a changing climate (overheating, surface water flooding etc). Ensuring that through strong design these risks are managed locally. And the Inclusive Economy workstream has a strong focus on developing and upskilling local residents and SME businesses access the growing green sector jobs, such as Retrofitting.

9. Statutory Officers comments (Director of Finance (procurement), Head of Legal and Governance, Equalities)

9.1 Finance

Finance supports the acceptance of the £1,007,516 UKSPF funding from the GLA for 2025/26. While the revenue element represents a significant reduction from 2024/25 levels, this is expected to be fully offset by the Connect to Work Grant from the DWP. This will ensure continuity in the scope, scale, and staffing of services previously supported by UKSPF.

No match funding is required, and there is no additional financial pressure on the Council.

The capital element aligns with the Council's placemaking priorities and supports the broader strategy to reduce reliance on borrowing.

9.2 Procurement

Strategic Procurement have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

CSO 21.01 permits the Cabinet to approve receipt of a grant greater than £500,000. Strategic Procurement have no objections to the recommendations in section 3 of this report.

9.3 Legal

9.3.1 The Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) was consulted in the preparation of this report.

9.3.2 Pursuant to the Council's Contract Standing Order (CSO) 21.01 Cabinet has authority to approve the receipt of a grant where the value of the grant is £500,000 or more and as such the recommendation in paragraph 3 is in line with the provisions of the Council's CSO.

9.3.3 Further to paragraph 9.3.2 above, and pursuant to CSO 0.08 a decision reserved for Cabinet may be taken by a Cabinet Member with the agreement of the Leader and as such the recommendations in paragraphs 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 of the report requesting approval from Cabinet Member for Placemaking and Community Development is in line with the Council's CSO so long as the Cabinet Member is taking the decisions with the agreement of the Leader.

9.3.4 Further to paragraph 9.3.3 above, the recommendation in paragraph 3.4 of the report to delegates authority to the Director of Placemaking and Community Development to allocate UKSPF funding accordingly is in line with law. Cabinet has power under the Local Government Act 2000 to delegate the discharge of any of its functions to an officer (S.9E (Discharge of Functions)).

9.3.5 The Director of Legal and Governance (Monitoring Officer) sees no legal reasons preventing the approval of the recommendations in the report.

10. Equality

The council has a Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) under the Equality Act (2010) to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics and people who do not.
- Foster good relations between people who share those characteristics and people who do not.

The three parts of the duty apply to the following protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy/maternity, race, religion/faith, sex and sexual orientation. Marriage and civil partnership status applies to the first part of the duty.

Although it is not enforced in legislation as a protected characteristic, Haringey Council treats socioeconomic status as a local protected characteristic.

This decision seeks approval to accept £1,007,516 in UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) grant funding from the Greater London Authority for 2025/26. The

funding will support projects aligned with the council's Opportunity Haringey, Shaping Tottenham, and Shaping Wood Green priorities.

The proposed use of the funding is anticipated to have positive equality impacts:

- **Employment and skills support:** Revenue funding will support Haringey Works and wraparound employment services, which are targeted at residents facing barriers to employment. Groups which are overrepresented among the economically inactive population include disabled people, those with mental health conditions, women with caring responsibilities and residents from ethnic minority backgrounds.
- **Business support:** Targeted support for entrepreneurs, including migrants and refugees, will help address underrepresentation and barriers to business ownership among these groups.
- **Fuel poverty advice:** The continuation of the Energy Doctor programme and related services will benefit low-income households, older residents and disabled people, who are disproportionately impacted by high energy costs.

11. Use of Appendices

12. Background papers

None