

Director of Policy, Cities & Local Growth Unit Lynne Miles

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

4th Floor, Fry Building
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

To: All Council Leaders in England (by email only)

13 April 2022

Dear Leader,

UK Shared Prosperity Fund Prospectus

The UK Government's flagship Levelling Up White Paper sets out an ambitious plan to transform the UK spreading opportunity and prosperity to all of our communities. The £2.6 billion UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF or the Fund) is a central pillar of this agenda and a significant component of its support for places across the UK. Its prospectus has been published today.

<u>All</u> areas of the UK are receiving a multi-year allocation from the Fund via a funding formula, recognising that even the most affluent parts of the UK contain pockets of deprivation and need support, and recognising the case for allocated funding as well as competitive funding.

The Fund's investment priorities allow a high degree of flexibility to respond to your local needs. It will enable local decision making and target the priorities of each place. It will lead to visible, tangible improvements to the places where people work and live, alongside investment in human capital, giving communities up and down the UK more reasons to be proud of their area.

A key part of the Fund is Multiply, the adult numeracy programme. With up to £559 million in funding available, this programme will offer local and national support for people to improve their numeracy skills - equipping adults across the UK with the skills they need to progress in life. It is being led by the Department for Education in England and funding will be distributed to the Greater London Authority, all Mayoral Combined Authorities, and upper tier/unitary authorities outside of these areas in England. In Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, Multiply will be delivered alongside wider programmes of UKSPF activity.

A list of lead local authorities is available on our website and in order to access UKSPF funding, lead authorities are being asked to work with a range of local partners to develop an investment plan, setting out how they intend to use and deliver the funding.

To support the launch of the Fund, you are invited to nominate representatives to attend an officials-led webinar. This will be an opportunity for local authority officers to hear more about the fund and the role that local authorities will play in its delivery. Further information is included below.

Further information about the fund and the investment planning process is included in the UKSPF Prospectus and the Multiply Prospectus, both of which have been published online:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus

 $\underline{\text{https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiply-funding-available-to-improve-numeracy-skills}$

LYNNE MILES

Director of Policy Policy Directorate Cities and Local Growth Unit

UK Shared Prosperity Fund England Webinars

Joining Instructions

To support the launch of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), you are invited to nominate representatives to attend an official led webinar. These sessions will be led by Saba Tahzib, Deputy Director for the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, at the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, joined by colleagues from other government departments.

In England, Local Authority representatives are invited to attend based on regional groupings. This is to reduce the numbers on the call, if you can't attend on a specific date, you are welcome to join one of the other events as the majority of the content will be the same.

The events will be hosted on Microsoft Teams and can be joined via these links:

• Monday 25 April: 14:00 – East and East Midlands
https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetupjoin/19%3ameeting MWI0ZmVINGUtYTY5MC000TAwLTII0DQtMzVhMWU4MDc2YTdl%40threa
d.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22bf346810-9c7d-43de-a87224a2ef3995a8%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22d99e45a5-580f-40d5-ac22092e793f3bf4%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atrue%7d&btype=a&role=a

• Wednesday 27 April: 16:00 – North East, North West and Yorkshire <a href="https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YjkxZGY1ZmEtOWFiMy00MTVkLWIwNDYtNjk0M2M1YTViMWEz%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22bf346810-9c7d-43de-a872-24a2ef3995a8%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22d99e45a5-580f-40d5-ac22-092e793f3bf4%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atrue%7d&btype=a&role=a

• Friday 29 April: 11:00 – West Midlands and South West https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZTNkMGI4ZDAtMjNjMS00NTc2LWJmNjctYjE4OWZlN2RiZjQ4%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22bf346810-9c7d-43de-a872-24a2ef3995a8%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22d99e45a5-580f-40d5-ac22-092e793f3bf4%22%2c%22lsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atrue%7d&btype=a&role=a

• Tuesday 2 May: 10:00 – London and the South East <a href="https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MmFhZWJhNTQtYWMzYy00YjYxLTg3MWltZWY2NzQ1YjU1OTYw%40thread_v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22bf346810-9c7d-43de-a872-24a2ef3995a8%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22d99e45a5-580f-40d5-ac22-092e793f3bf4%22%2c%22lsBroadcastMeeting%22%3atrue%7d&btype=a&role=a

Guidance and technical requirements on accessing Teams are included at the end of this letter.

There will be an opportunity to ask questions during the session. Due to the high volume received, it is not usually possible to respond to all questions live during the event. We endeavour to ensure the frequently asked topics are covered, and that unanswered questions are responded to in writing.

We look forward to the session.

Teams Live guidance and system requirements

Please check the information below ahead of time to make sure that you can easily participate.

Please note the following:

- you can join the webinar via a browser without downloading the Microsoft Teams app if this is easier for you;
- please check that your device's sound is on so that you can hear the speakers;
- if you join once the webinar has started, you will need to press the 'play' button at the bottom of your screen.

System requirements and supported platforms:

- To join the webinar you will require a device with internet connection and either speakers or headphones.
- Supported operating systems: Windows 7 and later (32-bit and 64-bit), macOS X 10.10 and later
- Supported mobile operating systems: Android 4.4 and later, iOS 10 and later
- Supported web browsers: Chrome (last 3 versions), Edge RS2 and later, Firefox (last 3 versions), Internet Explorer 11, Safari

Joining the webinar

You can join the webinar via Microsoft Teams:

On a PC via your internet browser:

• It is recommended that you use Microsoft Edge or Google Chrome for this rather than Internet Explorer. You do not need to download Microsoft Teams for this to work.

On your mobile device via the Microsoft Teams app:

• Please download the app before the live event is due to start. You will then need to open the meeting link in whichever device you have chosen. Please ensure that the sound on your device is turned on so you can hear the audio. Further details as well as a short video explaining this software are available here if required: https://support.office.com/en-us/article/attend-a-live-event-d837ad8d-ce34-44d0-9744-9beb50e943ac?ui=en-US&rs=en-US&ad=US