

The City Council UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) assessment criteria

How will be applications be assessed?

The assessment of applications will be a two-stage process.

Stage One

As the Lead Authority, Stoke-on-Trent City Council will appraise all the applications in order to produce a summary of each scheme, a specific appraisal panel to undertake the task of shortlisting applications will be established.

The City Council's assessment will clearly have to take the Government eligibility guidance into account, however there will be a focus on the following:

Strategic fit

- Whether the proposal addresses the Priority Investment Themes as outlined within this local Stoke-on-Trent prospectus.
- How the proposal aligns with local strategy, in particular addressing the issues raised within the [Powering Up Prospectus \(external site\)](#)
- How the project works alongside, supplementing existing provision.
- Providing good value for money in terms of outcomes against investment.
- The extent to which the project demonstrates innovation in service delivery, through:
 - introducing new delivery approaches.
 - integrated approaches across policy themes or
 - collaboration between partner organisations.

Deliverability, effectiveness, and efficiency

- Confirmation that projects can be established, delivered and completed by the end of the programme.
- Project risks have been identified and are adequately mitigated.
- The applicant sets out an efficient mode of delivery including an assessment of value for money taking account of the level of contribution to programme outputs for funding sought.

Gateway Checklist

The Government have established a set of criteria which has to be satisfied in order for projects to be considered, it is therefore prudent that this be applied at the local level.

Projects are therefore asked to ensure that: -

1. Project proposals will be delivered and all expenditure incurred by the end of programme date.
2. Projects do not duplicate other national or local provision.
3. The project responds to the themes and needs identified in the Governments UKSPF Prospectus.

4. Projects will be delivered by a legally constituted organisation able to receive public monies.
5. Projects will be delivered in line with all subsidy control requirements.
6. Projects will be delivered in accordance with the Governments branding guidelines.

Failure to satisfy this checklist is likely to prevent applications progressing. Projects that are able to confirm that the above criteria can be met will then be considered at the local level.

Submissions to Stoke-on-Trent City Council will be scored at equal ratios on the following criteria.

Strategic Fit	Evidence (example)
How the project contributes to addressing the City's UK Shared Prosperity Fund Priorities.	Applicants are encouraged to utilise data which demonstrates how the issue being addressed will be impacted. How will the proposal address issues identified within the City Council's Powering Up Prospectus?
Deliverability	Evidence (example)
Clarification that all delivery can take place by programme end date Risks have been identified and addressed/mitigated.	Robust and realistic delivery milestones. Confirmation of recruitment and procurement activity. Risk assessment, with particular focus on delivery.
Value for Money	Evidence (example)
The City Council support the approach in encouraging larger scale projects which demonstrate real impact	The volume and quality of outcomes and outputs in comparison to the size of the funding being requested. Projects are encouraged to convey the anticipated impact that their proposals will have within the City, including wider benefits and outcomes. The UKSPF fund is limited in terms of the activities it is designed to address, as a result, although not a requirement, any match funding will be viewed in a positive light.

Once the shortlisting exercise has been completed applicants will be informed as to whether or not their submissions have made the City Council's shortlist.

Stage Two

Short listed applications who pass stage one of the appraisals will be presented to the City's UK Shared Prosperity Investment board, who will select the successful projects.