

September 2023 - Economy Team

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Report or Presentation	Committee Resolution	Committee Comments	Accepted (Y/N)	Action taken	
19-Sep-23	UK Shared Prosperity And Rural England Prosperity Funds Programme Update.	Presentation	1. That the contents of the presentation were noted.	1. That there was appreciation for the diverse range of activities funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and a desire to understand the success factors and quantifiable returns on investment for completed or partially completed activities.	y	each grant agreement stipulates the outcomes required of projects. These are reported to government and an annual and end of programme report will be prepared. Case studies are also being collected	
				2. A question was raised about the possibility of the UKSPF being repeated in the future, considering it is a two-year fund, and whether there might be future government initiatives.		responded to at the meeting. It was the officer opinion that is was unlikely to be repeated.	
				3. Regarding the Market Town Improvement, there was a query about the focus being primarily on Central Winchester markets and whether there were plans to extend similar improvements to market towns like Alresford.	Y	Responded to at the meeting - that we were in contact with other markets	
				4. It was emphasised that the three areas for investment (people and skills, local business, and community in place) should not be viewed as distinct but interconnected. Improving skills could benefit local businesses, which, in turn, enhances the sense of community and place, ultimately creating a positive cycle.	Y	noted - but to be aware that the fund does require us to report on specific outcomes against each of these three areas and their interventions	
			2. That the Cabinet Member and officers note the comments of the committee as outlined above.	y			
19-Sep-23	Winchester City Street Market Management Contract And Operating Policy	Report (Ref: CAB3427)	1. The importance of flexibility in the relationship between the city council and the market operator while adhering to set conditions.	1. The importance of ensuring alignment between the council's vision and the current operator's capabilities and whether excessive rules might hinder their effectiveness.	Y	The new contract allows a transition period for the council to work with the operator to introduce the new policies. Regular contract monitoring meetings will provide opportunity review effective of policy and to refine if / adjust if need be.	
				2. The importance of encouraging startups and the possibility of relaxing criteria for new businesses to lower overheads.	4. That there were potential barriers to business startups and innovation posed by the application process and whether steps could be taken to enable innovation.	Y	Noted - a new business/ start up will be able to operate - the application process will be considered/adapted for their particular business - however key H&S requirements can not be foregone.
				3. That within the market trader selection process, there should be an emphasis on green credentials and alignment with the council's net zero objectives.	3. A question was asked about the feedback and readiness of current market traders regarding the proposed rules and guidelines.	Y	Noted - the team have been undertaking regular engagements with the individual traders. Policy also sets out sustainability standards.
				4. That there was a desire to provide a range of market options addressing both quality and affordability for residents.	2. That consideration be given to affordability as part of the qualitative assessment to maintain the traditional role of markets as places for affordable shopping.	Y	The application process requires traders to provide information on pricing
				5. That there were no significant comments on the framework, communications, and transition plan.	5. Regarding the communication and engagement plans for the transition, including how the tendering process would be conducted to procure a new or the same operator under the new terms and conditions.		
				6. That the Cabinet Member and officers note the comments of the committee			