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Wedi ei ariannu gan  
Llywodraeth y DU

# UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Expression of Interest Guidance

WEDI'I YRRU GAN POWERED BY

**FFYNIANT LEVELLING**  
**— BRO — — UP —**



monmouthshire  
sir fynwy



## What is the Shared Prosperity Fund?

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) is a central pillar of the UK government's ambitious Levelling Up agenda with the primary goal to build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK. The three investment priorities of the UKSPF are community and place, supporting local business and people and skills.

More on the Shared Prosperity Fund can be found in the [UKSPF Prospectus](#).

## Open Call for Monmouthshire

The open call for Monmouthshire is an opportunity for various organisations to submit an Expression of Interest to deliver projects in the Monmouthshire area. Capital and revenue funding as available to support projects that can help to strengthen communities, build pride in place, and deliver economic benefit through the three investment areas.


Funding is available to support project costs incurred between **1<sup>st</sup> April 2024** and **31<sup>st</sup> March 2025**. No further funding beyond this period is offered or guaranteed.

The maximum amount of funding available for a single project is £200,000.

## Eligible Organisations

- Local Authority Services
- Private Sector Organisations (to deliver projects, not to support business development)
- Third Sector or Voluntary Sector Organisations
- Higher Education Institutions
- Further Education Colleges
- Other Public Sectors.

Organisations need to have been in existence for a minimum of a year and be able to submit their latest audited accounts to satisfy relevant fraud checks.





# Expression of Interest Process

The open call for expressions of interested is being conducted in two phases.

## **Phase 1 – Initial Expression of Interest**

Opens **30<sup>th</sup> August 2023** and closes **13<sup>th</sup> October 2023**.

Outline proposals to include:

- Details of the lead organisation, any partners, and primary contact
- Activity/works to be delivered by the project
- Intended outputs and outcomes
- Financial request and what it will be spent on


Organisations who have adequately demonstrated they can meet the criteria shown in the ‘What can be funded?’ section will be invited to submit a final expression of interest.

Initial expressions of interest can be submitted by visiting [www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/get-involved-spf/](http://www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/get-involved-spf/). Alternative formats can be requested from [sharedprosperityfund@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:sharedprosperityfund@monmouthshire.gov.uk).

## **Phase 2 – Final Expression of Interest**

Opens **20<sup>th</sup> October 2023** and closes **24<sup>th</sup> November 2023**.

During this phase applicants will be invited to submit a more comprehensive project plan for consideration and provided the opportunity to answer any queries or concerns identified from the initial expression of interest.





# Intervention Areas for Monmouthshire

Expressions of interest are being sought from projects that can target the following interventions, based on identified gaps within the current investment plan and portfolio of projects.


## **Investment Priority: Community and Place**

1. Funding for improvements to town centres and high streets, including better accessibility for disabled people (W1)
2. Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency, and combat fuel poverty and climate change (W13)

## **Investment Priority: Supporting Local Business**

1. Supporting Made Smarter Adoption: Providing tailored expert advice, matched grants and leadership training to enable manufacturing SMEs to adopt industrial digital technology solutions (W18)
2. Investing in enterprise infrastructure and employment/innovation site development projects (W22)
3. Investment in resilience infrastructure and nature-based solutions that protect local businesses and community areas from natural hazards including flooding and coastal erosion (W33)

## **Investment Priority: People and Skills**

1. Green skills courses targeted around ensuring we have the skilled workforce to achieve the government's net zero and wider environmental ambitions (W40)
  2. Retraining and upskilling support for those in high carbon sectors, with a particular focus on transitioning to green, and Industry 4.0 and 5.0 jobs (W41)
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# Outputs and Outcomes

Expressions of interest must identify the intended outputs and outcomes that the project will deliver. This will include both an output/outcome description and the quantity target over the project lifetime.

For example:

Number of people reached = 100

Number of events or activities supported = 25

Outputs and outcome for each of the three investment priorities have been pre-determined by UK Government and can be seen in full by selecting from the below.

[Community and Place – Outputs and Outcomes](#)

[Supporting Local Business – Outputs and Outcomes](#)

[People & Skills – Outputs and Outcomes](#)

## How can funding be used?


Both capital and revenue expenditure can be applied for. Capital expenditure refers to funding used to get, build, or upgrade physical assets. Revenue expenditure refers to ongoing organisational costs needed to run the project activities set out in an approved application. For example:

### **Capital**

- Purchase of equipment, machinery or other assets
- Capital works, including refurbishment of buildings and open spaces
- Feasibility studies or research and development costs that are eligible for capitalisation


### **Revenue**




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- Feasibility studies
  - Hire of equipment, machinery or other assets
  - Marketing and translation costs
  - Research and development
  - Research and other consultancy costs
  - Cost of staff, only where the cost relates to delivery of the project
  - Training
  - Travel & subsistence related to the project, including volunteer expenses
  - Irrecoverable VAT
  - Venue hire

These examples are non-exhaustive.

**The following costs should not be included in a UKSPF intervention:**

- paid for lobbying, entertaining, petitioning or challenging decisions, which means using the Fund to lobby (via an external firm or in-house staff) in order to undertake activities intended to influence or attempt to influence Parliament, government or political activity including the receipt of UKSPF funding; or attempting to influence legislative or regulatory action
  - payments for activities of a party political or exclusively religious nature
  - VAT reclaimable from HMRC
  - gifts, or payments for gifts or donations
  - statutory fines, criminal fines or penalties
  - payments for works or activities which the lead local authority, project deliverer, end beneficiary, or any member of their partnership has a statutory duty to undertake, or that are fully funded by other sources
  - contingencies and contingent liabilities
  - dividends
  - bad debts, costs resulting from the deferral of payments to creditors, or winding up a company
  - expenses in respect of litigation, unfair dismissal or other compensation
  - costs incurred by individuals in setting up and contributing towards private pension schemes
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The Open Call is being operated under UK Subsidy Rules. All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as per UK Government guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/subsidy-control-regime>

## Further information

Should you require any further information please contact us.

**By email:**

[SharedProsperityFund@monmouthshire.gov.uk](mailto:SharedProsperityFund@monmouthshire.gov.uk)

**By post:**

MCC - Economy, Employment & Skills  
County Hall  
Rhadyr  
Usk  
NP15 1GA

