UK Shared Prosperity Fund 2025/26 Scoring Criteria

This scoring criteria is based on guidance published in the [UK Shared Prosperity Fund 2025-26: Technical note](#) and the published Tendring District Council Cabinet report [A. UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND TRANSITION YEAR 2025/26](#).

As set out in both of the above, the UK government has set out the UK Shared Prosperity Fund investment priorities/themes: Communities and Place, Supporting Local Business and People and Skills. These priorities include sub themes and are further broken down to deliver specific outputs and outcomes.

Within each themes corresponding application forms, the following priorities were set out:

The People & Skills Priority includes the following sub-themes, as per Government's criteria:

- Employability
    - Supporting people to progress towards and into employment
    - Support for young people who are or at risk of being NEET
- Skills
    - Essential skills (including numeracy, literacy, ESOL and digital)
    - Employment related skills

The Communities and Place Priority includes the following sub-themes, as per Government's criteria:

- Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities
    - Improving health and wellbeing
    - Reducing crime, and the fear of crime
    - Bringing communities together
    - Tackling homelessness
- Thriving Places
    - Development of the visitor economy
    - High streets and town centre improvements

The Supporting Local Business Priority includes the following sub-themes, as per Government's criteria:

- Advice and support to businesses
- Enterprise culture and start-up support
- Support for business sites and premises
- Projects should be those which support/impact a variety of local businesses through their work, not solely one business – although one business can make an application if justification is made that the project would have an impact beyond their own organisation.

As part of the application process, applicants were required to complete a Stage 2 form, to select which outputs and outcomes their projects would achieve, to then be further explained within their application form.

As detailed in the Stage 2 form, all projects must deliver one or more of the following listed outcomes in order to be considered for funding

- Business and Community Assets
- Enterprises
- Events and Activities
- People and Users
- Others

<u>Stage 1 - Pass/Fail</u>

If any of these questions are failed, the rest of the application will not be scored.

1. Will the project be completed before 31st March 2026?
2. Is the project based in Tendring?
3. Has Stage 2 been submitted, and has one or more of the outcomes been selected?
4. Is this a Tendring District Council project? If yes, consider last and only if we have an underspend.
5. Does this project support other local businesses in Tendring (Supporting Local Business Only) – If no, fail

<u>Stage 2</u>

As well as the pass/fail questions, there are 4 scored questions as part of the application process, meaning the overall score will be out of a maximum of 10 as per the table below. Three people will score individually, then discuss to agree one overall score out of 10.

Section 1 - How well has the project been explained and justified, does this support the priorities set out within the sub-themes?

Please give a short description of your project & please provide evidence to support your project. If your application is for an existing/continuing project, please provide information on its track record and impact so far. For a new project please provide evidence of research into need or demand.

Section 2 – Has the applicant provided an adequate cost breakdown?

Please briefly explain how you have reached this figure, including any sources of match funding if appropriate.

Section 3 - Value for money – Through the outputs and outcomes, we aim to achieve the maximum benefits for Tendring residents, that also offer value for money. Reflecting on the number of outputs and scale of outcomes achieved (from the questions below) compared to the cost of the project, how well does the project represent value for money?

Please provide specific details on the output/s & outcome/s you have selected on the Form, including a specific figure for each and how you have reached this estimate.

Please state what you see as the benefits to your project. Include information on where the project is located, a description of its benefits, and who the beneficiaries will be. You may wish to refer to the outputs and outcomes you have selected.

Section 4 – A consideration for applicants who have previously received UKSPF.

As detailed in each theme's application form: *Projects which have already benefitted from UKSPF or the aligned Fund, Rural England Prosperity Funding, are eligible to apply, for a continuation of the same project or a new initiative. However, all applicants should think*

carefully about how they demonstrate not only the impact of their proposed project, but how it could continue into the future without the availability of UKSPF beyond this financial year, if appropriate.

Scored Questions:	
0	**Wholly Unsatisfactory**
	No response or the whole response is irrelevant to all of the question and evaluation criteria.
1	**Unsatisfactory**
	The response only covers a minor element of the question and evaluation criteria and does not provide evidence to all points mentioned in the question
2	**Partially Acceptable**
	The response covers more than one element of the question and evaluation criteria but does not fully evidence all points mentioned in the question
3	**Acceptable**
	The response addresses the question provides sufficient evidence for all aspects of the question