

To: Councillor Ivan Henderson, Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth, Regeneration & Tourism

From: Elise Steer, Economic Growth Officer

Cc: Lee Heley, Deputy Chief Executive & Corporate Director, Place and Wellbeing

Cc: Barbara Pole, Economic Growth and Enterprise Manager

Cc: David Ousby, Interim Assistant Director, Project Delivery (Head of PD Unit)

Cc: Kirstin Foley, Economic Growth Officer

Date: 29th January 2026

Dear Councillor Henderson,

UK Shared Prosperity Funding

This report provides background information to support the proposed decision to repurpose the remaining £377.08 underspend from the 50's+ Jobs and Skills event delivered on 21 January 2026. The report outlines the reason for the underspend and the justification for reallocating this budget to support two forthcoming events that align with the objectives of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF).

Background

On 22 July 2025, the Deputy Leader of the Council and Economic Growth, Regeneration & Tourism Portfolio Holder approved five successful projects within the People and Skills theme, allocating a total of £69,050.

Within this theme, one successful project under supporting people to progress towards and into employment was unable to utilise the full awarded amount, resulting in £1,200 being returned to the Council.

Therefore, on 24 November 2025, approval was granted to reallocate the returned £1,200 to support the 50's+ Jobs and Skills Fair, delivered on 21 January 2026 at the Sunspot.

The event was successfully delivered, however, there was a final underspend of £377.08, now available for reallocation.

Proposal for Reallocation

It is proposed that the remaining £377.08 be repurposed to support two upcoming events that contribute to the UKSPF priorities of strengthening local business engagement, enhancing employer knowledge, and supporting local residents and enterprises.

1. Annual Harwich Innovation Cluster Business Event

- Proposed allocation: £300
- Date: 24 February 2026
- Location: The Waterfront, Harwich
- Delivery partner: Freeport East

This event serves as a hub for innovation, showcasing new technological and industrial developments within Harwich and across the wider Tendring district. It will provide local businesses and residents with insight into emerging opportunities, including developments in advanced manufacturing, clean energy, and logistics.

2. Employment Law Networking and Information Event

- Proposed allocation: £77.08
- Date: 9 March 2026
- Location: Clacton Town Hall
- Delivery partner: HR Prime

This event will equip local employers with the latest updates on changes to employment law. The session will help businesses understand their responsibilities and adapt their policies and practices to support both new and existing staff. Strengthening employer capability is a key component of improving workplace culture, boosting productivity, and ensuring compliance.

This approach ensures the remaining UKSPF funding continues to support high-impact activity that strengthens local businesses, develops skills, and benefits the wider Tendring economy.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us to discuss any aspect further before granting your consent, on any of the above outlined proposals.

Kind regards,

Elise Steer

Economic Growth Officer
Tendring District Council

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