

Glasgow City Region UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Update noted – Submission of report to UK Government approved.

9 There was submitted a report by the Director of Regional Economic Growth summarising the Glasgow City Region's (GCR) UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) activity to the end of the financial year 2023/24 and providing the UK Government (UKG) with an update on the level of spend and any carry forward of 2023/24 underspend into 2024/25, together with a summary of the outputs and outcomes, advising

- (1) that the GCR Programme Management Office (PMO), on behalf of the 8 Member Authorities (MAs) and PMO delivery, was required to provide the UKG with 6-monthly progress reports on UKSPF spend and activity;
- (2) that the 6-monthly report provided the UKG with information across a number of headings, including, overall programme summary, outputs and outcomes across the 3 priority themes and Multiply and expenditure profile over the 3 years of the programme;
- (3) of the expenditure summary for GCR UKSPF in 2023/24, as detailed in the report;
- (4) that to the end of the financial year 2023/24, the GCR MAs, together with the GCR PMO, had spent in excess of £25m UKSPF grant which equated to 82% of the overall UKSPF grant allocation over the 2 years and spend had taken place across the 3 priority themes of Communities and Place, Supporting Local Business and People and Skills, together with the dedicated numeracy programme – Multiply;
- (5) that spend had continued to increase quarter on quarter with MAs considering delivery to now be at full capacity, with details of spend across each priority theme and Multiply as detailed in Appendix 1 to the report;
- (6) that the PMO was not concerned about that spend profile, as there were valid reasons where MAs had not been able to achieve 80% spend, as detailed in the report;
- (7) that in order to draw down UKSPF grant allocations in advance of spend for 2024/25, the UKG had put in place a tiered requirement based upon the percentage of cumulative grant spend in the 2 preceding financial years, with the level of grant spend in 2023/24 and percentage of the 2024/25 allocation that could be draw down ahead of spend, as detailed in the report;
- (8) that as GCR had achieved a spend of 82% to date, and that with UKG approval, GCR would be able to draw down 100% of the grant for 2024/25 ahead of spend;
- (9) that the full suite of outputs and outcomes to the end of 2023/24 would be submitted to the UKG as part of the 6-monthly report, with a selection of those, as detailed in Appendix 2 to the report; and

- (10) that following approval by Cabinet the GCR PMO would submit the 6-monthly report to the UKG on 7th May 2024 and would continue to press the UKG for clarity on UKSPF programme conclusion, or the availability of an extension, with the GCR having expressed to the UKG that a decision was required by June 2024 to enable effective planning for any future programme, so as to not impact on programme delivery.

After consideration, the Cabinet

- (a) noted the Glasgow City Region UK Shared Prosperity Fund 6-monthly report; and
- (b) approved submission of the report to the UK Government.