



# UK Shared Prosperity Fund



Investment Plan Submission

#### Your location

To be eligible for funding, you will need to be applying on behalf of a lead authority in one of the delivery geographies.

**For Scotland and Wales only:** Who else is this investment plan being submitted on behalf of? Select all that apply

#### Your details

Name lan Duke, Deputy Chief Executive

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Phone number **01293 438005** 

Organisation name Crawley Borough Council

#### Local challenges and opportunities

In this section, we will ask you:

- If you've identified any challenges or opportunities, you intend to support
- Which of the UKSPF investment priorities these fall under

# ARE THERE ANY LOCAL CHALLENGES YOU FACE WHICH FALL UNDER THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

(If yes) Describe these challenges, give evidence where possible

Mission 9 – By 2030 pride in places, such as people's satisfaction with their town centre and engagement in local and culture and community, will have risen in every area of the UK, with the gap between top performing and other areas closing

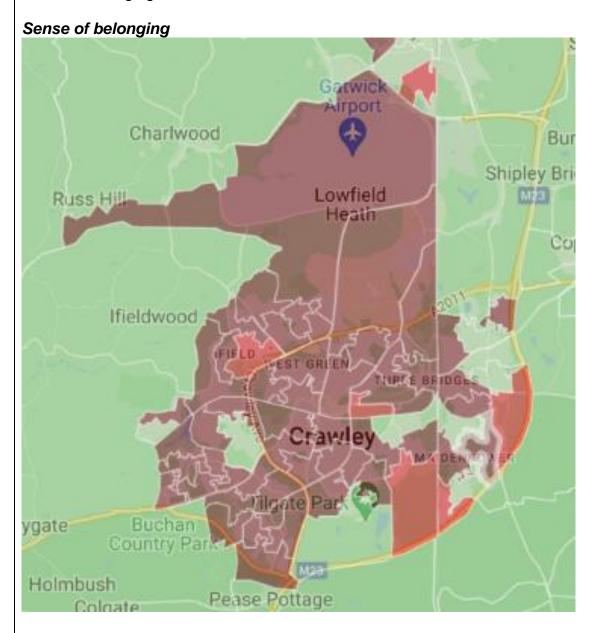
Crawley has lower levels of belonging scores compared to the national average. The sense of belonging can change depending on where someone lives within an area in Crawley (Social Life - Community Life Survey 2015/16). There is a higher concentration of lower sense of belonging in areas on the west, however this is also prevalent in pockets within neighbourhoods on the east.

There are correlations between the level of belonging and the areas classed as multicultural metropolitans in the maps below. These areas are generally classed as urban areas with a high proportion of BME groups and a high proportion of families (ONS – Output Area Classification 2014). The areas classed as multicultural metropolitans in general also have lower sense of belonging.

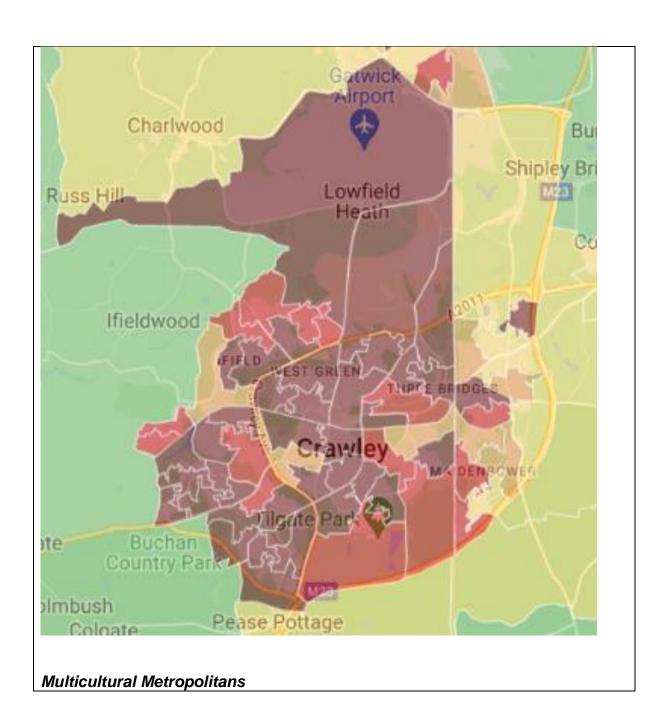
The satisfaction as the local area as a place to live differs both across Crawley and within neighbourhoods. Areas in the north of Crawley show more satisfaction with

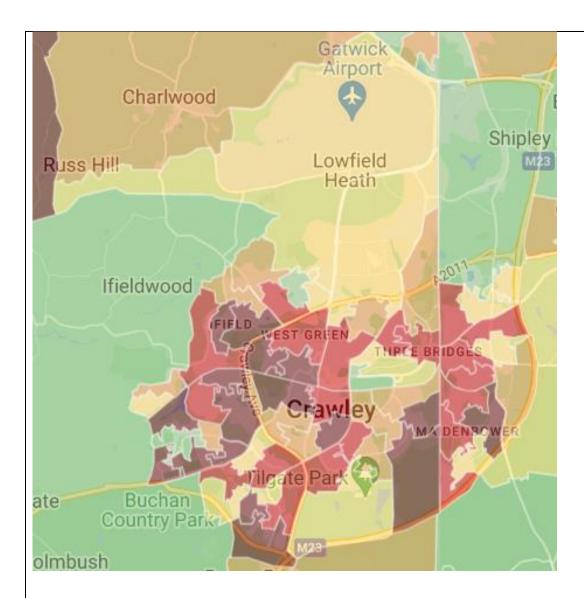
the local area as a place to live but report lower levels of belonging (Social Life - Community Life Survey 2015/16).

The darker brown and red colour in the map below shows where there are lower levels of belonging.



Level of satisfaction





Mission 7 – By 2020 the gap in Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) between local areas where it is highest and lowest will have narrowed, and by 2045 HLE will rise by 5 years.

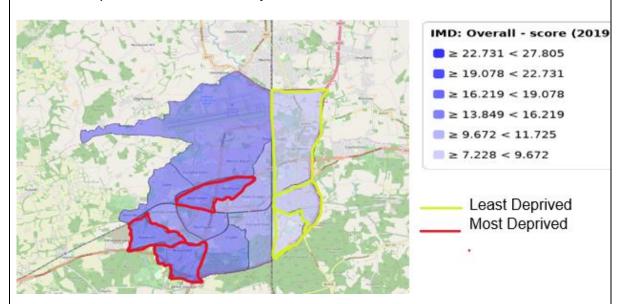
This is significant for Crawley which is ranked 16<sup>th</sup> worst performing borough or district in England for social mobility and the deprivation score is 2.3 times higher than the least deprived in the county.

There are differences in life expectancy in Crawley, which range from 79.5 years in Bewbush to 86.5 years in Maidenbower. Four of the neighbourhoods with the lowest life expectancy are situated in the west of the town, Bewbush, West Green, Ifield, and Broadfield with the four highest being in the east; Maidenbower, Pound Hill, Tilgate and Three Bridges.

The difference between the life expectancy for males and females with the average life expectancy for men being 80.2 years and females 84 years (WSCC JSNA 2021)

Inequality in life expectancy at birth; the difference in years of life expectancy across the gradient from most to least deprived is 5.3 years for males and 5.6 years for females (WSCC JSNA 2021).

There are vast differences in levels of deprivation across the town and within neighbourhoods and wards. IMD 2019 data shows that there is a divide geographically with the most deprived areas located in the west of Crawley and the least deprived areas of Crawley located in the east.



13 LSOA make up the top 20% most deprived LSOA in Crawley. 12 of the 13 LSOA are in the West of Crawley, with 5 of these in Broadfield, 3 in Bewbush and 2 in West Green.

4 of the top 10 most deprived LSOA for health deprivation are also in the top 20% for overall deprivation for Crawley; these are in West Green, Broadfield and Bewbush. One of the LSOAs in West Green is the most deprived for health inequalities in Crawley.

Crawley has a high levels of cancer mortality rates for under 75s as a town and low uptake levels of screening. The rate of deaths from cancer is higher within the most deprived areas in west of Crawley with Broadfield and Bewbush being the highest Rates (ONS – 2021) Crawley.

The number of households in poverty in Crawley is nearly double in Broadfield (26%) than in Maidenbower (14%). The pattern is the same for fuel poverty.

There is an elevated risk that the HLE gap is likely to increase with the sharp rise in cost of living and rise in inflation more likely to disproportionately affect those in the most deprived areas of Crawley. Three LSOA in Broadfield have been identified as most at risk of falling below an acceptable standard of living in Crawley due the result of rising costs.

Local community and voluntary organisations are already seeing significant rise in demand for their services including support to access food and advice and

guidance in relation to paying household bills, housing, debt management and accessing benefits.

Community organisations themselves are also being impacted by the rise in overhead costs and utilities which is disproportionate to grants from funding bodies which were awarded by set amounts. There is an elevated risk that this will have a negative impact on the level of service delivery at a time were demand for support to vulnerable individuals and families is at its highest.

# Mission 8 – By 2030, well-being will have improved in every area of the UK, with the gap between top performing and others closing.

The most deprived wards of Crawley and more recently West Green and Furnace Green have the highest smoking and obesity rates and some of the lowest physical activity rates (PHE, Local Authority Health Profile 2018-20). It follows that the associated diseases and ill health will be more prevalent in these areas.

# Smoking Prevalence

Current smokers aged 18+ in Crawley amount to approximately 15.5% (OFHID 2020) of the adult population. Crawley has the second highest prevalence of smoking in adults aged 18+ (PHE, Crawley Health Profile 2019). There are links to employment and smoking with the picture for adults in routine and manual occupation being less positive and has fallen even further behind since 2018 from 29.9% to 33.4% in 2020 compared to the England average of 21.4% for 2020 (OFHID).

# Obesity

66.2% of residents are classified as overweight or obese in Crawley based on the latest Active Lives Survey. Approximately 18% of year 6 pupils in Crawley are obese (West Sussex Public Health 2019). The levels of obesity are higher in areas which have higher levels of deprivation. The levels for Broadfield, Bewbush and West Green are double that of Maidenbower and are higher than the Crawley average.

## Alcohol misuse

There are higher levels of binge drinking in parts of Bewbush and Broadfield. Alcohol is a causal factor in more than 60 medical conditions, including: mouth, throat, stomach, liver and breast cancers, high blood pressure, cirrhosis of the liver, and depression. (Local Alcohol Profiles for England; short statistical commentary, Feb 2022 – GOV.UK).

## Participation in activity

The most recent Active Life Survey (May 2020-21) shows a significant increase of 2.5% more inactive adults in England before the pandemic began. Crawley recorded the highest inactivity rates in Sussex at 31%, a significant increase of 5.9% before the pandemic began (Active Lives Survey 2020/21). At a neighbourhood LSOA level Furnace Green (013D) has the highest estimated inactivity levels in the whole of Sussex at 42.3% (Active Sussex, 2021).

Minority ethnic and first-generation migrant (i.e., those born outside the UK) communities in West Sussex are more prevalent in Crawley, where they accounted for 28% of the population in 2011. Minority and ethnic communities are known to face different barriers to services and health inequalities have been well documented (JSNA West Sussex Substance Misuse Health Needs Assessment, 2021

Crawley's Asian and Asian British residents report more long-term illness and "not good health" than White British and Other White populations across all ages. Higher rates were also found in the White Irish population, particularly those over 65 years of age.

Additional data identified during the Covid19 pandemic of 2020 has re-emphasised the wider health inequalities for our most vulnerable residents as well as those from Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic heritage

# Mission 11 – By 2030, homicide, serious violence and neighbourhood crime will have fallen, focussed on the worst affected areas

Information from Police.UK shows that violence and sexual abuse, anti-social behaviour, public order and criminal damage and arson are the highest reported offences in July 21-June 22 across most neighbourhoods. Broadfield has the highest number of offences for all categories except public order offences, on which it has the second highest (Three Bridges being the highest for this category). Within Broadfield there are higher numbers of offences within Broadfield Place/Coachmans Drive and Plantain and Fennel Crescent.

There are incidents of violence and sexual offences apparent across all neighbourhoods in Crawley. Broadfield (548), West Green (472) and Three Bridges (454) reported he most of this type in the period July 2021 – Jun 2022 with the lowest reported offences of this type being in Furnace Green (131) and Maidenbower (178).

Broadfield (291) and Southgate (220) have the highest for antisocial behaviour with Furnace Green (75) and Ifield (76) being the lowest.

Reported public order offences range from 151 in Three Bridges and 147 in Broadfield compared with 38 in Furnace Green and 53 in Maidenbower.

The gap in reported offences is also significant for criminal damage and arson with Broadfield again having the highest number off offences 124 compared to 35 in Maidenbower.

# ARE THERE ANY LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE INVESTMENT PRIORITY THAT YOU INTEND TO SUPPORT?

(If yes) Describe these opportunities, give evidence where possible

The key opportunity is to use the UKSPF to address the inequalities identified by the evidence base above and seek to level up outcomes within both the Crawley and national context. In developing the evidence base above, Local Super Output Areas were used to map outcomes. Analysis of the evidence base shows three areas within Crawley that stand out both for how often they are flagged and for their rankings:

#### Broadfield

Very much the standout geography, with 5 LSOAs within the 13 LSOAs in Crawley that fall within the 20% most deprived locally with 2 also being in the 20% most deprived nationally. When looking at thematic areas, Broadfield is represented throughout, but particularly in terms of Income, Employment, Education & Skills, and Housing.

#### Bewbush

3 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived locally, with a particular focus around education and skills.

#### West Green

2 LSOAs within the 20% most deprived locally with a particular focus around Health, Employment and Crime.

Whilst other areas are also identified, they do not appear as regularly or at the same depth. The proposal is therefore to focus upon the above areas so as not to dilute focus too far given the limited resources available (with Crawley receiving the smallest possible allocation of UKSPF at £1m over 3 years).

The target areas above have traditionally proven harder to reach. There was significant learning during Covid about how to best target initiatives within hard-to-reach communities, for instance to increase vaccine take up. Crawley was widely recognised for its innovative approaches to overcoming the barriers that caused this. Central to this success was the use of community ambassadors and designing locally specific access. This approach is also being applied to health service take up in the Town.

Consequently, the approach agreed by local partners is to use Year 1 funding to undertake engagement sessions with residents, community champions, key stakeholders from the statutory, voluntary, community and business sectors within the three areas to:

- Map services and existing networks,
- Identify key needs, issues, and barriers to accessing services
- Inform, shape and tailor projects to be delivered in Years 2 & 3

This way, Year 2 & 3 interventions will be designed and targeted in a way to maximise take up and reduce barriers to access, whilst also maximising complementarity with other programmes to increase collective impact and increase the likelihood of sustainability post UKSPF funding.

Recognising that a significant barrier over the period of this programme is likely to be the impact of the cost-of-living crisis, we are also suggesting that Year 1 is used to increase the capacity of the voluntary sector to support residents in the following

#### areas:

- Fuel poverty
- Debt and financial management advice
- Access to Food supporting local food banks

In developing the approach with partners, the following opportunities have been identified:

# Crawley Wellbeing

Enhance the wellbeing mobile unit service to offer targeted health and wellbeing preventative services within priority areas and identify, recruit and train community champions.

# Crawley Borough Council

Community Participatory Appraisal exercise within identified areas to work with the community to further explore issues/needs and identify solutions 22/23. Also focus on developing community pride etc.

#### Creative Crawley

Building on a successful project in the Town Centre, suggest using large scale arts and culture to build a sense of pride in place. Opportunities for an arts talent training and development programme for young people aged 18-25. Seek to increase participation in arts activity to improve wellbeing, perhaps using the 'Give it a Go' workshops as a model.

## Arts Council Priority Places

Crawley has been identified as one of 54 Priority Places by Arts Council England. As part of its 2021-24 Delivery Plan, The Arts Council identified areas in England where investment and engagement in arts and culture was too low, and it will be prioritising investing in Crawley and working with local stakeholders.

#### NHS Sussex

Are undertaking significant engagement and can align efforts where that makes sense. They will be developing an 'accessibility framework' which will understand barriers for the most disadvantaged groups and how we can design out barriers to accessing services. The development of health services focus is primarily around those most disadvantaged groups. It means ensure the integration of services including the wellbeing hub

## • West Sussex Affordable Energy Partnership

Created by the Adur & Worthing Citizen Advice Bureau, it aims to provide all West Sussex residents with access to good quality energy advice, casework, and energy linked hardship schemes (e.g., fuel vouchers).

# ARE THERE ANY LOCAL CHALLENGES YOU FACE WHICH FALL UNDER THE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

(If yes) Describe these challenges, give evidence where possible

Mission 1 – By 2030, pay, employment and productivity will have risen in every area of the UK, with each containing a globally competitive city, with the gap between the top performing and other areas closing

Crawley is a £6bn sub-regional economic driver, with the highest employment density outside of London. By national comparisons it performs well in terms of GVA and productivity. However, the local economy was hit hard by Covid-19, recognised as the worst hit economy nationally due to the twin impacts on air travel and related industries, and export industries more widely.

The Office for the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner have highlighted business crime as an area of concern across Sussex. Total Reported Business Crime over the last 12 months for Crawley was 1749, rising from 1277 in 2021 and 1183 in 2020. Shoplifting represented 56.2% of business crime in Crawley.

Mission 2 – By 2030, domestic public investment in Research & Development outside the Greater South-East will increase by at least 40% and at least one third over the spending review period, with that additional government funding seeking to leverage at least twice as much private sector investment over the long term to stimulate innovation and productivity growth.

Crawley site within the South-East and so it assumed this mission is not relevant.

ARE THERE ANY LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT PRIORITY THAT YOU INTEND TO SUPPORT?

(If yes) Describe these opportunities, give evidence where possible

Crawley has been the recipient of Town Deal monies which, alongside the joint Growth Programme with West Sussex County Council, is driving the economic recovery plan. The partnership set up to oversee the Town Deal, known as the Town Deal Board, has also been the partnership mechanism used for this Investment Plan. Given the receipt of other monies to support local business, the scale of funding available through UKSPF (at £1m this is the lowest level of allocation), and the need identified in other priority areas, this investment priority is seen as less of a priority.

Through this process however, the following opportunities have been identified by partners, namely:

## • West Sussex County Council

Have proposed two potential interventions in this priority. Firstly, Business Support, Growth, and Innovation (including Low Carbon Economy) programmes that likewise see ESIF funding end in 2023. Secondly, new Energy Initiatives including community measures or decarbonisation

- Office for the Sussex Police & Crime Commissioner
   looking to enhance their Sussex-wide Business Crime Team and have developed an outline proposition
- Coast to Capital Local Enterprise Partnership
   Has expressed interest how the fund might support local business development and growth

These opportunities will firstly be considered in relation to the needs of the target areas. Should they not be relevant, they will be assessed as to whether they should be considered on their own merits.

ARE THERE ANY LOCAL CHALLENGES YOU FACE WHICH FALL UNDER THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITY? (In Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland this should also include challenges relating to Multiply)

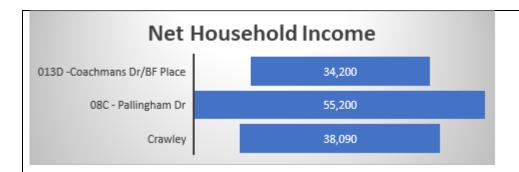
(If yes) Describe these challenges, give evidence where possible

Mission 1 – By 2030, pay, employment and productivity will have risen in every area of the UK, with each containing a globally competitive city, with the gap between the top performing and other areas closing

There are vast differences between household income and type of occupation people are employed in depending on which area a person lives in Crawley.

### Income

Broadfield has the top 2 most deprived LSOAs for income deprivation in Crawley. There is a significant difference of over £20,000 between the net income in the most deprived overall LSOA in Broadfield at £34,200, and the least deprived overall LSOA in Maidenbower £55,200 (ONS 2020).



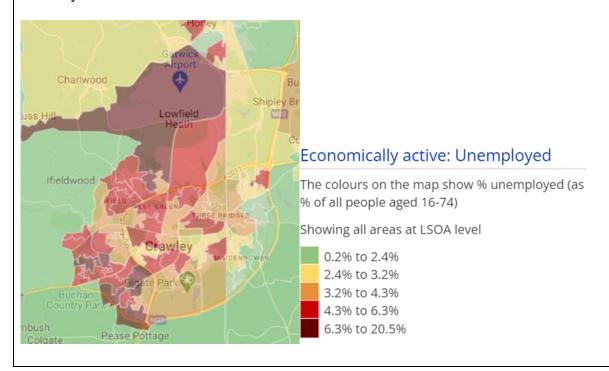
Crawley has the highest chance of a child being born into a low-income family in West Sussex. In Broadfield, the rate is 26.6%. 5 LSOAs in Bewbush, Broadfield and West Green which are in the top 13 for overall deprivation in Crawley are also in the top 10 for income deprivation affecting children. 3 of the LSOAs in Broadfield and 1 in Bewbush are in top 10 for income deprivation affecting older people with 2 LSOAs in Broadfield being ranked 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> most deprived

# **Employment**

For the period April 21 – March 22, the total (working age) population of people aged 16-64 in Crawley is 72,000 with 65,000 (90%) of those in employment. The total population of (working age) people that are economically inactive is 10,256 or 13.8% (Source NOMIS).

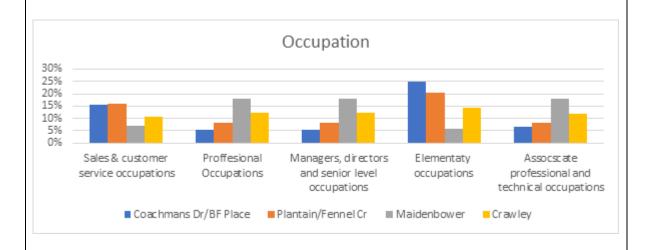
As a district this is the lowest in West Sussex and lower than the regional and UK averages. Pockets of unemployed and economically inactive are concentrated in the west of the borough:

Out of the top 20% LSOAs for overall deprivation 5 LSOAs, 3 in Broadfield and 2 in West Green are in the top ten LSOA most deprived for employment in Crawley.



A higher proportion of people in the west of Crawley are employed in elementary occupations. Elementary occupations are often lower paid and lower skilled. The most deprived LSOA in Broadfield has 25% employed within elementary occupations compared to 4.4% in the lease deprived LSOA in Crawley in Maidenbower (ONS).

In contrast the least deprived LSOA in Maidenbower has 19.4% employed within managerial and professional occupations, which are typically classed as higher skilled and are higher paid compared to 5.5% in the most deprived LSOA in Broadfield.



# **Universal Credit Claimant Count**

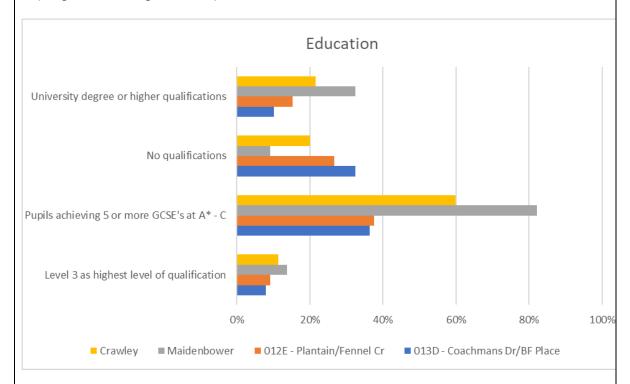
Crawley has consistently seen the highest % claimant count in West Sussex and the Coast to Capital area. At its peak in February/March 2021, Crawley's UC claimant count had more than trebled from 2.7% to 8.9% - an increase of nearly 4,500 people. This was a direct consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the economic impact on the town, recognised as being the greatest in the country.

Since February 2022, there has been a steady decline in the % claimant count with the latest figures (June 2022) showing 2,960 people claiming UC. Crawley's rate remains the highest in West Sussex and higher than both regional and national averages (Source NOMIS).

Mission 6 – By 2030, the number of people successfully completing high-quality skills training will have significantly increased in every area of the UK. In England, this will lead to 200,00 more people successfully completing high-quality skills training annually, driven by 80,000 more people completing courses in the lowest skilled areas.

For the period Jan-Dec 2021, 35% of Crawley residents were qualified in NVQ Level 4 and above and 50% were qualified in NVQ 3. These are the lowest rates in West Sussex (source NOMIS).

The majority of the most deprived LSOA for education and skills are in the areas of deprivation in the west: 8 out of the top ten most deprived LSOAs for Education and skills are in Broadfield and Bewbush; 6 out of the top ten LSOA most deprived for adult skills are in Broadfield and Bewbush; 10% of people in the most deprived LSOA in Broadfield have a university degree or higher compared to 34% in the least deprived in Maidenbower; 33% of people in the most deprived LSOA in Broadfield have no qualifications compared to 8% in the least deprived LSOA in Maidenbower; and 18% of children do not achieve a GCSE grade higher than a D / 3 (England average is 13%).



Mission 7 – By 2020 the gap in Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) between local areas where it is highest and lowest will have narrowed, and by 2045 HLE will rise by 5 years.

15,702 (14.7%) of Crawley's residents have a long-term condition that limits a person's day-to-day activities either a little or a lot. With population projections set to increase 9.8% overall between 2016-2026, disproportionately higher amongst the 65 years + age range, there will be a further need to provide preventative interventions to meet needs of an ageing population (source: CCG Data Pack 2014 – Revised Oct 15)

The percentage of working age benefit claimants in the most deprived LSOA in Broadfield (40%) is nearly three times greater than that of the least deprived LSOA in Maidenbower (14%)

ARE THERE ANY LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITY THAT YOU INTEND TO SUPPORT? (In Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland this should also include challenges relating to Multiply)

(If yes) Describe these opportunities, give evidence where possible

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The target areas above have traditionally proven harder to reach. There was significant learning during Covid about how to best target initiatives within hard-to-reach communities, for instance to increase vaccine take up. Crawley was widely recognised for its innovative approaches to overcoming the barriers that caused this. Central to this success was the use of community ambassadors and designing locally specific access. This approach is also being applied to health service take up in the Town.

Consequently, the approach agreed by local partners is to use Year 1 funding to undertake engagement sessions with residents, community champions, key stakeholders from the statutory, voluntary, community and business sectors within the three areas to:

- Map services and existing networks,
- Identify key needs, issues, and barriers to accessing services
- Inform, shape and tailor projects to be delivered in Years 2 & 3

This way, Year 2 & 3 interventions will be designed and targeted in a way to maximise take up and reduce barriers to access, whilst also maximising complementarity with other programmes to increase collective impact and increase the likelihood of sustainability post UKSPF funding.

In developing the approach with partners, the following opportunities have been identified:

# Employ Crawley

Locally targeted business start-up and employment support service for those in identified areas, that builds upon a successful borough-wide offer.

#### Think Futures

Employment Support Programme for 18-25 (and complementary to Employ Crawley) currently funded through the European Structural and Invest Fund (ESIF) with funding ending in December 2023

### NHS Sussex

Keen to develop concept of 'grow their own' health professionals and so would like to think about how they can work together around careers advice, links with colleges, upskilling etc.

## Manor Royal BID

Funded pilot 'Business-Community Partnership' to harness business volunteering.

#### Interventions

In this section, we will ask you about:

- Interventions you've chosen for each year of funding
- Outcomes you want to deliver
- Any interventions that are not listed here
- How these interventions fall under the UKSPF investment priorities, and your rationale for them
- Interventions not included in our list will be assessed before being approved, where you will need to show a clear rationale, how the intervention is value for money, what outcomes it will deliver and how you will monitor and evaluate the intervention. This may include a theory of change or logic chain.

Outcome	Tick if applicable
Jobs created	
Jobs safeguarded	
Increased footfall	
Increased visitor numbers	
Reduced vacancy rates	
Greenhouse gas reductions	
Improved perceived/experienced accessibility	
Improved perception of facilities/amenities	
Increased number of properties better protected from flooding and coastal erosion	
Increased users of facilities / amenities	
Improved perception of facility/infrastructure project	
Increased use of cycleways or paths	
Increase in Biodiversity	
Increased affordability of events/entry	
Improved perception of safety	1

Reduction in neighbourhood crime	
Improved engagement numbers	<b>√</b>
Improved perception of events	
Increased number of web searches for a place	
Volunteering numbers as a result of support	<b>✓</b>
Number of community-led arts, cultural, heritage and creative programmes as a result	<b>√</b>
of support	
Increased take up of energy efficiency measures	
Increased number of projects arising from funded feasibility studies	
Number of premises with improved digital connectivity	
None of the above	

# SELECT THE INTERVENTIONS YOU INTEND TO USE WHICH MEET THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE INVESTMENT PRIORITY. YOU CAN SELECT AS MANY AS YOU LIKE.

#### Intervention

A full list of nation-specific interventions is available in the relevant annex to the Prospectus.

E6: Support for local arts, cultural, heritage and creative activities.

E9: Funding for impactful volunteering and/or social action projects to develop social and human capital in local places

E11 Investment in capacity building and infrastructure support for local civil society and community groups

E12: Investment in community engagement schemes to support community involvement in decision making in local regeneration.

E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency, and combat fuel poverty and climate change.

# DO YOU PLAN TO USE ANY INTERVENTIONS NOT INCLUDED IN THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE LIST?

State the name of each of these additional interventions and a brief description of each of these

No

Explain how each intervention meets the Communities and Place investment priority. Give evidence where possible, including why it is value money and the outcomes you want to deliver.

Do you consider that any of these interventions may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the intervention's planned activity?

All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as <u>set out in</u> the guidance.

Yes No

Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the intervention is a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.

# HAVE YOU ALREADY IDENTIFIED ANY PROJECTS WHICH FALL UNDER THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

Describe these projects, including how they fall under the Communities and Place investment priority and the location of the proposed project.

No. Potential projects are listed within the opportunities section above. Year 1

projects will be finalised over the coming weeks to ensure they are able to launch on confirmation of funding. The activities in Year 1 will support finalisation of projects for Years 2 & 3.

Do you consider these projects may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the proposed planned activity?

All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as <u>set out in</u> the guidance.

Yes No

Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the proposed projects constitute a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.

WHAT ARE THE OUTCOMES YOU WANT TO DELIVER UNDER THE SUPPORTIN BUSINESS INVESTMENT PRIORITY? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY.	G LOCAL
Outcome	Tick if applicable
Jobs created	
Jobs safeguarded	
Increased footfall	
Increased visitor numbers	
Reduced vacancy rates	
Greenhouse gas reductions	
Number of new businesses created	
Improved perception of markets	
Increased business sustainability	
Increased number of businesses supported	
Increased amount of investment	
Improved perception of attractions	
Number of businesses introducing new products to the firm	
Number of organisations engaged in new knowledge transfer activity	
Number of premises with improved digital connectivity	
Number of businesses adopting new to the firm technologies or processes	
Number of new to market products	
Number of R&D active businesses	
Increased number of innovation active SMEs	
Number of businesses adopting new or improved products or services	
Increased number of innovation plans developed	
Number of early stage firms which increase their revenue following support	
Number of businesses engaged in new markets	
Number of businesses engaged in new markets	
Number of businesses increasing their export capability	
Increased amount of low or zero carbon energy infrastructure installed	
Number of businesses with improved productivity	
Increased number of projects arising from funded feasibility studies	
Increased number of properties better protected from flooding and coastal erosion	
None of the above	

SELECT THE INTERVENTIONS YOU INTEND TO USE WHICH MEET THE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT PRIORITY. YOU CAN SELECT AS MANY AS YOU LIKE. Intervention

A full list of nation-specific interventions is available in the relevant annex to the Prospectus.
DO YOU PLAN TO USE ANY INTERVENTIONS NOT INCLUDED IN THE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS LIST?
State the name of each of these additional interventions and a brief description of each of these
No
Explain how each intervention meets the Supporting Local Business investment priority.
Give evidence where possible, including why it is value money and the outcomes you want to deliver.
Do you consider that any of these interventions may provide a subsidy to potential
recipients of the funding under the intervention's planned activity?
All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as set out in
the guidance.
Yes No

# HAVE YOU ALREADY IDENTIFIED ANY PROJECTS WHICH FALL UNDER THE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the intervention is a subsidy and

any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.

Describe these projects, including how they fall under the Supporting Local Business investment priority and the location of the proposed project.

No. Potential projects are listed within the opportunities section above. Year 1 projects will be finalised over the coming weeks to ensure they are able to launch on confirmation of funding. The activities in Year 1 will support finalisation of projects for Years 2 & 3.

Do you consider these projects may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the proposed planned activity?

All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as <u>set out in</u> the guidance.

Yes No

Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the proposed projects constitute a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.

# WHAT ARE THE OUTCOMES YOU WANT TO DELIVER UNDER THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITY? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY. Outcome Tick if applicable Number of economically inactive individuals in receipt of benefits they are entitled to following support

Increased active or sustained participants of UKSPF beneficiaries in community groups [and/or] increased employability through development of interpersonal skills	<b>√</b>
Increased proportion of participants with basic skills (English, maths, digital and ESOL)	✓
Number of people in supported employment [and] number of people engaging with mainstream healthcare services	✓
Number of people sustaining engagement with keyworker support and additional services	
Number of people engaged in job-searching following support	
Number of people in employment, including self-employment, following support	✓
Number of people sustaining employment for 6 months	
Increased employment, skills and/or UKSPF objectives incorporated into local area corporate governance	
Number of people in education/training	
Increased number of people with basic skills (English, maths, digital and ESOL)	
Fewer people facing structural barriers into employment and into skills provision	
Increased number of people familiarised with employers' expectations, including, standards of behaviour in the workplace	
Fewer people facing structural barriers into employment and into skills provision	
Number of people gaining a qualification or completing a course following support	
Number of people gaining qualifications, licences, and skills	
Number of economically active individuals engaged in mainstream skills education, and training.	
Number of people engaged in life skills support following interventions	
Number of people with proficiency in pre-employment and interpersonal skills	
(relationship, organisational and anger-management, interviewing, CV and job	
application writing)	
<b>Multiply only -</b> Increased number of adults achieving maths qualifications up to, and including, Level 2.	
<b>Multiply only -</b> Increased number of adults participating in maths qualifications and courses up to, and including, Level 2.	
None of the above	

# SELECT THE INTERVENTIONS YOU INTEND TO USE WHICH MEET THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITY. YOU CAN SELECT AS MANY AS YOU LIKE.

#### Intervention

A full list of nation-specific interventions is available in the relevant annex to the Prospectus.

E26: Support for growing the local social economy, including community businesses, cooperatives and social enterprises

E33: Employment support for economically inactive people: Intensive and wraparound one-to-one support to move people closer towards mainstream provision and employment, supplemented by additional and/or specialist life and basic skills (digital, English, maths\* and ESOL) support where there are local provision gaps E36: Intervention to increase levels of digital inclusion, with a focus on essential digital skills, communicating the benefits of getting (safely) online, and incommunity support to provide users with the confidence and trust to stay online

E37: Tailored support to help people in employment, who are not supported by mainstream provision to address barriers to accessing education and training courses. This includes supporting the retention of groups who are likely to leave the labour market early

# DO YOU PLAN TO USE ANY INTERVENTIONS NOT INCLUDED IN THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS LIST?

State the name of each of these additional interventions and a brief description of each of these

No

Explain how each intervention meets the People and Skills investment priority. Give evidence where possible, including why it is value money and the outcomes you want to deliver.

Do you consider that any of these interventions may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the intervention's planned activity?

All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as set out in the quidance.

Yes No

Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the intervention is a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.

**ENGLAND ONLY**: People and Skills interventions can only be used in 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 if you have identified a local voluntary and community provision, previously supported by the European Social Fund, at risk of closure. If you have not identified a suitable provision, you will not be able to select interventions for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 and your investment plan will not be approved.

HAVE YOU ALREADY IDENTIFIED ANY PROJECTS for 2024-2025 WHICH FALL UNDER THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

No. Potential projects are listed within the opportunities section above. Year 1 projects will be finalised over the coming weeks to ensure they are able to launch on confirmation of funding. The activities in Year 1 will support finalisation of projects for Years 2 & 3.

Describe the projects for 2024-25, including how they fall under the People and Skills investment priority and the location of the proposed project.

Do you consider these projects may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the proposed planned activity?

All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as set out in the quidance. No Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the proposed projects constitute a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted. HAVE YOU IDENTIFIED A LOCAL VOLUNTARY PROVISION AT RISK AS PART OF YOUR PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITIES? No √ (If Yes) Describe the local voluntary provision at risk and your rationale for supporting it. We would want to challenge the restriction outlined above, on the basis that it would fundamentally prevent us addressing needs within the target areas, and the missions set out within the Levelling-Up agenda. It would also be contrary to the Government's Growth agenda. Crawley has no local voluntary and community provision supported by ESF at risk of closure, and so would by following this restriction would not be able to meet the need evidenced earlier in this application. One of the potential projects listed above is ESIF funded until December 2023 but is not voluntary or community sector. We are seeking exemption from this restriction to allow for activity in 2023-24 as well as 2024-25. Provide the European Social Fund Project Names and Project References for this voluntary and community provision at risk. What year do you intend to fund these projects? Select all that apply. 2022-2023 2023-2024 2024-2025 Describe the projects for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024, including how they fall under the People and Skills investment priority and the location of the proposed project. Do you consider these projects may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the proposed planned activity? All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as set out in

the guidance.

Yes No

Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the proposed projects constitute a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.

In this section, we will ask you about:

- Structures you have in place to support delivery
- Support you have from stakeholders and the local community
- How you've engaged with MPs as part of your investment plan
- Opportunities you have identified to work with other places

Places need to show how MPs that cover the lead local authority have been engaged on the investment plan and whether they support it. More detail on the role of MPs can be found here.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMEN	T AND SUPPORT	
Have you engaged with any of the following as part of your investment plan? Select all that		
apply.		
Public sector organisations √	Private sector organisations√	Civil society organisations
Describe how you have engaged with any of these organisations. Give examples where possible.		

Engagement with these organisations has been:

- Achieved through their involvement in the Town Deal Board
- Through the identification of and direct approach to specified organisations within the guidance that were not already part of the Town Deal Board
- Responding to enquiries received from interested parties

Briefing notes, evidence base, and resulting suggested approach have been discussed and agreed with this Board in preparing this submission.

Summarise the governance structures you have in place, including how any advisory panels or associated partnership groups are made up

Given the timeframes involved and the amount available (the lowest possible allocation) it was decided the proportionate approach was to use an existing partnership. The partnership with the best fit (with the stakeholders set out in the guidance) was the Town Deal Board. This had the added advantage of also bringing together oversight of the different strands of the HMG's Levelling Up agenda in the town. Where there were obvious stakeholder gaps, either in terms of the guidance, or key local players, separate contact was made, and those stakeholders were invited to attend relevant meetings of the Town Deal Board.

It is anticipated that a sub-group of the Town Deal Board will be created specifically to provide a dedicated partnership body. The composition of this sub-group will be decided over the coming weeks.

Confirm all MPs covering your lead local authority have been invited to join the local		
partnership group.		
Yes√	No	
Are there MPs who are not supportive of your investment plan?		
Yes	No ✓	
(If Yes) Who are the MPs that are not supportive and outline their reasons why.		

PROJECT SELECTION	
Are you intending to select projects in any way	other than by competition for funding?
Yes	No✓
(If Yes) Describe your approach to selecting projects, and why you intend to do it this way	

Whilst it would not be our intention, it is nonetheless possible that there may be instances where due to issues of pace, sustainability or specialisms, projects are selected without competition.

The steer of the Town Deal Board has also been that given the size and length of the UKSPF programme for Crawley, it is important that the projects funded should add value and complement existing activity, rather than risk competing and duplicating scarce resources.

We can confirm that should this position arise, the selection of projects with be undertaken within the Council's relevant frameworks, including procurement.

DO YOU INTEND TO WORK WITH OTHER PLACES ON ANY OF THE INTERVENTIONS WHICH FALL UNDER THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE INVESTMENT PRIORITY? Which interventions do you intend to collaborate on? Select all that apply.	
A full list of nation-specific interventions is available in the relevant annex to the Prospectus.	
Describe any interventions not included in this list?	
Who are the places you intend to collaborate with?	

DO YOU INTEND TO WORK WITH OTHER PLACES ON ANY OF THE INTERVENTIONS WHICH FALL UNDER THE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT PRIORITY?	
Which interventions do you intend to collaborate on? Select all that apply.	
Intervention	Tick if applicable
A full list of nation-specific interventions is available in the relevant annex to the Prospectus.	
Describe any interventions not included in this list?	1
Who are the places you intend to collaborate with?	

DO YOU INTEND TO WORK WITH OTHER PLACES ON ANY OF THE INTERVENTIONS WHICH FALL UNDER THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITY?	
Which interventions do you intend to collaborate on? Select all that apply.	
Intervention	Tick if applicable
A full list of nation-specific interventions is available in the relevant annex to the Prospectus.	
Describe any interventions not included in this list?	
Who are the places you intend to collaborate with?	

#### **PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY**

How have you considered your public sector equality duty in the design of your investment plan?

Crawley Borough Council has followed the principles set out within its Equality, Diversity & Inclusion Statement 2022–26. This statement supports our commitment to the Public Sector Equality Duty and ensures we consider the needs of all individuals in our day-to-day work, in shaping policy, delivering services and in relation to our own employees.

The evidence base provided has deliberately gone back to first principles, assessing how our places, and the communities within, perform against the missions. In doing so, partners from a wide range of statutory, voluntary and community organisations were consulted with and helped to shape the plan.

The decision to focus Year 1 activity on engaging the communities within the target areas is to tailor the interventions in Years 2 & 3 to their needs. In doing so partners can maximise take up, impact and outcomes. This assessment will include considerations as set out in the ED&I statement.

How will you consider your public sector equality duty when implementing your investment plan, including in the selection of projects?

See above. Projects will need to demonstrate how they will adapt delivery to meet the outcome of this assessment. This will be considered in regard to;

- The provision of direct services
- The commissioning and procurement of goods and services
- The recruitment, employment, training, and development of staff
- Consultation with local people and in our partnerships with other organisations
- When exercising our statutory powers and responsibilities.

#### RISKS

Have you identified any key risks that could affect delivery, for example lack of staff or expertise?

Yes√ No

(If Yes) Describe these risks or issues, including the contingency measures you have in place to mitigate them.

The key risks identified are as follows:

## Delivery and timeframes

Year 1 of the UKSPF ends on 31 March 2023. Indications currently are that sign off on funding might not be until November or even December, leaving just 3-4 months to fund projects that can achieve spend. The programme has been structured for engagement and cost-of-living activities during Year 1 and all attempts will be made to proceed with this as far as possible to allow rapid implementation, but the risk remains.

#### Costs

The economic context raises uncertainty over the medium term both in terms of budgeting (wage inflation, materials, energy costs etc), and the capacity of organisations to be able to deliver given the likelihood of departmental savings being passed down to the local eco-system. Care will need to be taken when allocating funding to ensure risks are being accounted for within proposals.

## Capacity

There is not sufficient, existing capacity to deliver the UKSPF programme in line with expectations. Crawley has a successful track record in delivering growth programmes, and as such has the skills and experience. The mitigation will need to be additional staffing to sit within the current team delivering the Town Deal Fund to the benefit of both programmes.

#### Take up

The areas being targeted (as set out above) have traditionally faced greater barriers to accessing support. The reasons for these are complex but consistent with the pattern of disadvantage. To succeed where others have failed the projects funded need to tailor their approach to maximise take up and therefore impact. Successful approaches during Covid and subsequently shows how working with local ambassadors can shape projects to this end. Accordingly, Year 1 will be used to engage in a way to shape and tailor project delivery in Years 2 & 3.

#### Employment & Skills

The analysis above demonstrates that the areas chosen require employment and skills provision. The Investment Plan template for England sets out that funding under the People & Skills Investment Priority can only be allocated in 2024/25 unless being given to VCS provision in receipt of ESF funding and at risk. With no such provision currently operating in the town, this restriction obstructs the partnership intention to address outcomes in this area. The mitigation is to challenge this restriction and request an exemption.

Have you identified any key fraud risks	that could affect UKSPF delivery?
Yes	No√

(If Yes) Describe these risks or issues, including the contingency measures you have in place to mitigate them.

#### Capacity and capability

In this section, we will ask you about:

- The capacity and capability of your team to manage funding
- The resources you have in place for work related to UKSPF

Your answers here will help us know how to support you with delivery. They will not affect the amount of funding you will get.

Answer as honestly as possible.

#### **TEAM RESOURCE**

How many people (FTE) will be put in place to work with UKSPF funding?

The Council has a small team of two FTE's currently delivering the Town Deal Board. The intention is to bolster capacity in this team to deliver the UKSPF programme. This will require another 1 FTE for 18 months, that will ensure flexibility and resilience across this team to deliver both the Town Deal Fund and the UKSPF. This is the most cost-effective way of delivering the programme and mitigating risk in relation to capacity.

Describe what role these people will have, including any seniority and experience.

The role of this post and the wider team in which it sits will be to:

- To provide an efficient and effective administrative and project support service to the Towns Fund Programme Manager and Town Deal Board.
- To communicate effectively with both internal and external stakeholders, including the Crawley Economic Task Force (CERT) and Town Deal Board and co-ordinate programmes of consultation within the target communities.
- To proactively support the development of projects to deliver the Investment Plan including key stakeholder input
- To provide efficient and proactive support to specific project functions and project leads across the programme and challenge the plans where appropriate, ensuring a coherence to delivery.
- Develop and implement systems to ensure key tasks and activities are progressing according to the agreed timescales and if not, agree appropriate remedial actions
- To prepare written reports and presentations for the Town Deal Board, and other stakeholder groups as required, to update them on progress with the delivery of the Investment Plan
- To support the ongoing performance monitoring process, including the collection of required data, ensuring accuracy and that any reporting deadlines are met.
- To schedule and organise informal and formal meetings on behalf of the Towns Fund Programme Manager and Town Deal Board, including the

preparation and circulation of agendas, meeting notes and follow up action points, to ensure that meetings run efficiently and conform to governance arrangements.

To carry out all duties in accordance with relevant legislation, Council
policies, procedures and standards, and the requirements of the UKSPF
programme.

This post will be pitched at an officer level but sits within a team that includes the Town's Fund Programme Manager, which in turn sits within a service area and division with substantial experience of delivering programmes.

- Strong capability: Has extensive experience and/or a proven track record of delivery in this area.
- Strong capacity: High degree of confidence that there is enough staffing/resource to manage funding in this area.
- Some capability: Has previous experience of delivery in this area.
- Some capacity: Confident that there is enough staffing/resource to manage funding in this area.
- Limited capability: Does not have previous experience and/or no track record of delivery in this area.
- Limited capacity: Limited confidence that there is enough staffing/resource to manage funding in this area. Additional resource may be needed to support delivery.

<b>CAPACITY AND CAPABIL</b>	ITY				
How would you describe your team's current experience of delivering funding and managing growth funds?					
Very experienced √	Some experience	No previous experience			
How would you describe your team's current capability to manage funding for procurement?					
Strong capability √	Some capability	Limited capability			
How would you describe your team's current capability to manage funding for procurement? Assuming this should read capacity					
Strong capability	Some capability	Limited capability ✓			
How would you describe your team's current capacity to manage funding for procurement?					
Strong capacity	Some capacity	Limited capacity √			
How would you describe your team's current capability to manage funding for subsidies?					
Strong capability	Some capability	Limited capability √			
How would you describe your team's current capacity to manage funding for subsidies?					
Strong capacity	Some capacity	Limited capacity ✓			

COMMUNITIES AND PLACE CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY					
Does your local authority have any previous experience of delivering the Communities and					
Place interventions you have select?					
Yes		No			
How would you describe your team's current capability to manage funding for Communities					
and Place interventions?					
Strong capability √	Some capability		Limited capability		
Describe the key capability challenges (if you have any) for delivering Communities and					
Place interventions. This may include challenges within your local authority and/or your					
local/regional delivery system.					

Describe what further support would help address these challenges.

How would you describe your team's current capacity to manage funding for Communities and Place interventions?

Strong capability

Some capability

Limited capability ✓

Describe the key capacity challenges (if you have any) for delivering Communities and Place interventions. This may include challenges within your local authority and/or your local/regional delivery system.

Crawley has a strong track record of delivering programmes, demonstrated by the progress made on the Town Deal Fund. However, with the Council and its partners delivering a substantial growth agenda, there is no spare capacity available to deliver the UKSPF.

Describe what further support would help address these challenges.

The proposals set out in other sections around core resourcing is designed to address this in the most cost-effective way.

## SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY

Does your local authority have any previous experience of delivering the Supporting Local Business interventions you have select?

No

Voc

How would you describe your team's current capability to manage funding for Supporting Local Business interventions?

Strong capability

Some capability

Limited capability

Describe the key capability challenges (if you have any) for delivering Supporting Local Business interventions. This may include challenges within your local authority and/or your local/regional delivery system.

Describe what further support would help address these challenges.

How would you describe your team's current capacity to manage funding for Supporting Local Business interventions?

Strong capability

Some capability

Limited capability

Describe the key capacity challenges (if you have any) for delivering Supporting Local Business interventions. This may include challenges within your local authority and/or your local/regional delivery system.

Crawley has a strong track record of delivering programmes, demonstrated by the progress made on the Town Deal Fund. However, with the Council and its partners delivering a substantial growth agenda, there is no spare capacity available to deliver the UKSPF.

Describe what further support would help address these challenges.

The proposals set out in other sections around core resourcing is designed to address this in the most cost-effective way.

## PEOPLE AND SKILLS CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY

Does your local authority have any previous experience of delivering the People and Skills interventions you have select?

Yes ✓ No

How would you describe your team's current capability to manage funding for People and Skills interventions?

Strong capability Some capability Limited capability

Describe the key capability challenges (if you have any) for delivering People and Skills interventions. This may include challenges within your local authority and/or your local/regional delivery system.

Describe what further support would help address these challenges.

How would you describe your team's current capacity to manage funding for People and Skills interventions?

Strong capability Some capability ✓ Limited capability ✓

Describe the key capacity challenges (if you have any) for delivering People and Skills interventions. This may include challenges within your local authority and/or your local/regional delivery system.

Crawley has a strong track record of delivering programmes, demonstrated by the progress made on the Town Deal Fund. However, with the Council and its partners delivering a substantial growth agenda, there is no spare capacity available to deliver the UKSPF.

Describe what further support would help address these challenges.

The proposals set out in other sections around core resourcing is designed to address this in the most cost-effective way.

#### SUPPORT TO DELIVERY UKSPF

All lead authorities can use up to 4% of their UKSPF allocation to support the delivery of their chosen interventions but by exception, lead authorities will be able to use more than 4%. Are you planning to use more than 4%?

Yes ✓ No

(If Yes) Explain why you wish to use more than 4%.

4% of the £1m allocation equates to £25k. This is insufficient to provide the staffing resource required, as set out elsewhere in this submission. The role identified will be needed for 18 months with a total cost of £42k plus on costs.

#### **Approvals**

Before submitting your investment plan, you should have approval from your:

- Chief Executive Officer
- Section 151 Officer
- Leader of your lead authority

Do you have approval from your Chief Executive Officer for this investment plan?

- Yes √
- o No

Do you have approval from your Section 151 Officer for this investment plan?

- o Yes √
- o No

Do you have approval from the leader of your lead authority for this investment plan?

- o Yes √
- o No

If you do not have approval from any of these people, please explain why this is:

## Additional documents

You will have received an email giving you access to a folder where you will need to upload supporting evidence to your investment plan. All applicants must complete and upload the following spreadsheet to the folder prior to submitting their investment plan:

- UKSPF Expenditure Profile spreadsheet
- UKSPF Indicative Deliverables spreadsheet

Your investment plan submission will be considered incomplete without the required documents.

Have you completed and uploaded the two spreadsheets to the SharePoint folder as requested?

- Yes
- o No ✓

Please note we have no record of receiving these spreadsheets. In the past days we have contacted to request these but have received no response at the time of submission. Given the title of the spreadsheets it is likely that it would in any case be premature to complete these.