

UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Establishment of Glasgow Communities and Place Challenge Fund and funding to deliver Green Business Grant approved.

3 With reference to the minutes of 18th August 2022 (Print 2, page 283) approving the proposals for Glasgow's component of the Glasgow City Region UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) Investment Plan and the minutes of the Neighbourhoods, Housing and Public Realm City Policy Committee of 27th September 2022 (Print 3, page 372) when it was agreed to recommend to this committee approval of £689,000 of funding to deliver a Green Business Grant and wrap around business support to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and the intention to part-fund this through use of UK Shared Prosperity Funding, Councillor Aitken, Leader of the Council and Convener for City and City Region Economy and Just Transition, presented a report regarding the establishment of a Glasgow Communities and Place Challenge Fund, advising

- (1) that the UKSPF would run for the 3 financial years 2022/23 to 2024/25 and the fund had 3 investment priorities namely Communities and Place, Employment and Skills and Supporting Local Businesses;
- (2) that it was proposed that the Glasgow UKSPF Communities and Place Fund had 4 key operational features, as detailed in the report, and applications for funding would be required to demonstrate that it fitted with the priorities identified in the Glasgow Strategic Plan for 2022-27;
- (3) of a number of requirements that the UKSPF prospectus set out which needed to be reflected in the design and operation of the fund;
- (4) of the proposed timetable, process and governance arrangements for the fund; and
- (5) of a commitment to establish a programme of Green Business support which included a Green Business Grant for up to 50 SMEs and enhanced advice and support for at least 250 businesses, as detailed in the report along with a breakdown of the total cost of £689,000 to deliver the grant.

After consideration, the committee approved

- (a) the setting up of a Glasgow Communities and Place Challenge Fund using £6m of Glasgow's allocation under the UK Shared Prosperity Fund;
- (b) the use of £689,000 of funding to deliver the Green Business Grant and wrap around business support; and
- (c) the timeline and processes for the fund, as detailed in the report.