

Outline of the UKSPF Projects and the Next Steps

Communities and Place

Feasibility studies - Data mining

1. Hart's LIP allocates £57.6k to analysis existing dataset and undertaking research to better understand issues hidden within the district. This will include a detailed review of Census 2021 data, along with data from Parish Councils, Town Councils and Here for Hart Partner Organisations.
2. The primary purpose is to produce a feasibility study in Year 2 that highlights five key areas within Hart District that would benefit from enhanced community infrastructure. The data mining research will provide a detailed understanding of the gaps in service provision / activities by geographic area and therefore enable the development of key outputs and outcomes to help manage those gaps.
3. The evidence base work would commence in Spring 2023, with the work plan implemented in 2024/25.

Provision of Community Hubs

4. £627k is allocated to the provision of Community Hubs. The data mining work, outlined above, will help to identify the required enhanced provision of Community Hubs (amenity/facility) across Hart, which will draw together a variety of different support services, along with physical, cultural and social activities.
5. Activity will be focussed on opportunities for improved access and awareness for those in our communities whose access to the services and activities is limited due to the rurality of their area.
6. The evidence base work would commence in Spring 2023, with the work plan implemented in 2024/25.

Young Persons Engagement

7. Hart's LIP allocates £123.6k to young persons engagement. The project includes employment and skills interventions and outreach, increasing access to a range of education, skills and training opportunities, both physically and digitally, to young people in Hart where provisions have been limited due to geographic and social barriers.
8. Initial consultation with partners ahead of evidence base work commencing has indicated that workstreams might include:
 - School-centred interventions with cohorts experiencing vulnerabilities
 - Encouraging alternative / additional education opportunities with providers such as Reading FC Trust
 - Fostering school / business partnership links providing opportunities for physical engagement with the work environment; and
 - Working with the voluntary sector and Town and Parish Councils to explore opportunities for new or expanding youth provision in their neighbourhoods.

9. This project is likely to align with the Community Hubs project and could draw on the expertise of the highly regarded existing provision in Hart, e.g., governance, policies, training, etc.
10. The evidence base work would commence in Spring 2023, with the work plan implemented in 2024/25.

Feasibility Study - Development of the Green Grid Strategy

11. Hart's LIP allocates £47k to the development of Hart's Green Grid. It is proposed that this project consists:
 - £10.7k - Hart's Green Grid Signage. Commenced in April 2022 and completed in October 2022
 - £18k (HDC's contribution) - Hart's Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Strategy (LCWIP). Commenced in September 2022 and due to complete in September 2023
 - £18k - Development of the Green Grid Strategy to commence in April 2024 and complete by March 2025
12. To date, the evidence base for the Green Grid Strategy has been funded from reserves (and in relation to the LCWIP, a contribution from HCC). Grant funding from the UKSPF will enable project completion before March 2025.

Supporting local businesses

13. Hart's LIP identifies two projects under the UKSPF investment priority 'Supporting Local Businesses'; attracting investment into the district and drafting a new Economic Development Strategy. Both projects require external resources to deliver them, after the Council's Economic Development Officer post was deleted last year through tier two savings.
14. Rushmoor Borough Council (RBC) has a strong Economic Development team and has expressed an interest in assisting in undertaking both Supporting Local Businesses projects on behalf of the Council. It is proposed to explore this joint working opportunity over the next three months.

Attracting Investment into the District

15. £66.6k is allocated to attracting investment into the district. It is proposed that an element of the budget is allocated to updating Hart's economic development evidence base (which can then be used by both Supporting Local Businesses projects) and creating a workplan to target investment opportunities within the district. The evidence base work would commence in autumn/winter 2023, with the work plan implemented in 2024/25.

Feasibility Study - Economic Development Strategy

16. £38k is allocated to refresh the Council's Economic Development Strategy. Using the updated evidence base (see above), the strategy would be updated in 2024/25.
17. Key stakeholders and local businesses will be engaged in the scoping and drafting of the strategy.
18. The strategy will allow the Council to be better prepared for any potential future government funds by identifying actions and projects to enhance economic

development within the district. It is not anticipated that the Council will be able to fund any additional economic development activity from its existing budgets at the present time. Resourcing the delivery of the strategy beyond 2024/25 will need to be considered.

Corporate Plan and Hart Vision 2040

19. The UKSPF projects would fit with the Corporate Plan as follows:

Corporate Plan Objectives	UKSPF Project
Actively engaging with local businesses, both large and small to understand business needs	Refresh of the Economic Development Strategy
Working with partners such as the Enterprise M3 Local Economic Partnership to promote the District to new businesses and to identify funding sources	Refresh of the Economic Development Strategy Attract small/medium business/people to invest in Hart through marketing campaigns
Partnership working with the Citizens Advice Bureaux, Hart Voluntary Action, Department for Work and Pensions and skills training providers	Community Hubs Employment & skills interventions and young persons engagement Data mining to better understand what the issues hidden within the district
Supporting the transition to a low carbon future, making efficient use of resources, increasing levels of recycling, encouraging an increase in journeys made by cycling, walking and public transport, and encouraging the use of renewable resources	Development of the Green Grid Strategy
Working with Town and Parish Councils and voluntary sector partners to help them explore youth provision in their area	Community Hubs Employment & skills interventions and young persons engagement
Supporting the voluntary and community sector to develop	Community Hubs Employment & skills interventions and young persons engagement Data mining to better understand what the issues hidden within the district

Taking account of and supporting local strategies to improve physical and mental health, social and cultural wellbeing and supporting the delivery of sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs	Community Hubs Employment & skills interventions and young persons engagement Data mining to better understand what the issues hidden within the district
Including the delivery of infrastructure that encourages people to walk, cycle and use buses	Development of the Green Grid Strategy
Working with education providers and other partners to promote learning and skills programmes	Employment & skills interventions and young persons engagement

20. The UKSPF and the associated projects are also identified in the draft Corporate Plan, due to be adopted in Spring 2023.
21. The UKSPF projects would also fit with the Hart Vision 2040:

Hart Vision 2040 Objective	UKSPF Project
Ensures work, education, health and other facilities are easily reachable through effective walking, cycling or road and rail transport links.	Development of the Green Grid Strategy
Developing the skills we need for the future working alongside our business sector and local education providers to ensure our young people succeed.	Employment & skills interventions and young persons engagement Data mining to better understand what the issues hidden within the district
... encouraging new businesses to locate in the district by highlight the strengths of the district including skills, impressive connectivity and environment.	Refresh of the Economic Development Strategy Attract small/medium business/people to invest in Hart through marketing campaigns
Continuing to build a great sense of community, reducing social isolation, celebrating our diversity, and strengths and through this increasing community connectedness and resilience.	Community Hubs Employment & skills interventions and young persons engagement Data mining to better understand what the issues hidden within the district
Empowering people to help themselves whilst ensuring there is support for the	Community Hubs

<p>most vulnerable. Working closely with our partners to enable people to live safely and independently and help our most vulnerable residents can get the support they need, when they need it.</p>	<p>Employment & skills interventions and young persons engagement Data mining to better understand what the issues hidden within the district</p>
<p>Creation of green corridors between all settlements to encourage sustainable healthy transport and provide cycles for hire to enable movement</p>	<p>Development of the Green Grid Strategy</p>
<p>Using its own assets (people and property) by building the skills and space for partnerships to flourish, in order to deliver on the Vision 2040</p>	<p>Community Hubs</p>