## **UKSPF - E29: Supporting decarbonisation and improving the natural environment - To encourage local organisations to adopt sustainable practices**

## **Introduction**

South Oxfordshire District Council has received funding from the Government’s [UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-prospectus) to deliver investment plans across the district.

The fund sits under the government’s Levelling Up Agenda and aims to invest in communities and open spaces, increase life chances, support businesses and increase people’s skills.

Here’s a [summary](https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/02/UKSPF-South-Final.pdf) on what we’re planning to do with this funding in South Oxfordshire. Further details can be found [on our website](https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/south-oxfordshire-district-council/business-and-economy/advice-for-businesses/uk-shared-prosperity-fund-plans/).

## **Project**

We are looking to fund a project in Vale of White Horse that will engage organisations in our districts to respond to the climate emergency by decarbonising, adopting new processes and technologies, and decreasing greenhouse gas emissions.

The project will support delivery of the intervention E29: Decarbonisation and improving the natural environment, set out in the [UKSPF investment plans for South Oxfordshire District Council](https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/02/UKSPF-South-Final.pdf).

This procurement will support Vale of White Horse’s corporate priorities of ‘Tackling the climate emergency’, ‘Building healthy communities’ and ‘Working In Partnership’.

The applicant must submit a comprehensive project outline, which will include the timeframe of the project, the total cost required to complete the project and any match funding that is available. Please outline the number of businesses you will work with over the course of the project and how you will achieve this, and detail how your project will meet the SPF outcomes.

**Projects could include (but are not limited to):**

* Supporting businesses to take specific action on the circular economy
* Encouraging organisations to adopt sustainable practices
* Events to promote sustainability / eco-friendly initiatives to businesses

**The applicant can apply for up to £9,500. Please note that the project must start in early February 2024 and finish by 31 March 2025.**

**Specifications**

We will need to report on all projects funded by UKSPF to the Government in March 2025. The project should contribute to at least one of the following outputs/outcomes:

Outputs

* 15 businesses receiving financial support, other than grants
* 15 businesses receiving grants
* 15 businesses completing a decarbonisation plan

Outcomes

* 5 businesses adopting new to the firm processes or technologies
* 10 tonnes of Greenhouse Gas reductions

**Once you have completed your project outline by answering the questions below, please submit this form to us via** [**business.support@southandvale.gov.uk**](mailto:business.support@southandvale.gov.uk) **by midday on Wednesday 31 January 2024. We will aim to respond to all submissions by 9 February 2024.**

**Reporting on your project**

If your project is selected, we will arrange an initial meeting to discuss this in more detail. We will hold a series of monitoring meetings throughout the duration of your project, and a final meeting to discuss your evaluation and findings.

Due to GDPR restrictions, we will only require you to pass on the names of any businesses you have supported throughout the duration of your project. You will not need to share any personal information.

**Further information**

The winning bid will need to comply with the guidance set out under the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, which includes:

* Branding requirements for communications materials for funded activity, logo use, production of plaques, print and digital and electronic materials, and co-branding
* Where details of Fund activities are published on website, a reference to the funding from the UKSPF is to be included: ‘This project is [funded/part-funded] by the UK Government through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund’
* Where practical, lead local authorities and project deliverers should also include a link to the UK Shared Prosperity Fund webpage, and the following text (which must also be used for notes to editors): ‘The UK Shared Prosperity Fund is a central pillar of the UK government’s Levelling Up agenda and provides £2.6 billion of funding for local investment by March 2025. The Fund aims to improve pride in place and increase life chances across the UK investing in communities and place, supporting local business, and people and skills.’

A blue rectangle with white text

Description automatically generated

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Question | Your answer |
| Name of organisation |  |
| Address of organisation |  |
| Please provide an outline of your project (maximum of 500 words).  Projects could include (but are not limited to):   * Supporting businesses to take specific action on the circular economy * Encouraging organisations to adopt sustainable practices * Events to promote sustainability / eco-friendly initiatives to businesses |  |
| How will your project meet one or more of our outputs/outcomes? Please state which ones your project will meet and how you will monitor and report on these:  **Outputs**   * 15 businesses receiving financial support, other than grants * 15 businesses receiving grants * 15 businesses completing a decarbonisation plan   **Outcomes**   * 5 businesses adopting new to the firm processes or technologies * 10 tonnes of Greenhouse Gas reductions |  |
| How will your project be delivered in an environmentally sustainable way? |  |
| How many organisations will your project engage? |  |
| All projects must be completed by March 2025. What is the timeframe of your project, and how will you deliver this? |  |
| What is the total cost of your project? Please provide a breakdown of how this will be spent. |  |

**Please complete this form and send it to** [**business.support@southandvale.gov.uk**](mailto:business.support@southandvale.gov.uk)**.**