



Subject:	Notice of Motion – UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Future Arrangements
Date:	24th October, 2024
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, City Solicitor/Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Jim Hanna, Democratic Services and Governance Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<p>Please indicate the description, as listed in Schedule 6, of the exempt information by virtue of which the council has deemed this report restricted.</p> <p>Insert number <input type="checkbox"/></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Information relating to any individual 2. Information likely to reveal the identity of an individual 3. Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the council holding that information) 4. Information in connection with any labour relations matter 5. Information in relation to which a claim to legal professional privilege could be maintained 6. Information showing that the council proposes to (a) to give a notice imposing restrictions on a person; or (b) to make an order or direction 7. Information on any action in relation to the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime 	
<p>If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?</p> <p>After Committee Decision <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>After Council Decision <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Sometime in the future <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Never <input type="checkbox"/></p>	

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report/Summary of Main Issues
1.1	To consider the Notice of Motion received for the meeting of the Council on 4th November in relation to UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Future Arrangements.
2.0	Recommendation
2.1	The Committee is asked to consider the motion and agree to either adopt the motion, refer it for debate at the Council meeting (with or without restrictions) or reject the motion.
3.0	Main Report
	<u>Key Issues</u>
3.1	<p>The Committee will be aware that Standing Orders 13 (m) to (r), as agreed by the Council at its meeting on 4th October, are as follows:</p> <p>(m) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will have delegated authority to adopt or reject Notices of Motion. The Lord Mayor will indicate at the Council meeting those Notices of Motion that have been considered by the Standards and Business Committee and whether such Notices of Motion were rejected or adopted. In either case, the proposer only may speak on the issue at Council.</i></p> <p>(n) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer all Notices of Motion directly to a standing committee when the matter to which the Notice of Motion refers falls within the remit of that committee. At Council, the Lord Mayor will indicate that the Notice of Motion was received and referred. There will be no speakers on such Notices of Motion at Council.</i></p> <p>(o) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will refer Notices of Motion for consideration by full Council when the Notice of Motion relates to a strategic or constitutional matter.</i></p> <p>(p) <i>The Standards and Business Committee will not have the power to amend the wording of any Notice of Motion that is being referred to the full Council for debate.</i></p> <p>(q) <i>Any amendments to Notice of Motions to be proposed at the Council are to be furnished at least one day in advance of going to the full Council and will be circulated to Party Group Leaders in advance of the Council meeting.</i></p> <p>(r) <i>In referring any matter to the full Council, the Standards and Business Committee may determine to restrict contributions to the debate in relation to any Notice of Motion to one per political party. At the Council meeting, the Lord Mayor will clearly indicate if the restriction applies.</i></p>
3.2	<p>The following motion has been received:</p> <p><u>UK Shared Prosperity Fund – Future Arrangements</u></p> <p>"This Council notes the significant role that the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) has played in supporting local communities across Belfast. The UKSPF has been instrumental in addressing regional disparities and fostering economic growth, social cohesion and employability.</p>

	<p>This Council further notes with concern that the current funding period for the UKSPF is set to conclude in April 2025, with no clear indication of its future beyond this date. The uncertainty surrounding the continuation of this vital funding threatens to disrupt the progress made in addressing the long-standing disparities faced by our communities.</p> <p>Given the importance of the UKSPF to the continued development and prosperity of our city and its residents, this Council commits to writing to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) & the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide immediate clarity on the future of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund post April 2025. • Ensure that any future funding arrangements are at least equal to, if not greater than, the current levels of support provided by the UKSPF. • Engage in meaningful consultation with community partners to ensure that the needs and priorities of our communities are adequately reflected in any future funding frameworks. <p>This Council also commits to working collaboratively with other local authorities, regional bodies, and stakeholders to advocate for the continuation and enhancement of the UKSPF, ensuring that Belfast continues to thrive and grow."</p> <p>Proposer: Councillor Jordan Doran</p> <p>Seconder: Councillor Ian McLaughlin</p>
3.3	<p>The motion calls upon the Council to write to the to write to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland regarding the UK Shared Prosperity Fund - the Committee can either adopt the motion, refer it for debate at the Council meeting (with or without restrictions) or reject the motion.</p>
3.4	<p><u>Financial and Resource Implications</u></p> <p>None associated with this report.</p>
3.5	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications</u></p> <p>None.</p>
4.0	Documents Attached
	None.

