



From Plans to Progress: Outcomes of Hyndburn's 2022-25 UK Shared Prosperity Fund



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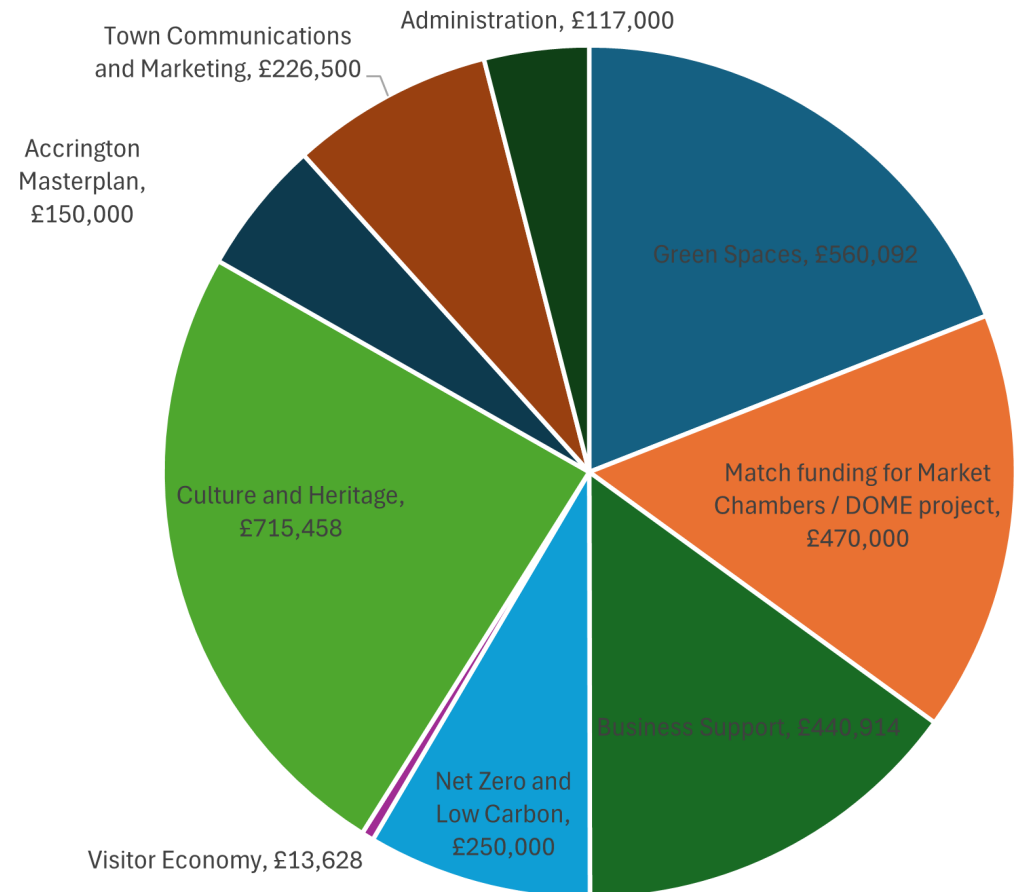
Hyndburn
Borough Council

Introduction

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) for 2022 to 2025 has played a vital role in supporting Hyndburn's ambitions for inclusive growth and regeneration. It has funded a wide range of interventions aimed at revitalising the local economy, enhancing community resilience, and boosting pride in place. This document outlines how Hyndburn's UKSPF-funded interventions have delivered against local priorities, highlighting outputs, impacts, and lessons for future investment.

The interventions were tailored to address Hyndburn's specific needs and enhance other significant regeneration activity, designed to revitalise the local economy and improve town centres. These priorities were informed by evidence-based assessments and extensive stakeholder engagement, ensuring targeted responses to Hyndburn's challenges and ambitions.

Spending Breakdown



Delivery Outcomes:

Community and Place

Town centre greening and public realm improvements

Working closely with the Accrington Town Centre Greening group, our investment included:

- New and replacement tree planting along Broadway
- Enhanced public realm through pocket park upgrades and perennial planting
- Transformation of the Accrington Pals Memorial Garden, now a well-used reflective green space with themed seating and a new WWI sculpture
- Continued integration of art and culture into town centre greening, supported by our new 2025 allocation

Arts, Culture and Heritage

A £1.24 million investment package has driven cultural regeneration and laid the foundations for long-term cultural growth. Key achievements include:

- Appointing a 2 year Head of Culture and Heritage
- A successful bid for development stage funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund to develop plans for a new creativity hub – DOME
 - in the newly-purchased Market Chambers building on Accrington Town Square
- Creation of our Culture and Heritage Strategy and the formation of a Culture and Heritage Investment Panel

- New high-profile cultural events, with over £65k match funding secured from Arts Council England including:

- Oak Fest - outdoor music festivals in 2023 and 2024, featuring internationally-recognised artists alongside local talent
 - Halloween Blast 2023 - a live show of music, drumming and fireworks
 - Spring Parade 2024 - featuring music and costumes reflecting local culture and heritage
 - Enlighten 2024 - a town centre light show over 2 nights, featuring a number of art installations and performances
 - Over 28k audience members over 18 months, engaging over 250 creative specialists in event delivery
- Micro-grants for community organisations and cultural workshops
 - Town centre brand created, based on Hyndburn's cultural and natural legacy, with exploratory work for a future Place Strategy
 - Marketing and promotion of cultural activity across the borough

Masterplanning and Strategic Development

- [A masterplan for Accrington](#) was adopted in March 2025, creating a framework for long-term regeneration:

“We couldn’t believe this was in our town; it was truly amazing. Just wow!”

Halloween Blast audience member



Delivery Outcomes:

Supporting Local Business

Business Support

- Monthly business workshops held over two years, both in person and online, on topics from finance to AI adoption
- Tailored advice and brokerage service available to all businesses by Boost Business Lancashire, Lancashire's business growth hubs
- Support for start-up and high growth businesses, as well as international trade assistance
- A Jobs Fair to support local employers with their recruitment activity
- Promotional activity at expos such as the Festival of Business to promote inward investment into the borough

Economic Development Function

- Appointment of an Economic Development Manager
- Bespoke support for Hyndburn-based businesses
- Quarterly business newsletter and regular workshops
- Economic Policy Forum and stakeholder engagement through events and expos
- Engagement with the local college through sector specific industry boards, to identify skills needs and help shape curriculum development.

Low Carbon Business Support

- Delivered in partnership with East Lancashire Chamber of Commerce, UCLAN and AMRC, this strand has included:
- Fully funded carbon footprints for businesses
- Unlimited 1-to-1 and group support to implement net zero action plans
- Sector-specific decarbonisation advice and technology support
- RedCAT partnership delivering low carbon innovation and product commercialisation
- Notable success with Senator and Lokus Energy, supporting local supply chain decarbonisation
- Delivery of low carbon training including Green Rose, DNZ, Carbon in Business ALS and the B Impact Academy

“It was a very informative event, I learnt lots and have committed to trying out some of the AI apps”

Louise Sydenham- Deputy CEO East Lancs Chamber of Commerce

Join us for a clear and engaging overview of Artificial Intelligence, ideal for teams seeking to understand current AI capabilities, limitations & strategic potential.

Empowering Local Businesses to Understand & Implement AI with Confidence

Wednesday 11th June 2025

9:30am - 1:00pm
Oswaldtwistle Mills Business & Conference Centre, BB5 0BY



**New Year,
New Business!**

📅 14th January 2025
🕒 2pm - 4:30pm
📍 Hyndburn Borough Council

Masterclass for entrepreneurs in the Hyndburn area on the steps needed to turn your ideas into reality, led by Flying Start business adviser Alistair Clarke MBE

**Business Drop-In
Sessions**

Free to attend
No booking required



Join the our Economic Development team to find out what support is available for your business



Impact and Learning

The programme delivered tangible change while identifying valuable lessons for the future. Achievements include:

- Increased town centre footfall through greening, place-making and cultural programming
- Greater business resilience, with more start-ups and growth firms engaging in support services
- Visible transformation of public spaces, including the Pals Memorial Garden and pocket parks
- Enhanced profile of Hyndburn as a cultural and visitor destination
- Stronger partnerships between businesses, education providers and the Council
- Strategic direction provided through new masterplans and strategy documents
- Support for businesses moving towards net zero and adopting low carbon technologies
- New skills and capabilities embedded within local businesses and the workforce

Lessons learned:

- Sustained engagement with communities and business leaders strengthens delivery and relevance
- A clear outcomes framework will help track longer-term impact and strengthen future funding bids
- Building in sustainability and capacity from the outset supports long-term project success
- Placing the right staff and leadership in key roles enhances accountability and confidence

This programme has laid solid foundations for a more vibrant, inclusive and sustainable borough, with work continuing through our 2025-26 allocation and our Plan for Neighbourhoods investment.

More information

For ongoing updates, you can:

- Follow Hyndburn Borough Council on social media (Facebook, X or TikTok)
- Sign up to our regular newsletter:
public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKHBBC/subscriber/new/
- Find news on our website:
www.hyndburnbc.gov.uk/hyndburnnews/
- For Accrington Town Centre updates, check out:
www.accringtontownsquare.com/



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