

ANGUS COUNCIL

GRANT SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 17 JUNE 2025

ANGUS PLACE PROSPERITY FUND – PROPOSAL FOR DISTRIBUTION

REPORT BY AUDREY MICHIE, SERVICE LEADER - VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

1. ABSTRACT

This report provides details on the financial allocation of the 2025/26 Scottish Government Place-Based Investment Programme (PBIP) for distribution in Angus and recommends the approach for the distribution of these funds and the monies allocated to the Community Asset Capital Grant Fund and Feasibility monies from the UKPSF.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN AND COUNCIL POLICIES

Caring for our Place

- Engage with communities to support their ambitions to deliver on local aspirations
- Maximise funding opportunities and grants to the Third Sector and communities to support their ambitions to deliver services

3. RECOMMENDATION(S)

3.1 It is recommended that the Sub-Committee:-

- (i) Notes the challenges with the timescale regarding the distribution of the allocation of the 2025/26 fund noted in paragraph 6.2;
- (ii) Agrees the process for the distribution of funds noted in paragraphs 6.2 and 6.3;
- (iii) Agrees the scoring criteria for the distribution of the Scottish Government Place-Based Investment Programme 2024/2025 noted in paragraph 6.4;
- (iv) Notes that a further report will be brought to the Grants Sub-Committee to approve the final list of grant awards from the Angus Place Prosperity fund based on recommendations from the officer assessment panel following their review and scoring of applications; and
- (v) Delegates authority to the Director of Finance to approve any necessary material changes to funding from the proposed Angus Place Prosperity Fund to ensure that the full funding can be utilised in the timeframes which have been set for the funding.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 The 2020-2021 Scottish Government Programme for Government announced the creation of a Place-Based Investment Programme (PBIP) with £275million of funding to support place-based working. Launched as a five year financial commitment of capital funding, the PBIP aims to ensure that all place-based investments are shaped by the needs and aspirations of local communities while accelerating ambitions for place-making, 20-minute neighbourhoods, town centre revitalisation, community-led regeneration, inclusive growth, local resilience, community wealth building and should support progress towards Net Zero targets.

4.2 At its meeting of 10 March 2022 ([Report No 107/22](#)), Angus Council:

- Agreed the process for the distribution of funds
- Agreed the scoring criteria for the distribution of the Scottish Government Place-Based Investment Programme 2021/2022

- Delegated authority to the Director of Vibrant Communities and Sustainable Growth to approve any necessary emergency decisions for funding from the Scottish Government Place-Based Investment Programme for the remainder of the fund, following consultation with the Convenor of Communities Committee.

- 4.3** Following approval of the paper presented to Communities Committee on 10 March 2022, an Angus-wide engagement exercise was undertaken to identify projects that aligned with the criteria of the fund over the five-year period. Community Development Officers have since been working with a range of groups, also identified through the Community Development Programme of Support, to assist them over the years in accessing PBIP, UKSPF, and various other external funding opportunities.
- 4.4** At its meeting of 16 August 2022 ([Report 193/22](#)), Angus Council agreed to approve the projects recommended by the Angus Council officer panel for the use of the Scottish Government Place-Based Investment allocation of £624,000 for 2022/2023.
- 4.5** At its meeting on 22 June 2023, the Communities Committee ([Report No 191/23](#)) approved £35,000 to be committed to the Monifieth Community Hub from the 2023/2024 PBIP. At its meeting on 26 September 2023, the Communities Committee ([Report No 262/23](#)) approved the remaining £400,000 from the 2023/2024 allocation of the Scottish Government Place Based Investment Fund.
- 4.6** The following shows the commitment and spend of the fund to 2024:

Date	Allocated/Committed	Amount
2021/22	Spent	£720,000
2022/23	Spent	£624,000
2023/2024	Spent	£435,000

- 4.7** The Scottish Government wrote to all Local Authorities on 16 July 2024 to advise that the direct allocation of the PBIP capital funding for 2024/2025 was to be paused, and no commitments should be made until an overall spending review exercise had been completed. It was then confirmed that no allocation of PBIP would be granted for the 2024/2025 period.
- 4.8** As there was no PBIP allocation in 2024/2025, a proposal to allocate UK Shared Prosperity Funding (UKSPF) towards a Capital Asset Seed Fund, was approved at Angus Council's Policy and Resources Committee on 29 October 2024 ([Report No. 316/24](#)). Subsequently, on 28 November 2024, the Policy and Resources Executive Sub-Committee ([Report No. 367/24](#)) approved the allocation of £600,000 from the Capital Asset Seed Fund to various projects, based on recommendations from an internal officer panel.

5. CURRENT POSITION

- 5.1** The Scottish Government, as part of the approved budget on 25 February 2025, announced a one-year allocation of the 2025/2026 PBIP with a deadline for projects to be committed by the 31 March 2026. However, at the time of writing this report, Local Authorities are awaiting the final award letters advising the allocation amount. It is estimated that Angus will receive £435,000 from the Fund based on previous shares of this funding.
- 5.2** At the Policy Resource Committee on 15 May 2025 ([Report No. 142/25](#)) Angus Council approved £150,000 capital funding and £75,000 Revenue funding towards a Capital Asset Seed Fund 2025/2026, both with a spend deadline of 31 March 2026.

6. PROPOSALS

- 6.1** It is proposed that both the 2025/2026 PBIP capital allocation (once confirmed) be combined with the approved UKSPF Capital Asset Seed Fund to create a single, integrated '**Angus Place Prosperity Fund**'. This approach aims to streamline support for eligible, community-focused capital projects. In addition, it is proposed that the £75,000 revenue Asset Seed funding be allocated to a dedicated 'Feasibility Study Fund' to support community organisations exploring potential community ownership or redevelopment projects.

- 6.2** Due to delays in receiving the 2025/2026 funding award from the Scottish Government and the short timeline for committing funds by 31 March 2026, it is proposed that the funding prioritise projects already in development and ready for delivery. Organisations and services that officers have been supporting, who have projects ready to deliver that fit the criteria of the fund, will be invited to apply. New applications will not be invited at this stage.
- 6.3** The criteria for the fund will prioritise the redevelopment of existing assets for community use, with the aim of enhancing local facilities and supporting sustainable, community-led regeneration. Projects that demonstrate a clear community benefit, long-term viability, and projects that can be delivered within the timescales of both funding streams will be considered for support.
- 6.4** Applicants must demonstrate how the project will be sustainable and will respond to the needs of the area. Match funding is not critical; however, a project will gain a higher score if included; the higher the leverage through the PBIP, the more investment and economic wealth will be pulled into the area. Projects are expected to contribute towards a net-zero carbon Scotland and respond locally to the climate change emergency. It is proposed that the scoring criteria for the fund are as follows:

Criteria	Maximum Score
Deliverability within timescale	50
Community impact	20
Sustainability	10
Leverage	10
Carbon Reduction	10
Total	100

- 6.5** Due to the tight timescales for utilising the funding and the fact that the allocation amount remains unknown at the time of writing this report, it is intended that a Grants Sub-Committee will be scheduled in August. Following assessment of all applications by an internal officer panel, the highest-scoring projects will be put forward for consideration by the Grants Sub-Committee, and a reserve list will also be identified. Delegated Authority is also sought for the Director of Finance to approve any necessary material changes to funding from the proposed Angus Place Prosperity Fund to ensure that the full funding can be utilised in the timeframes which have been set for the funding. In past years, urgent decisions have been required for material changes to funded projects to maximise the impact of the funds available.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1** Whilst there are no direct financial implications as all project proposals, once confirmed, will need to be contained within the allocated funding, there are indirect financial implications of officer time to support the preparation and/or delivery of projects and the administration of the fund.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 8.1** Where the Council is providing grant funding to third parties, there is a risk of external factors causing delay to the completion of the project within the timescales of the fund. This will be mitigated through the assessment of applications and the monitoring of the delivery of each project by officers. Delegated authority to the Director of Finance is also sought to help manage the risk of underspends and funding not being utilised, should material changes arise.

9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1** There are no direct environmental implications arising from the recommendations of this report.

10. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT, HUMAN RIGHTS AND FAIRER SCOTLAND DUTY

- 10.1** A screening assessment has been undertaken, and a full Equality Impact Assessment is not required for the following reason:
- The report sets out the approach to allocation of funding, and therefore any assessment will be undertaken in the context of individual projects as they are identified.

11. CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND WELLBEING IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 11.1** A Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment will be carried out when a full Impact Assessment will be undertaken in the context of individual projects as they are identified.

12. CONSULTATION

- 12.1** The Director of Finance and the Acting Director of Legal, Governance and Change have been consulted on the contents of this report.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are: (list them below)

Angus Council 10 March 2022 ([Report No 107/22](#))

Angus Council 16 August 2022 ([Report 193/22](#))

Communities Committee 22 June 2023 ([Report No 191/23](#))

Policy and Resource Committee 29 October 2024 ([Report No. 316/24](#))

Policy and Resource Grant-Sub Committee 2024 ([Report No. 367/24](#))

Policy Resource Committee 15 May 2025 ([Report No, 142/25](#))

REPORT AUTHOR: Audrey Michie
EMAIL DETAILS: Michiea@angus.gov.uk