

Kirkby Lonsdale Business and Economic Recovery Grant

In support of the town's recovery in the immediate aftermath of the fire and resulting business disruption, business grants have been made available through the UK Shared Prosperity Fund for individual businesses and organisations to support economic restart and recovery activity, in order to safeguarding jobs and income.

Fund Set Up

- Funding allocation determined through **UKSPF** underspends within Enterprising Cumbria business support programme;
- Internal, external and portfolio holder consultation with partners to establish perimeters of business grant fund;
- Agreement with Enterprising Cumbria to administrate the funding with support from W&F;
- Grant scheme approved with support from KL Community Recovery Partnership.

Application

- Application finalised in consultation with W&F Economic Development and Assurance teams and Enterprising Cumbria;
- Offer of 1-2-1 support made for all KL businesses with business advisors mobilised for grant applications and wider business support (Enterprising Cumbria);
- Application process launched 15th January 2025;
- Application process closed 31st January 2025.

Assessment

- All applications assessed by Enterprising Cumbria to ensure eligibility criteria applies to those recommended for grant approval;
- Additional assessment support from W&F Economic Development officers;
- Proposed grant levels set out to ensure grants are reflective of level of need and within overall budget of scheme;
- Consultation with W&F Section 151 Officer for overall approval of grants, and ensure UKSPF compliance.

Decision Making

- A dedicated **Grants Panel** will be convened to discuss options and recommend grant levels for each eligibility criteria;
- Officer Delegated Decision Record (ODDR) to be approved by UKSPF Senior Responsible Officer (SRO) in consultation with W&F Portfolio holder;
- W&F Council to ensure grant compliance with support from Enterprising Cumbria;
- Kirkby Lonsdale Community Recovery Partnership to be presented with grants overview for oversight for grant levels approval.

Award

- All grant decisions to be communicated with the grant applicants;
- Grant offer letters will be issued from W&F Council including UKSPF terms of the grant award;
- Payments to be made through Westmorland and Furness Council starting from week commencing 17 February 2025 (TBC).
- Grant spend to be fully committed by mid/late March 2025, with majority of activity undertaken by 31 March 2025;
- Monitoring activity to be conducted by W&F Council.

Grants Panel

- Consisting of Enterprising Cumbria, W&F Officers (Economic Development and Community Development) and KL Chamber of Trade in representation of the Kirkby Lonsdale Community Recovery Partnership, and reporting back to the KLCRP.

Kirkby Lonsdale Community Recovery Partnership

