

CITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON COUNCIL	Meeting of the City Council 1 December 2021
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Report title	Motions on Notice
Referring body/person	Councillor Ian Brookfield Councillor Adam Collinge
Wards affected	All Wards
Cabinet Member with lead responsibility	N/A
Accountable director	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer
Originating service	Governance
Accountable employee	David Pattison, Chief Operating Officer Tel 01902 550320 Email David.pattison@wolverhampton.gov.uk

Recommendation for decision:

The Council is recommended to:

Consider the motions received in accordance with the Council's procedure rules.

1.0 Purpose

1.1 For Council to consider the motions received:

a. UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Councillor Ian Brookfield will move the following motion:

“That this Council notes that the government plans to replace European Union ‘structural funds’ with a new UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF), due to launch in April 2022. Indeed, in their 2019 general election manifesto, the Conservatives promised that their ‘new’ UKSPF would “at a minimum” match the level of EU spending in each of the four nations of the UK.

Prior to the introduction of the UKSPF, the government’s UK Community Renewal Fund (CRF) aims to support communities to pilot programmes and new approaches.

However, the early indications are that areas in need are not receiving the allocation they need from the CRF or that they reflect previous allocations of EU funding. On the contrary, wealthier, non-priority areas are getting relatively more. For example, a Priority 2 area like Coventry received more than some Priority 1 areas like Birmingham and Dudley.

The fact that areas like Devon are receiving more CRF funding (£9.3million) than the West Midlands (£5.3 million), not reflecting current EU allocations in those areas, raises serious questions about the government’s attempts at levelling up and the methodology they are using to allocate funds.

This Council, therefore, is instructed to use all available avenues to lobby the government to ensure it is fair, consistent and equitable in its approach in distributing UKSPF monies, now and in the future to reflect EU allocations, ensuring the areas with the greatest needs receive their fair share.”

b. Inspection of SEND Services

Councillor Adam Collinge will move the following motion:

“This Council notes the findings of the inspection of SEND services within Wolverhampton.

Council agrees to the formation of a Review Group, outside of the existing scrutiny process, to monitor progress of SEND services and provide regular, dedicated scrutiny and support to assist in both the embedding of the strengths that exist within the service and to improve where weaknesses have been identified.

Council agrees that the Review Group will have an independent chair, be politically balanced and may invite representatives from partner agencies.

This report is PUBLIC
[NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]

Council delegates responsibility to the Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel for the selection of both Review Group numbers and membership.”