

Do you have questions about the new UK Government fund programmes?

If yes, here is a handy guide to the Levelling Up Fund and the Shared Prosperity Fund. Please note that the Community Renewal Fund was a one-off programme and closed in 2021.

Fund name	Levelling Up Fund (LUF)	Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF)
One-off or multi-year?	Multi-year with first round in 2021 and second in 2022. Two more rounds anticipated.	One off with allocations scheduled in 2022 to cover 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25.
Replaces EU funds?	No	Yes. Replaces the ERDF and ESF from April 2022 to March 2025
Allocations across UK	£4.8 billion with £1.7 billion allocated in 2021 round	£2.6 billion for 2022-25
Allocations for Scotland	A minimum of 9% of UK allocations in each round. £172 million allocated in 2021	£212 million in total - £32million in 2022/23, £55 million in 2023/24 and £125 million in 2024/25
Stated purpose	To invest in local infrastructure that has a visible impact on people and their communities and will support economic recovery. Mainly major capital funding. Max £20 million per local authority if regeneration or town centre investment bid. Max £50 million if transport or culture bid.	To build pride in place and increase life chances across the UK. A proportion of funding to each area is intended to deliver Multiply , an adult numeracy programme. Mainly revenue funding. Investment priorities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities & place • Supporting local business • People and skills
Competitive or not?	Yes. Bids assessed based on where local area sits in an Index of Priority Places (index categories are 1, 2 or 3 with 1 being an area most in need of investment support). Bids are also assessed on their strategic fit, economic case and deliverability .	No. All local authority areas receive an allocation based on a set funding formula
Admin and application process	Individual local authorities do not invite bids but are themselves the lead applicant in partnership with a range of local stakeholders. Joint bids between neighbouring local authorities are permitted. MPs are invited to comment. Bids are submitted directly to the UK Government and a three-stage assessment is carried out. Successful local authorities receive investment with UK Government retaining monitoring role over fund compliance.	To receive their allocation, local authorities must submit an Investment Plan by August 2022 which sets out outputs and outcomes that reflect local needs and opportunities. Investment Plans must align with local policies, including the National Strategy for Economic Transformation and be developed in consultation with MSPs and the Scottish Government. Local authorities can work across boundaries, including in the context of Regional Economic Partnerships that deliver City and Growth Deals. Once funding has been received, local authorities can manage it as they see fit and are responsible for fund compliance.
Support with admin and application process	One-off £125,000 granted to each local authority in Scotland to support bid preparation for any LUF round.	One-off £40,000 granted to each local authority to undertake preparatory work for the SPF, including developing their Investment Plans. 4% of the allocation to each local authority may be used to support administration of the SPF. Smaller local authorities may request flexibility to use more than 4% if necessary.

Want to find out more, including the amount of SPF moneys allocated to each local authority and whether it will reach communities? Read our in-depth [REPORT](#).