



UK Shared Prosperity Fund

Investment Plan Drafting Template

Version 2
May 2022

Your location

To be eligible for funding, you will need to be applying on behalf of a lead authority in one of the [delivery geographies](#).

Select the lead authority

For Scotland and Wales only: Who else is this investment plan being submitted on behalf of? Select all that apply

Your details

Name

Email address

Phone number

Organisation name

Local challenges and opportunities

In this section, we will ask you:

- If you've identified any challenges or opportunities, you intend to support
- Which of the UKSPF investment priorities these fall under

ARE THERE ANY LOCAL CHALLENGES YOU FACE WHICH FALL UNDER THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

(If yes) Describe these challenges, give evidence where possible

The following city challenges have been identified, from discussions internally, assessing local data and discussions with city business leaders/organisations:

City Centre Anti-Social Behaviour

Within Exeter City Centre, there are challenges with crime, which includes violence, anti-social behaviour and shoplifting.

<https://www.police.uk/your-area/devon-and-cornwall-police/exeter-city-centre/?tab=CrimeMap>

The number of crimes reported in the city centre (below) are taken from the above website and show the % change for the same period in 2021, all seeing a significant increase:

May 2022 – 322 (145% increase)

April 2022 – 214 (20% increase)

March 2022 – 188 (43% increase)

February 2022 – 240 (108% increase)

January 2022 – 222 (86% increase)

The city has recently received Safer Streets Funding to support measures to reduce crime, but gaps still remain across the city centre to reduce crime. The level of crime within the city centre is visible and is raised by city centre businesses and the Business Improvement District on a regular basis. Feedback from businesses, is that on occasion, shoppers are not visiting certain shops due to ASB outside their premises.

ASB has also affected some places in the city centre that city Red Coat Guides visit on a daily basis. A footpath in Rougemont Garden was deemed unsafe and was cordoned off, which resulted in an increase in ASB and forced a decline in public use of the public garden. It is proposed to design out crime by reintroducing footfall within the public garden.

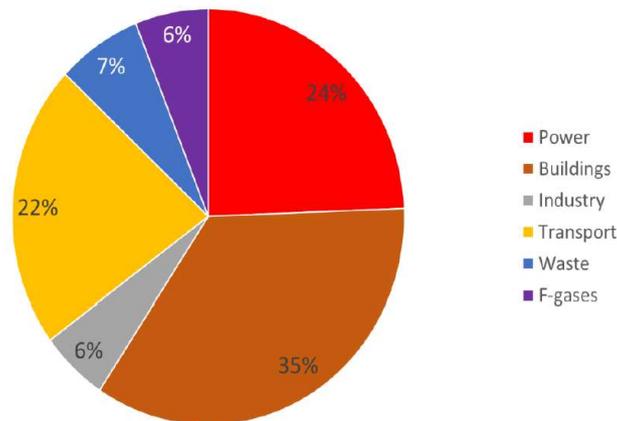
Net Zero / Climate Change

Exeter declared a climate emergency in 2019 and adopted the Net Zero Exeter 2030 Plan at Executive in 2020, which is the city roadmap to net zero.

<https://committees.exeter.gov.uk/mglIssueHistoryHome.aspx?IId=46373&PlanId=197&RPID=0>

The city recently received a carbon baseline report which details which sectors emit carbon across the city from our residents and business community. To achieve net zero by 2030, significant investment is needed, radical changes are needed and carbon offsetting needed to reach net zero.

Estimated total greenhouse gas emissions in Exeter in 2019 are 476,221 tonnes of carbon dioxide, with the breakdown shown in the image below.



Copy of the report and committee report:

<https://committees.exeter.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=6745&Ver=4>

The report highlights the extent of the issue of what is needed to undertake to achieve net zero:

- Over 1,200 PV installations each year every year to 2030
- Installing loft insulation in 25,400 homes by 2030 or 2,800 homes each year every year to 2030.
- Insulating the walls of 13,500 homes by 2030 at the rate of 1,500 every year.
- Putting 4,600 heat pumps in homes every year to 2030.
- Improving the energy efficiency of 260 non-domestic buildings every year to 2030 and switching 270 every year to low carbon heating.
- Reducing driving in Exeter by 10 million kilometres each year, every year to 2030.
- Continuing the exponential growth in electric vehicles ownership (aiming for 317 in 2021) and putting in an additional 81 charging points in every year to 2030.
- Increasing cycling rates by 4 million kilometres annually (equivalent to 70% of the current total level) with matching increases in walking.
- Achieving a 1,300 tonne annual reduction in household waste generation each year, every year and a 4.2% annual increase in recycling rates each year, every year to 2030.

Businesses, community groups and residents are supportive of the city's net zero ambition, but some are struggling to understand how they can make a difference and what changes they need to make to reduce their own carbon emissions. Due to the rise in energy costs, residents and businesses are keen to reduce down their energy costs in the most cost effective way.

Within the county of Devon, residents in Exeter are the highest % suffering from fuel poverty. Residents are struggling to pay the day to day bills, so any support to reduce energy costs will be of benefit.

Area	% of Households in Fuel Poverty (from April 2022)	% of Households with EPC Band D or below	Median Energy Efficiency Score
Plymouth	24.6	56.7	67
Exeter	23.6	51.1	68
Torrige	23.5	63.0	63
Mid Devon	23.0	59.0	65
North Devon	23.0	60.8	65
West Devon	22.9	66.6	62
Torbay	21.0	66.7	64
Teignbridge	19.7	60.9	65
East Devon	18.8	59.4	65
South Hams	18.8	66.7	62

England	26.7	57.9	66
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Source: End Fuel Poverty Coalition / ONS 2021

- Note:
1. Fuel Poverty in this table is defined as spending 10% or more of disposable income on energy.
 2. Energy efficiency rating D is equivalent to 55 to 68 on energy efficiency SAP score.
 3. Energy efficiency also varies by age of property, size and type of property, and tenure.

ARE THERE ANY LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE INVESTMENT PRIORITY THAT YOU INTEND TO SUPPORT?

(If yes) Describe these opportunities, give evidence where possible

Improvements to green spaces to reduce Anti-Social Behaviour There are a number of green spaces within the city centre that are not used significantly. These green spaces are within easy walking distance from the High Street, as well as some residential areas close to the city centre. Some of these green spaces have poor access and for those with limited mobility, access is poor. One of the green spaces has an old bandstand, which is closed due to repair needed to the structure.

It's widely known that access to green spaces helps individuals with their mental health & physical wellbeing. Significant work has been undertaken during covid on improving access to the Exeter Green Circle Walk, such as improved signage, footpath maintenance, community engagement and launching walks on a digital app.

There is the vision for more and more people to live in our city centre, this is through the Liveable Exeter vision: <https://www.liveableexeter.co.uk/> Some of these new homes will be within apartment blocks, so access to quality outdoor spaces may be limited. A report by Leeds University highlights the benefits of green spaces in urban environments https://leaf.leeds.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/86/2015/10/LEAF_benefits_of_urban_green_space_2015_upd.pdf there are benefits for air quality, health & wellbeing, climate change, flooding & water quality, wildlife and the economy.

Building Pride in Place

Liveable Exeter <https://www.liveableexeter.co.uk/> is a programme to build 12,000 homes in Exeter. There is a major opportunity, through this home build programme, to build pride in place and develop a range of programmes and initiatives to improve the awareness of local heritage and culture where these new homes are built. When you move into a new home, you want to feel a sense of connection and belonging in where you live.

Through the unique partnership with the University of Exeter, the City Council can resolve urban challenges that repeatedly face Exeter. The city hasn't been able resolve these challenges to date, but due to the Civic University Agreement <https://www.exeter.ac.uk/about/regionalengagement/civic-agreements/> recently been adopted, there is now the opportunity to work Wellbeing, Environment challenges.

Exeter is a Sport England Local Delivery Pilot, with the aim to improve the physical wellbeing of the residents of Exeter. The Local Delivery Pilot ties in nicely with Liveable Exeter, in how do we

develop homes to improve residents physical and mental wellbeing – healthy homes and easy access to public transport and sustainable travel to access employment sites, and all what the city centre has to offer.

Net Zero / Climate Change

Net zero also provides the city with an opportunity, in how we support community groups and businesses to make changes in their local community to reduce carbon emissions. Groups that are engaged and active in their local community, provide an opportunity to support residents to change behaviour. For those that are not engaged in climate change do not want to be preached to, for them to change behaviour the message is more to do with health & wellbeing and how they can save money.

The budget to deliver and implement carbon reducing measures is limited, there is the opportunity to develop programmes to provide an income to implement activity to reduce carbon emissions. Just under 50% of the workforce in Exeter, live outside of the city and commute in on a daily basis. There is the opportunity to develop a scheme for these commuters to offset their daily commute into the city. For 2020/21, total emissions for the City Council are 52,551 t CO₂e. Figure 2 (below), shows 2020/21 carbon emissions compared to 2018/19.

For 2020/21, total emissions are 52,551 t CO₂e. Figure 2, which uses the categories in the guidance^c, shows 2020/21 compared to the 2018/19 footprint.

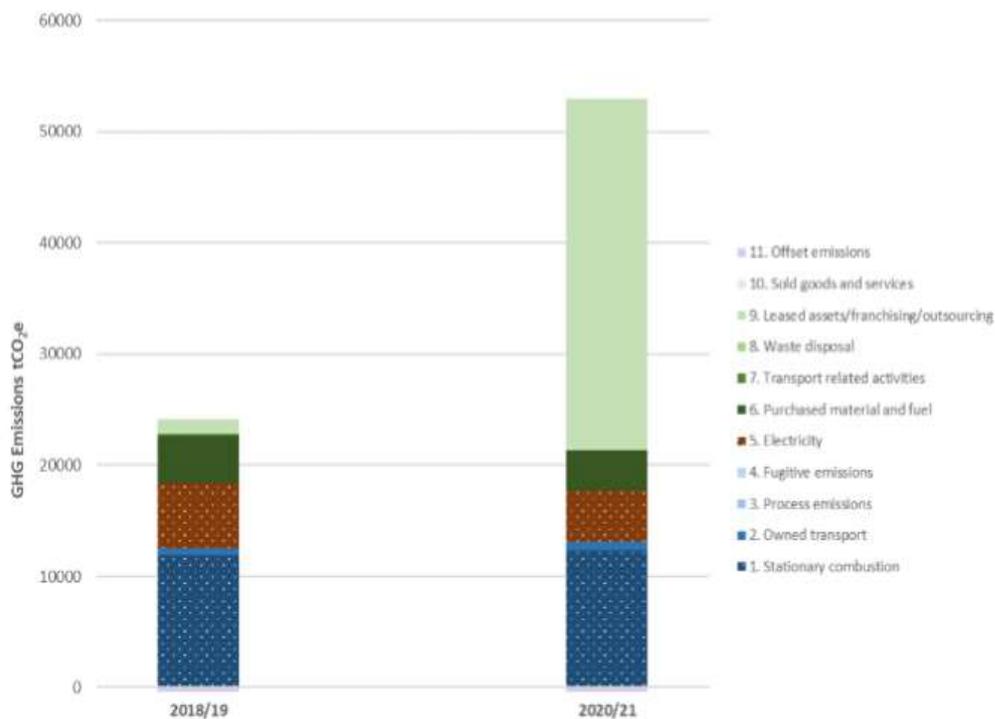


Figure 2: ECC's GHG emissions by footprint reporting category for 2018/19 and 2020/21 showing Scope 1 (blue) Scope 2 (red) and Scope 3 (green)

Increase City Centre Footfall

During the pandemic footfall within the city reduced dramatically, with residents and shoppers choosing to shop online. In order for city centres to remain relevant and to continue to thrive, shopping cannot be the primary purpose for a visit. Cities need to evolve to attract shoppers, visitors, commuters, students and residents in order for the city centre to remain viable, prosperous and to even grow.

The City Council has invested in Exeter City Centre, in building a new passivhaus bus station and swimming pool/leisure site, both located within the city centre:

<https://news.exeter.gov.uk/new-exeter-bus-station-opens-in-the-city-centre/>
<https://news.exeter.gov.uk/exeter-s-unique-new-leisure-centre-welcomes-its-first-customers/>
 St Sidwell's Point provides a reason (leisure) for people to visit the city centre. It is hoped that visitors to St Sidwell's Point will also visit other locations within the city centre, such as cafes, the cinema and shops.

We need to invest in our city centre, to provide the best possible experience to attract new and existing people to sustain the city centre long term.

Figure 2 below highlights city centre that are home to productive businesses have fewer vacant units, that there is a direct relationship between the strength of the city centre and vacancy rates. Exeter is just above the national average

Figure 2:
City centres that are home to productive businesses had fewer vacant units

The relationship between the strength of city centres and vacancy rates, pre-March 2020

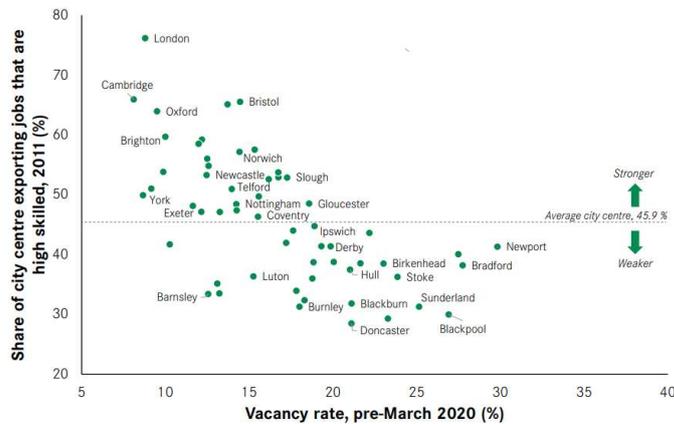
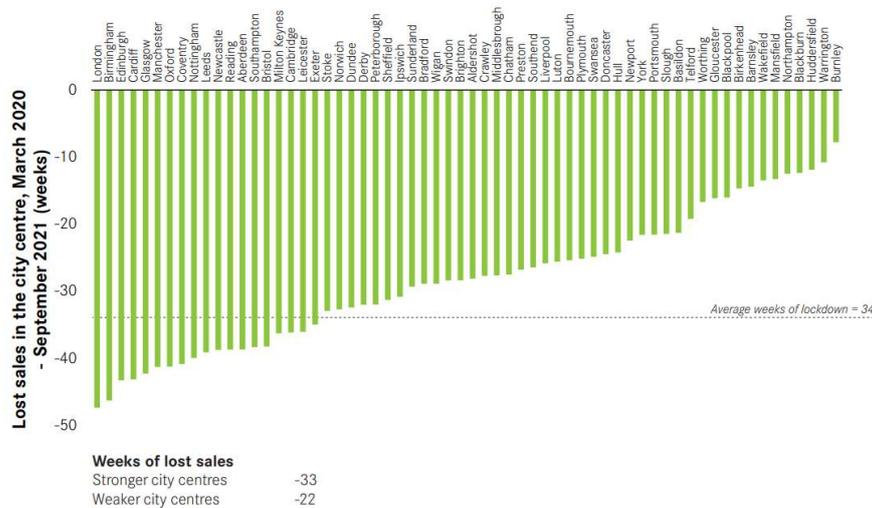


Figure 4 highlights the effect of the pandemic on Exeter for loss of sales. Even though Exeter performs well overall, and is classified as a strong city. Due to a large proportion of office workers within the city centre, the loss of sales was high during the pandemic.

Figure 4:
Stronger city centres lost more weeks of sales

Lost weeks of sales in the city centre, March 2020 to September 2021



ARE THERE ANY LOCAL CHALLENGES YOU FACE WHICH FALL UNDER THE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

(If yes) Describe these challenges, give evidence where possible

Business survival rate in Exeter

Within Exeter the three-year business survival rate in Exeter is 59%, which is below the Devon (65%) and national (61%) averages. The business make up of Exeter is shown below, data is from <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157359/report.aspx> The city has a high proportion of micro and small businesses within the city, which is challenging to support. In order for these businesses to survive, we need to support locally owned businesses, as these businesses provide meaningful long term employment for residents and a good circular economy base.

UK Business Counts (2021)

	Exeter (Numbers)	Exeter (%)	South West (Numbers)	South West (%)
Enterprises				
Micro (0 To 9)	3,770	85.1	211,575	89.4
Small (10 To 49)	515	11.6	20,845	8.8
Medium (50 To 249)	115	2.6	3,440	1.5
Large (250+)	30	0.7	765	0.3
Total	4,430	-	236,625	-
Local Units				
Micro (0 To 9)	4,525	76.1	234,580	84.4
Small (10 To 49)	1,135	19.1	35,735	12.9
Medium (50 To 249)	250	4.2	6,615	2.4
Large (250+)	40	0.7	880	0.3
Total	5,950	-	277,815	-

Source: Inter Departmental Business Register (ONS)

Business owners tend to be HR, marketing, finance and the day to day running of their business, they struggle to find the time to plan for change and to adjust to market forces.

Net Zero

The same as residents, businesses want to make a difference and reduce their carbon emissions. As previously mentioned, the majority of businesses within Exeter are micro and small and struggle to find the head space and capacity to make changes to their business so they reduce their carbon emissions. At present, there is limited advice and support for businesses on carbon reducing measures – that is independent and non-biased.

The City Council has recently launched a new bus station and a new swimming pool/leisure centre, both built to passivhaus standard. The City Council also build new social homes to Passivhaus standard, so that home are climate ready. There is limited scope to build at scale to this standard, as the local college doesn't train its students to Passivhaus building techniques. This is proving a challenge for the City Council, as the expertise isn't available locally.

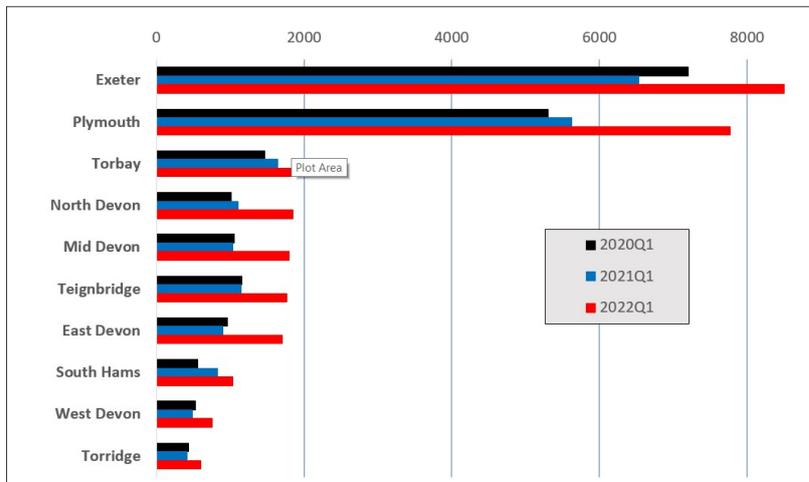
People issues effecting business

During the pandemic the city underwent a number of changes, which is having a detrimental impact on the business community and the growth of the city. There was the Great Resignation during the pandemic, which is still effecting the economy of the city today.

Throughout the pandemic we have seen some record level of job vacancies, peaking at over 3,500. Job vacancies on Indeed, within Exeter currently stands at 2,270 (15 July 2022)

<https://uk.indeed.com/jobs?q=New&l=Exeter%2C%20Devon&radius=5&vjk=198684475f0c0f44>

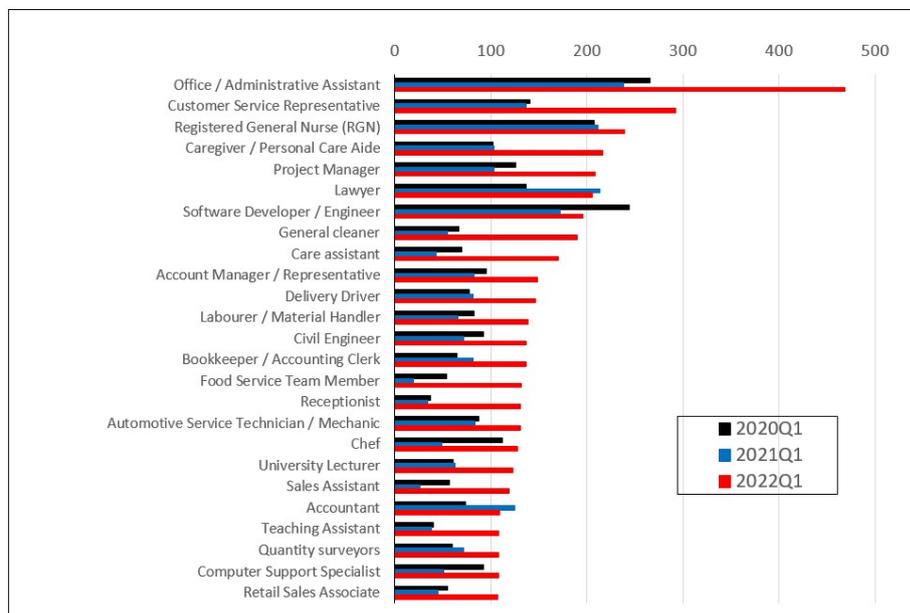
Devon Job Vacancies by District / City



Within the county of Devon, Exeter has consistently had the highest number of job vacancies per district. This is potentially causing some businesses to reduce investment, resulting in growth slowing down or becoming stagnant.

The types of occupations that have the highest demand in Exeter, and how this has changed over time. As businesses are struggling to recruit into certain vacant positions, salaries are increasing. A positive for the employee, but not so for the employer. Challenges are occurring in health, administration and customer services.

Exeter BGTCC Occupations in Highest Demand Q1 2022



Within Exeter we have a people issue, we don't have enough people to fulfil the vacant roles across the city. For the city to grow, we need to find ways to fill city vacant positions to show that Exeter is a good place to work, that provides meaningful employment and a good salary.

University of Exeter Graduate retention is an ongoing challenge in Exeter, data from 2017/18 shows that one year after graduating only 28% of University of Exeter students remained in the South West region, dropping to 24% for those who had graduated five years prior.

https://www.exeter.ac.uk/media/universityofexeter/aboutusresponsive/regionalengagement/documents/Exeter_CUA_Brochure_Needs_Analysis.pdf

ARE THERE ANY LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT PRIORITY THAT YOU INTEND TO SUPPORT?

(If yes) Describe these opportunities, give evidence where possible

Net Zero

The same as residents, businesses want to make a difference and reduce their carbon emissions. As previously mentioned, the majority of businesses within Exeter are micro and small and struggle to find the head space and capacity to make change to their business to reduce their carbon emissions. At present there is limited support and advice for businesses on carbon reducing measures for their business.

The Governments Green Industrial Revolution, is a ten point plan that sets out an approach to build back better, support green jobs, and accelerate our path to net zero:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-ten-point-plan-for-a-green-industrial-revolution>

Businesses are an integral part of delivering the above plan, in how they green their business processes. A business that adapts, will be ahead of the game in the city.

Business Growth

There is the opportunity to support Exeter's tech eco-system, in delivering innovation and digital interventions to raise productivity and GVA within the city. There are support groups within the city to enable businesses to network with like-minded tech entrepreneurs to grow their business. These networks could be expanded to provide much more targeted support to our business community.

Small and start-up businesses within the city struggle to gain mainstream finance, there is the opportunity to develop and support existing networks to ensure businesses can access new types of finance so their business can invest in R&D, staff and innovation.

There is also the opportunity for businesses to learn from one another in how they recruit and retain employees – what do businesses offer employees to ensure they remain with the business. This would help resolve city challenges in our high vacancy rates.

Lack of commercialisation from R&D from our research institutions

The University of Exeter is a Russell Group University, and is one of the best in the world. The level of research that is commercialised locally from the University of Exeter is limited, there is a need to boost local R&D spending by business and business innovation across a range of spheres.

Local businesses could benefit more from University of Exeter academic expertise but find it challenging to articulate their needs or to identify and access the support that would help them. There is an opportunity in how we resolve this challenge across the city to boost productivity to level up. From evidence gathered in developing the Civic University Agreement, this was highlighted as a challenge from both the University of Exeter and the City Council.

Evidence base:

https://www.exeter.ac.uk/media/universityofexeter/aboutusresponsive/regionalengagement/documents/Exeter_CUA_Brochure_Needs_Analysis.pdf

ARE THERE ANY LOCAL CHALLENGES YOU FACE WHICH FALL UNDER THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITY? (In Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland this should also include challenges relating to Multiply)

(If yes) Describe these challenges, give evidence where possible

Exeter Skills Strategy

The Exeter Skills Strategy was launched March 2019, the same month the country went into national restrictions. The pandemic had a significant impact on the economy of the city, our business community and especially our people. The evidence base of the skills strategy was revaluated after the pandemic, with a revised skills strategy launched for Exeter (May 2022):

<http://committees.exeter.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=6744&Ver=4>

From the evidence, the strategy has a number of priorities:

- Talent retention and attraction
- Alignment of training provision and future skills needs
- Clear map of skills provision available
- Raising aspirations
- Apprenticeships

The strategy provides an action plan to resolve challenges the city is facing, which will be used to develop projects for Shared Prosperity Funding for Exeter.

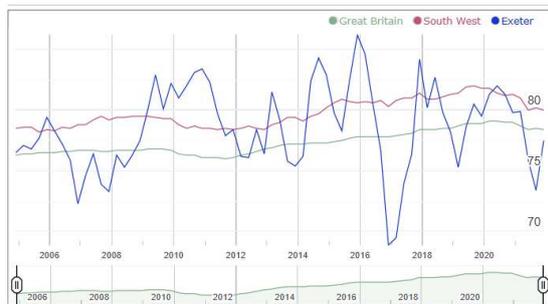
Some of the key challenges for Exeter are around the retention of young people (a longstanding trend) and staff locally, which is particularly driven by cost of living in Exeter, housing and competition for employees. When students finish their studies at the University of Exeter, graduates choose to leave the city for a job elsewhere, either closer to home or for a better salary that Exeter can offer.

The pandemic has led to some people leaving the labour market in Exeter with a decrease in the numbers of economically active individuals in Exeter, particularly those aged over 50. The chart below from

https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157359/subreports/ea_time_series/report.aspx?

Highlights the reduction of those that are economically active during the period of the pandemic.

All people - Economically active
Exeter



Economic activity rates have declined by 6.1 percentage points since before the pandemic to 73.4% bringing implications for the supply of labour to the market. The total labour market is now comprised of 68,200 individuals in Exeter. A key part of this reduction in economic activity has come from the over 50s demographic with a 13.1 percentage point reduction in participation, equivalent to 1,900 fewer individuals in the labour market in Exeter. These figures represent a higher proportional reduction than found elsewhere in England but remain reflective of a national pattern, with 6 in 10 reporting they would not return to work

During the pandemic, the Great Resignation occurred in Exeter with individuals re-evaluating their careers and how they want to work. Changing working patterns with increased flexibility are likely to continue to influence employment and skills over the coming few years. Other macroeconomic trends including the net zero commitments and potential for stagflation and recession will further affect the skills needs and employment in Exeter, to which the city must respond.

The city is expected to see a decline or a change in some sectors, such as:

- Food service sector
- Business administration
- Customer service and sales
- Leisure
- Real Estate
- Manufacturing
- Retail

Those who are currently working in these sectors face a decline or a shift in employment over the next decade and will need retraining as they move careers. Further, the risk of global recession is increasing, with potential repercussions for labour markets in the UK, pivoting away from the current full employment.

Large numbers of jobs are at risk of having some of their tasks automated. The risk of automation varies by sector with lower potential in health care and higher potential in sectors with elementary roles, including construction, mechanics and leisure. An estimated 39% of roles in Exeter are at risk of automation and women are more likely to be in roles at risk, bringing in an equality dynamic. Given the roles more at risk of automation, the effects will disproportionately affect those with lower qualifications and education creating challenges for inclusion. This will generate further shifts in the labour market and skills needed for employment, driving the digitalisation agenda and need for IT literacy among many roles and pursuit of stable careers in sectors that may be less effected.

Despite the relative prosperity of Exeter as a whole, there are parts of Exeter that face various deprivation challenges. Education and skills, employment and income, as well as health, are all contributing factors to the deprivation in these communities. The challenges facing individuals living in these areas of Exeter are often many and complex, contributing to some of these groups being furthest from the labour market. As well as insufficient skills and qualifications, there are those with physical and mental health care needs or disabilities. Ex-offenders who struggle to re-join the labour market due to their criminal record, and those with drug or alcohol problems or victims of domestic abuse facing confidence challenges. Responding to the challenges in these areas will require nuanced employability support alongside other interventions that may differ from the skills and employment support necessary for other parts of the city.

Below highlights the most vulnerable neighbourhoods in Exeter and how they relate to the rest of Devon.

The 10 current most vulnerable neighbourhoods in Exeter are:

Exeter	Rank within Devon (where 1 is most vulnerable and 457 is least)
Exeter: Cathedral and City Centre East	12/457
Exeter: City Centre West	34/457
Exeter: St Thomas – Cowick Street area	42/457
Exeter: Alphington – Church Road, Mill Lane and Marsh Barton area	54/457
Exeter: Burnthouse Lane area (Trees)	64/457
Exeter: Burnthouse Lane area (Rifford Road)	70/457
Exeter: Beacon Heath area	76/457
Exeter: Sidwell Street and Clifton Road area	83/457
Exeter: Exwick - Cemetery area	86/457
Exeter: Whipton – Laypark Road and Bramley Avenue	93/457

The level of unemployment has fallen significantly over the last year, but there remain some local areas where it remains higher than the rest of the county.

Exeter Wards with the highest Universal Credit Claimant Count

Claimant Count (%)	Mar 20	Jun 20	Apr 21	Apr 22	Apr 22
St David's, Exeter	2.8	5.0	5.0	3.4	240
Priory	2.7	6.1	6.2	3.2	195
Mincinglake, Exeter	2.3	5.2	5.4	3.2	115
Exwick	2.1	5.4	5.8	3.0	175
Whipton & Barton	2.7	5.5	5.8	2.9	150
St Thomas	1.8	5.3	5.4	2.6	125
Pinhoe	1.7	3.8	4.1	2.5	120
Newtown	1.8	3.5	3.3	2.3	135
Cowick	2.2	4.8	4.0	2.0	65
Alphington	1.6	4.3	3.9	2.0	105

Note: Claimant count figures are expressed as a percentage of working age population (16-64)

Recruitment & Retention

Due to a very tight labour market, businesses are struggling to recruit into their vacant positions. Salaries are increasing, with some individuals demanding significant increases in salaries to accept a vacancy. Some businesses across the city provide excellent terms and conditions and benefits for its employees, these businesses tend to attract the best candidates. We need to learn from these businesses that can attract and retain the best candidates.

Social Mobility

The University of Exeter published a report on social mobility across the South West April 2022:

<https://www.exeter.ac.uk/research/socialmobility/news/articles/southwestblightedbylowsoc.html>

The South West suffers some of the lowest levels of social mobility in the UK, blighting the prospects of hundreds of thousands of young people across the region. Progression rates to universities for both disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils are the lowest of all regions across the UK. Gaps in classroom attainment between poorer pupils and their peers in the South West are the largest of all English regions at the end of both primary and secondary school. These two challenges can be seen in Exeter.

Exeter KS2 attainment gap – 11.0%
 Exeter KS4 attainment gap – 22.1%

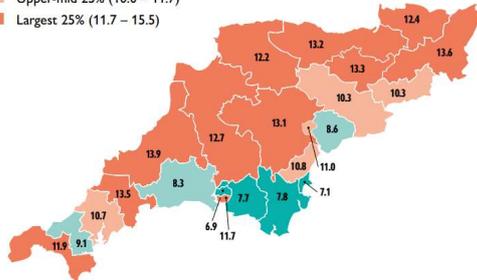
Figure 8 Attainment gaps by parliamentary constituency across the South West peninsula, 2019⁴¹

The maps show the gaps, calculated as months of learning, between average attainment by disadvantaged pupils in a parliamentary constituency (smallest geographic area covered by the data) and average attainment by non-disadvantaged pupils nationally. Colour coding represents the quartile to which a parliamentary constituency belongs, based on the national distribution of gaps.

KS2 attainment gaps

Average for England is 9.3 months

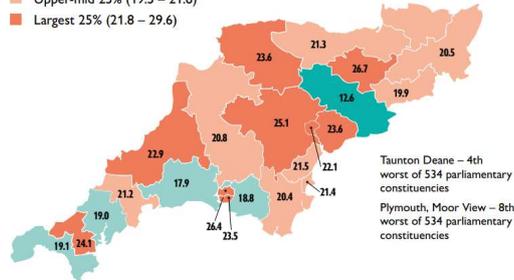
- Smallest 25% (-1.9 – 8.3)
- Lower-mid 25% (8.3 – 10.0)
- Upper-mid 25% (10.0 – 11.7)
- Largest 25% (11.7 – 15.5)



KS4 attainment gaps

Average for England is 18.1 months

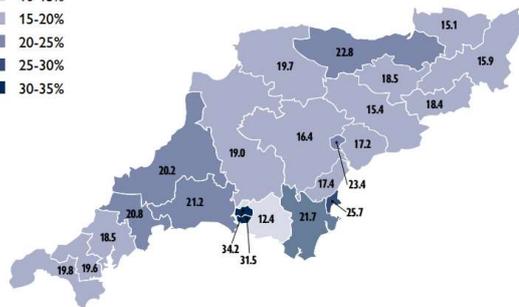
- Smallest 25% (0.5 – 16.0)
- Lower-mid 25% (16.0 – 19.5)
- Upper-mid 25% (19.5 – 21.8)
- Largest 25% (21.8 – 29.6)



KS4 disadvantage rates

Average disadvantage rate for England is 26.5%

- 10-15%
- 15-20%
- 20-25%
- 25-30%
- 30-35%



ARE THERE ANY LOCAL OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITY THAT YOU INTEND TO SUPPORT? (In Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland this should also include challenges relating to Multiply)

(If yes) Describe these opportunities, give evidence where possible

Exeter Skills Strategy

Exeter is a vibrant and dynamic city embracing the future whilst celebrating a past that is rich in heritage. At the centre of the South West peninsula, the city has been an engine for growth and development of Devon. Through its major institutions, desirable location and expanding sectors Exeter has gone from strength to strength. The local labour market is a key part of this and further improvements to skills and employment will enable Exeter to build on its successes and ensure a shared prosperity for all.

The population has expanded at some of the fastest rates of all UK cities (13.8% since 2011 compared to 6.5% in England) and a large proportion of the resident population are of a working age (68.6% compared to 62.3% in England and 58% in Devon).

Productivity in Exeter is high compared to the rest of Devon (GVA per hour of £35.80 against £30.10 in Devon) driven in part by the sectoral composition of the city.

From research undertaken for the Exeter Skills Strategy, Exeter is seeing a growth in some sectors, which will drive skills demand to fulfil roles:

- Health & Social Care
- Professional Services
- Wholesale & Distribution
- Creative Arts & Culture

- Education
- Construction

Raising aspirations / job vacancies

Due to low levels of young people progressing into higher education and the high level of job vacancies across the city, there is the opportunity raise the aspirations of our young people so they see there is a realistic opportunity for a good career in Exeter. This is also the case for graduate of the University of Exeter.

Learning

There are a small number of people in Exeter that are not engaged in skills or in employment. These people are a valuable resource to the city, in filling entry level positions across the city to release those that are over employed.

Net Zero

The City Council own over 4,700 social homes across the city. We are in the process of retrofitting these homes, those with the poorest EPC rating. From the City's Green House Gas report <http://committees.exeter.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=6745&Ver=4> it highlights the level of retrofitting that is needed to improve homes across the city – its extensive. The City Council has a programme to continue with retrofit social homes, but this is a slow process due to a lack of retrofitting skills in the city. There is the opportunity to support people into construction to support net zero opportunities across the city.

Interventions

In this section, we will ask you about:

- Interventions you've chosen for each year of funding
- Outcomes you want to deliver
- Any interventions that are not listed here
- How these interventions fall under the UKSPF investment priorities, and your rationale for them
- Interventions not included in our list will be assessed before being approved, where you will need to show a clear rationale, how the intervention is value for money, what outcomes it will deliver and how you will monitor and evaluate the intervention. This may include a theory of change or logic chain.

WHAT ARE THE OUTCOMES YOU WANT TO DELIVER UNDER THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE INVESTMENT PRIORITY? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY.

Outcome	Tick if applicable
Jobs created	
Jobs safeguarded	
Increased footfall	x
Increased visitor numbers	x
Reduced vacancy rates	
Greenhouse gas reductions	X
Improved perceived/experienced accessibility	X
Improved perception of facilities/amenities	X
Increased number of properties better protected from flooding and coastal erosion	
Increased users of facilities / amenities	
Improved perception of facility/infrastructure project	x
Increased use of cycleways or paths	x

Increase in Biodiversity (not on final submission to gov)	X
Increased affordability of events/entry	
Improved perception of safety	X
Reduction in neighbourhood crime	X
Improved engagement numbers	
Improved perception of events	X
Increased number of web searches for a place	
Volunteering numbers as a result of support	
Number of community-led arts, cultural, heritage and creative programmes as a result of support	
Increased take up of energy efficiency measures	X
Increased number of projects arising from funded feasibility studies	X
Number of premises with improved digital connectivity	
None of the above	

SELECT THE INTERVENTIONS YOU INTEND TO USE WHICH MEET THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE INVESTMENT PRIORITY. YOU CAN SELECT AS MANY AS YOU LIKE.

Intervention

A full list of nation-specific interventions is available in the relevant annex to the Prospectus.

E3: Creation of and improvements to local green spaces, community gardens, watercourses and embankments, along with incorporating natural features into wider public spaces.

E4: Enhanced support for existing cultural, historic and heritage institutions that make up the local cultural heritage offer.

E5: Design and management of the built and landscaped environment to 'design out crime'.

E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues; to bring people together

E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency, and combat fuel poverty and climate change.

DO YOU PLAN TO USE ANY INTERVENTIONS NOT INCLUDED IN THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE LIST?

State the name of each of these additional interventions and a brief description of each of these

No

Explain how each intervention meets the Communities and Place investment priority. Give evidence where possible, including why it is value money and the outcomes you want to deliver.

N/A

Do you consider that any of these interventions may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the intervention's planned activity?

All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as [set out in the guidance](#).

N/A

Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the intervention is a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.

N/A

HAVE YOU ALREADY IDENTIFIED ANY PROJECTS WHICH FALL UNDER THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

Describe these projects, including how they fall under the Communities and Place investment priority and the location of the proposed project.

To be finalised

Do you consider these projects may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the proposed planned activity?

All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as [set out in the guidance](#).

N/A

Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the proposed projects constitute a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.

N/A

WHAT ARE THE OUTCOMES YOU WANT TO DELIVER UNDER THE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT PRIORITY? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY.

Outcome	Tick if applicable
Jobs created	X
Jobs safeguarded	X
Increased footfall	
Increased visitor numbers	
Reduced vacancy rates	
Greenhouse gas reductions	
Number of new businesses created	X
Improved perception of markets	
Increased business sustainability	
Increased number of businesses supported	X
Increased amount of investment	X
Improved perception of attractions	
Number of businesses introducing new products to the firm	X
Number of organisations engaged in new knowledge transfer activity	
Number of premises with improved digital connectivity	
Number of businesses adopting new to the firm technologies or processes	X
Number of new to market products	
Number of R&D active businesses	
Increased number of innovation active SMEs	X
Number of businesses adopting new or improved products or services	X
Increased number of innovation plans developed	
Number of early stage firms which increase their revenue following support	X
Number of businesses engaged in new markets	
Number of businesses engaged in new markets	
Number of businesses increasing their export capability	
Increased amount of low or zero carbon energy infrastructure installed	X
Number of businesses with improved productivity	X
Increased number of projects arising from funded feasibility studies	X

Increased number of properties better protected from flooding and coastal erosion	
None of the above	

SELECT THE INTERVENTIONS YOU INTEND TO USE WHICH MEET THE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT PRIORITY. YOU CAN SELECT AS MANY AS YOU LIKE.

Intervention

A full list of nation-specific interventions is available in the relevant annex to the Prospectus.

E23: Strengthening local entrepreneurial ecosystems, and supporting businesses at all stages of their development to start, sustain, grow and innovate, including through local networks.

E24: Funding for new and improvements to existing training hubs, business support offers, 'incubators' and 'accelerators' for local enterprise (including social enterprise) which can support entrepreneurs and start-ups through the early stages of development and growth by offering a combination of services including account management, advice, resources, training, coaching, mentorship and access to workspace.

E31: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies.

DO YOU PLAN TO USE ANY INTERVENTIONS NOT INCLUDED IN THE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS LIST?

State the name of each of these additional interventions and a brief description of each of these

No

Explain how each intervention meets the Supporting Local Business investment priority. Give evidence where possible, including why it is value money and the outcomes you want to deliver.

N/A

Do you consider that any of these interventions may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the intervention's planned activity? All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as [set out in the guidance](#).

N/A

Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the intervention is a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.

N/A

HAVE YOU ALREADY IDENTIFIED ANY PROJECTS WHICH FALL UNDER THE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

Describe these projects, including how they fall under the Supporting Local Business investment priority and the location of the proposed project.

To be finalised

Do you consider these projects may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the proposed planned activity? All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as [set out in the guidance](#).

N/A

Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the proposed projects constitute a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.

N/A

WHAT ARE THE OUTCOMES YOU WANT TO DELIVER UNDER THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITY? SELECT ALL THAT APPLY.

Outcome	Tick if applicable
Number of economically inactive individuals in receipt of benefits they are entitled to following support	x
Increased active or sustained participants of UKSPF beneficiaries in community groups [and/or] increased employability through development of interpersonal skills	x
Increased proportion of participants with basic skills (English, maths, digital and ESOL)	x
Number of people in supported employment [and] number of people engaging with mainstream healthcare services	
Number of people sustaining engagement with keyworker support and additional services	
Number of people engaged in job-searching following support	x
Number of people in employment, including self-employment, following support	x
Number of people sustaining employment for 6 months	x
Increased employment, skills and/or UKSPF objectives incorporated into local area corporate governance	x
Number of people in education/training	x
Increased number of people with basic skills (English, maths, digital and ESOL)	x
Fewer people facing structural barriers into employment and into skills provision	
Increased number of people familiarised with employers' expectations, including, standards of behaviour in the workplace	x
Fewer people facing structural barriers into employment and into skills provision	
Number of people gaining a qualification or completing a course following support	x
Number of people gaining qualifications, licences, and skills	x
Number of economically active individuals engaged in mainstream skills education, and training.	x
Number of people engaged in life skills support following interventions	x
Number of people with proficiency in pre-employment and interpersonal skills (relationship, organisational and anger-management, interviewing, CV and job application writing)	x
Multiply only - Increased number of adults achieving maths qualifications up to, and including, Level 2.	
Multiply only - Increased number of adults participating in maths qualifications and courses up to, and including, Level 2.	
None of the above	

SELECT THE INTERVENTIONS YOU INTEND TO USE WHICH MEET THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITY. YOU CAN SELECT AS MANY AS YOU LIKE.

Intervention

A full list of nation-specific interventions is available in the relevant annex to the Prospectus.

E33: Employment support for economically inactive people: Intensive and wrap-around one-to-one support to move people closer towards mainstream provision and employment, supplemented by additional and/or specialist life and basic skills (digital, English, maths* and ESOL) support where there are local provision gaps.

E35: Activities such as enrichment and volunteering to improve opportunities and promote wellbeing.

E36: Intervention to increase levels of digital inclusion, with a focus on essential digital skills, communicating the benefits of getting (safely) online, and in-community support to provide users with the confidence and trust to stay online.

E37: Tailored support to help people in employment, who are not supported by mainstream provision to address barriers to accessing education and training courses. This includes supporting the retention of groups who are likely to leave the labour market early.

E38: Support for local areas to fund local skills needs. This includes technical and vocational qualifications and courses up to level 2 and training for vocational licences relevant to local area needs and high-value qualifications where there is a need for additional skills capacity that is not being met through other provision.

E39: Green skills courses targeted around ensuring we have the skilled workforce to achieve the government's net zero and wider environmental ambitions.

E41: Funding to support local digital skills.

DO YOU PLAN TO USE ANY INTERVENTIONS NOT INCLUDED IN THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS LIST?

State the name of each of these additional interventions and a brief description of each of these

No

Explain how each intervention meets the People and Skills investment priority. Give evidence where possible, including why it is value money and the outcomes you want to deliver.

N/A

Do you consider that any of these interventions may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the intervention's planned activity? All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as [set out in the guidance](#).

N/A

Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the intervention is a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.

N/A

ENGLAND ONLY: People and Skills interventions can only be used in 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 if you have identified a local voluntary and community provision, previously supported by the European Social Fund, at risk of closure. If you have not identified a suitable provision, you will not be able to select interventions for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 and your investment plan will not be approved.

HAVE YOU ALREADY IDENTIFIED ANY PROJECTS for 2024-2025 WHICH FALL UNDER THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

No

Describe the projects for 2024-25, including how they fall under the People and Skills investment priority and the location of the proposed project.

To be finalised.

**Do you consider these projects may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the proposed planned activity?
All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as [set out in the guidance](#).**

No

Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the proposed projects constitute a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.

N/A

HAVE YOU IDENTIFIED A LOCAL VOLUNTARY PROVISION AT RISK AS PART OF YOUR PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITIES?

	No Some current provision is funded through ESF & ERDF funds that covers Exeter. The projects are managed by a number of organisations and College's located outside of Exeter, not voluntary organisations.
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(If Yes) Describe the local voluntary provision at risk and your rationale for supporting it.

Provide the European Social Fund Project Names and Project References for this voluntary and community provision at risk.

N/A

What year do you intend to fund these projects? Select all that apply.

2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
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Describe the projects for 2022-2023 and 2023-2024, including how they fall under the People and Skills investment priority and the location of the proposed project.

N/A

**Do you consider these projects may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the proposed planned activity?
All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as [set out in the guidance](#).**

N/A

Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the proposed projects constitute a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.

N/A

SCOTLAND, WALES & NORTHERN IRELAND ONLY

HAVE YOU ALREADY IDENTIFIED ANY PROJECTS WHICH FALL UNDER THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

Yes	No
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Describe the projects, including how they fall under the People and Skills investment priority and the location of the proposed project.

Do you consider these projects may provide a subsidy to potential recipients of the funding under the proposed planned activity? All bids must also consider how they will deliver in line with subsidy control as set out in the guidance .	
Yes	No
Detail the assessment you undertook to consider whether the proposed projects constitute a subsidy and any specific measures you will take to make sure the subsidy is permitted.	

Approach to delivery and governance

In this section, we will ask you about:

- Structures you have in place to support delivery
- Support you have from stakeholders and the local community
- How you've engaged with MPs as part of your investment plan
- Opportunities you have identified to work with other places

Places need to show how MPs that cover the lead local authority have been engaged on the investment plan and whether they support it. More detail on the role of MPs can be found here.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT AND SUPPORT		
Have you engaged with any of the following as part of your investment plan? Select all that apply.		
Public sector organisations	Private sector organisations	Civil society organisations
Describe how you have engaged with any of these organisations. Give examples where possible.		
<p>The Net Zero & Business team has held 3 online (Zoom) consultation sessions, with each focused on each investment priority:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities & Place: 20 June 2022 • Supporting Local Businesses: 21 June 2020 • People & Skills: 27 June 2022 <p>A wide range of public and private sector businesses were invited, as well as civil society organisations. We have also held 1-2-1 sessions within our City Centre Business Improvement District (InExeter) and our local Chamber of Commerce (Exeter Chamber). Both organisations cover a wide range of businesses sizes and sectors located in Exeter.</p>		
Summarise the governance structures you have in place, including how any advisory panels or associated partnership groups are made up		
<p>A session has been held with the Liveable Exeter Place Board (11July), an existing group of public & private sector businesses from across Exeter, as well as our two MP's. This will be our Local Partnership Group for the delivery of SPF for Exeter. https://www.liveableexeter.co.uk/ There will be regular reports/updates to the Liveable Exeter Place Board on progress on Exeter's SPF.</p> <p>The Liveable Exeter Place Board has been running for a number of years, and has Terms of Reference, which has been adjusted to assist with oversight of SPF. The group is chaired by Sir Steve Smith, a UK Government International Education Champion.</p> <p>The Liveable Exeter Place Board has adopted the city wide vision of "By the time they are an adult, a child born in Exeter today, will live in a city that is inclusive, healthy and sustainable."</p>		

The Net Zero & Business team have three structures in place to support the delivery of SPF:

- UKSPF Management Group:** The purpose of this group will be for management and oversight of the delivery of the investment plan and interventions. It will be the role of this group that interventions are on budget, working to the correct timeframe and that they are delivering the outputs and outcomes indicated. This group will be made up of the Officer in charge with the delivery of SPF, Officers leading on interventions, Legal, Finance, Project Manager and relevant Director. Exeter Chamber of Commerce and InExeter (BID) have been invited to have representation on this Group. The group will meet every 3 months.
- UKSPF Assessment Group:** The purpose of this group will be to assess applications (Project Concept Form) received, both from within the City Council and from businesses and organisations looking to develop an intervention to be delivered in Exeter. Successful applications will receive SPF funding. This group will be made up with the officer in charge of the delivery of SPF, Procurement and one other senior officer.
- Exeter City Council Strategic Scrutiny:** Every 6 months the Net Zero & Business team will be reporting to Strategic Scrutiny Committee, with progress of Exeter Investment Plan and subsequent interventions. This is our opportunity to inform elected members and members of the public.

Confirm all MPs covering your lead local authority have been invited to join the local partnership group.

Yes

Are there MPs who are not supportive of your investment plan?

No

(If Yes) Who are the MPs that are not supportive and outline their reasons why.

PROJECT SELECTION

Are you intending to select projects in any way other than by competition for funding?

Yes

(If Yes) Describe your approach to selecting projects, and why you intend to do it this way.

There is some business support provision that already exists in the city, it is likely that the City Council will fund some existing activity – so that provision does not stop in the city.

Another project is Building Greater Exeter <https://buildinggreaterexeter.co.uk/> this has some funding to deliver activity, but there is an opportunity to upscale activity to encourage and support individuals into construction and the development of Employment & Skills Plans for developments over a certain size. Also, SPF may fund support and advice for the construction industry into sustainable construction methods.

There are some People & Skills interventions that we may look to implement in Exeter. There are some projects developed by Devon County Council, funded by the through Community Renewal Fund that may be suitable for Exeter. Dependant on city challenges, we may procure some of these project direct from Devon County Council.

DO YOU INTEND TO WORK WITH OTHER PLACES ON ANY OF THE INTERVENTIONS WHICH FALL UNDER THE COMMUNITIES AND PLACE INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

Which interventions do you intend to collaborate on? Select all that apply.

Intervention

Tick if applicable

<i>A full list of nation-specific interventions is available in the relevant annex to the Prospectus.</i>	
E3: Creation of and improvements to local green spaces, community gardens, watercourses and embankments, along with incorporating natural features into wider public spaces.	
E4: Enhanced support for existing cultural, historic and heritage institutions that make up the local cultural heritage offer.	
E5: Design and management of the built and landscaped environment to 'design out crime'.	
E10: Funding for local sports facilities, tournaments, teams and leagues; to bring people together.	
E13: Community measures to reduce the cost of living, including through measures to improve energy efficiency, and combat fuel poverty and climate change.	
Describe any interventions not included in this list?	
Who are the places you intend to collaborate with?	

DO YOU INTEND TO WORK WITH OTHER PLACES ON ANY OF THE INTERVENTIONS WHICH FALL UNDER THE SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

Which interventions do you intend to collaborate on? Select all that apply.

Intervention	Tick if applicable
<i>A full list of nation-specific interventions is available in the relevant annex to the Prospectus.</i>	
E23: Strengthening local entrepreneurial ecosystems, and supporting businesses at all stages of their development to start, sustain, grow and innovate, including through local networks.	x
E24: Funding for new and improvements to existing training hubs, business support offers, 'incubators' and 'accelerators' for local enterprise (including social enterprise) which can support entrepreneurs and start-ups through the early stages of development and growth by offering a combination of services including account management, advice, resources, training, coaching, mentorship and access to workspace.	x
E31: Funding to support relevant feasibility studies.	
Describe any interventions not included in this list?	
Who are the places you intend to collaborate with?	
East Devon District Council Mid Devon District Council Teignbridge District Council	

DO YOU INTEND TO WORK WITH OTHER PLACES ON ANY OF THE INTERVENTIONS WHICH FALL UNDER THE PEOPLE AND SKILLS INVESTMENT PRIORITY?

Which interventions do you intend to collaborate on? Select all that apply.

Intervention	Tick if applicable
<i>A full list of nation-specific interventions is available in the relevant annex to the Prospectus.</i>	
E33: Employment support for economically inactive people: Intensive and wrap-around one-to-one support to move people closer towards mainstream provision and employment, supplemented by additional and/or specialist life and basic skills (digital, English, maths* and ESOL) support where there are local provision gaps.	x
E35: Activities such as enrichment and volunteering to improve opportunities and promote wellbeing.	x
E36: Intervention to increase levels of digital inclusion, with a focus on essential digital skills, communicating the benefits of getting (safely) online, and in-community support to provide users with the confidence and trust to stay online.	x
E37: Tailored support to help people in employment, who are not supported by mainstream provision to address barriers to accessing education and training courses. This includes supporting the retention of groups who are likely to leave the labour market early.	x
E38: Support for local areas to fund local skills needs. This includes technical and vocational qualifications and courses up to level 2 and training for vocational licences relevant to local area needs and high-value qualifications where there is a need for additional skills capacity that is not being met through other provision.	X
E39: Green skills courses targeted around ensuring we have the skilled workforce to achieve the government’s net zero and wider environmental ambitions.	x
E41: Funding to support local digital skills.	x
Describe any interventions not included in this list?	
Who are the places you intend to collaborate with?	
East Devon District Council Mid Devon District Council	

PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY

How have you considered your public sector equality duty in the design of your investment plan?

In writing a committee report to inform members of Exeter’s SPF allocation, we undertook a EQIA, both are being presented to Executive on 5 July 2022

<http://committees.exeter.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=112&MId=6745&Ver=4>

The EQIA will be reviewed and updated when the Net Zero & Business team present at Strategic Scrutiny every 6 months on the progress of SPF and our interventions.

In developing our Project Concept form, we have included questions on how the project has a positive or negative impact on known protected characteristics.

How will you consider your public sector equality duty when implementing your investment plan, including in the selection of projects?
The City Council's UKSPF Assessment Group will be assessing each Project Concept Form, against protected characteristics.

RISKS	
Have you identified any key risks that could affect delivery, for example lack of staff or expertise?	
Yes	
(If Yes) Describe these risks or issues, including the contingency measures you have in place to mitigate them.	
There are risks within some of the interventions within Communities & Place. These risks would be with the purchasing of raw materials to deliver interventions. These interventions will be tendered for as soon as the City Council's investment plan is signed off, so the City Council is ready to start as soon as practicably possible.	
Have you identified any key fraud risks that could affect UKSPF delivery?	
	No
(If Yes) Describe these risks or issues, including the contingency measures you have in place to mitigate them.	
The Net Zero & Business team are procuring each intervention through our Project Concept Form, which includes an assessment criteria. The City Council's Procurement Team will also be assessing received Project Concept Forms and will undertake necessary checks on businesses being awarded funding.	

Capacity and capability

In this section, we will ask you about:

- The capacity and capability of your team to manage funding
- The resources you have in place for work related to UKSPF

Your answers here will help us know how to support you with delivery. They will not affect the amount of funding you will get.

Answer as honestly as possible.

TEAM RESOURCE	
How many people (FTE) will be put in place to work with UKSPF funding?	
There will be two roles (people) working on SPF – 1.8 FTE Service Lead Net Zero & Business (1FTE) City Skills & Inclusivity Manager (0.6 FTE) Service Accountant (0.2FTE)	
Describe what role these people will have, including any seniority and experience.	
Service Lead Net Zero & Business (3 rd tier manager) This role is a senior manager at Exeter City Council and will be the overall Project Manager for SPF and will be working full time on SPF. The post holder successfully managed the City Council's Welcome Back Fund / Re-Opening Safely High Street Fund and the Additional Restrictions Grant. Their role has oversight on net zero for the City Council and the city, as well as business/economic development, city management and skills.	
City Skills & Inclusivity Manager (4 th tier manager) This role is line managed by the Service Lead Net Zero & Business and currently works on business support, skills and social mobility type activity. The post holder has worked in skills for	

over 20 years and delivered ESF skills funded programmes in the past. They have led on researching and writing a new skills strategy for Exeter.

Service Accountant (4th tier manager)

This role is the account for a wide range of City Council services including waste & recycling, Parks & Open Spaces, Waterways, Environmental Health and Net Zero & Business. They have numerous years' experience in managing public sector accounts, as well as ERDF programmes.

- Strong capability: Has extensive experience and/or a proven track record of delivery in this area.
- Strong capacity: High degree of confidence that there is enough staffing/resource to manage funding in this area.
- Some capability: Has previous experience of delivery in this area.
- Some capacity: Confident that there is enough staffing/resource to manage funding in this area.
- Limited capability: Does not have previous experience and/or no track record of delivery in this area.
- Limited capacity: Limited confidence that there is enough staffing/resource to manage funding in this area. Additional resource may be needed to support delivery.

CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY

How would you describe your team's current experience of delivering funding and managing growth funds?

	Some experience	
How would you describe your team's current capability to manage funding for procurement?		
Strong capability		
How would you describe your team's current capability to manage funding for procurement?		
Strong capability		
How would you describe your team's current capacity to manage funding for procurement?		
	Some capacity	
How would you describe your team's current capability to manage funding for subsidies?		
	Some capability	
How would you describe your team's current capacity to manage funding for subsidies?		
	Some capacity	

COMMUNITIES AND PLACE CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY

Does your local authority have any previous experience of delivering the Communities and Place interventions you have select?

Yes

How would you describe your team's current capability to manage funding for Communities and Place interventions?

Strong capability

Describe the key capability challenges (if you have any) for delivering Communities and Place interventions. This may include challenges within your local authority and/or your local/regional delivery system.

CURRENT CAPABILITY

The City Council have a service that maintains our parks and gardens, which two potential interventions will focus on. We have significant experience in the maintenance and design of parks and gardens, as well as equipment needed.

The City Council have ran a CCTV network in the city for over 20 years. We have recently purchase over 30 new digital CCTV cameras, to improve safety within the city. There is scope to update old existing CCTV cameras, and from recent purchases, have experience in this specific field.

The Net Zero & Business team have extensive experience in writing tenders for feasibility studies, to determine a need or demand to improve an experience or to develop a new product.

Approx. 4 years ago, the City Council developed a new procurement Team, to provide a resource and specialist advice to officers, to that the City Council procures in a legal and compliant manner.

CAPABILITY CHALLENGES

During the Welcome Back Fund, some projects were delayed significantly, as products that were purchase weren't able to be delivered. The company was having issues in sourcing raw materials.

Describe what further support would help address these challenges.

How would you describe your team's current capacity to manage funding for Communities and Place interventions?

Some capability

Describe the key capacity challenges (if you have any) for delivering Communities and Place interventions. This may include challenges within your local authority and/or your local/regional delivery system.

CAPACITY CHALLENGES

The City Council is currently struggling to recruit to certain positions, the city has an incredibly tight labour market. This is evident in Parks & Open Spaces, which could affect deliver of some interventions.

Our current Service Account is being seconded to cover maternity leave. The City Council may struggle to recruit into this position.

Describe what further support would help address these challenges.

The Project Manager will be having discussions with Procurement in how we can tender out work to local businesses, if the City Council is unable to undertake the task ourselves.

SUPPORTING LOCAL BUSINESS CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY

Does your local authority have any previous experience of delivering the Supporting Local Business interventions you have select?

Yes

How would you describe your team's current capability to manage funding for Supporting Local Business interventions?

Strong capability

Describe the key capability challenges (if you have any) for delivering Supporting Local Business interventions. This may include challenges within your local authority and/or your local/regional delivery system.

The Net Zero & Business team commissioned business support through the Welcome Back Fund. We needed to determine gaps in the market, to understand where provision was needed. This will be the same for SPF.

The Net Zero & Business team will be undertaking this process through their day to day role.

Describe what further support would help address these challenges.

N/A

How would you describe your team's current capacity to manage funding for Supporting Local Business interventions?		
	Some capability	
Describe the key capacity challenges (if you have any) for delivering Supporting Local Business interventions. This may include challenges within your local authority and/or your local/regional delivery system.		
Within the first year of SPF, there will be lots of commission for feasibility studies, as well as business support. We need to plan our time efficiently to meet the outputs and outcomes of SPF.		
Describe what further support would help address these challenges.		
None required, as Exeter Chamber is included in our management group to provide advice on what challenges the business community are facing.		

PEOPLE AND SKILLS CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY		
Does your local authority have any previous experience of delivering the People and Skills interventions you have select?		
Yes		
How would you describe your team's current capacity to manage funding for People and Skills interventions?		
Strong capability		
Describe the key capacity challenges (if you have any) for delivering People and Skills interventions. This may include challenges within your local authority and/or your local/regional delivery system.		
The City Council is unique, in that we have an officer dedicated to developing skills within the city. There may be a demand on this post holder when working with neighbouring district council's for their knowledge and experience.		
Describe what further support would help address these challenges.		
None required		
How would you describe your team's current capacity to manage funding for People and Skills interventions?		
	Some capability	
Describe the key capacity challenges (if you have any) for delivering People and Skills interventions. This may include challenges within your local authority and/or your local/regional delivery system.		
The post holder delivering People & Skills is supporting Devon County Council on the 'skills ask' for the Devon Devolution Deal. It is hoped this support ends prior to SPF starting.		
Describe what further support would help address these challenges.		
Support from Devon County Council would assist the City Council to greater understand gaps in the current provision, so SPF can be effective.		

SUPPORT TO DELIVERY UKSPF	
All lead authorities can use up to 4% of their UKSPF allocation to support the delivery of their chosen interventions but by exception, lead authorities will be able to use more than 4%. Are you planning to use more than 4%?	
	No
(If Yes) Explain why you wish to use more than 4%.	

Approvals

Before submitting your investment plan, you should have approval from your:

- Chief Executive Officer
- Section 151 Officer
- Leader of your lead authority

Do you have approval from your Chief Executive Officer for this investment plan?

- Yes

Do you have approval from your Section 151 Officer for this investment plan?

- Yes

Do you have approval from the leader of your lead authority for this investment plan?

- Yes

If you do not have approval from any of these people, please explain why this is:

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Additional documents

You will have received an email giving you access to a folder where you will need to upload supporting evidence to your investment plan. All applicants must complete and upload the following spreadsheet to the folder prior to submitting their investment plan:

- UKSPF Expenditure Profile spreadsheet
- UKSPF Indicative Deliverables spreadsheet

Your investment plan submission will be considered incomplete without the required documents.

Have you completed and uploaded the two spreadsheets to the SharePoint folder as requested?

- Yes