

Isle of Anglesey County Council Scrutiny Report

Committee:	Partnership & Regeneration Scrutiny Committee
Date:	17 th March 2026
Subject:	To provide an update on the delivery of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund on Anglesey (2022-2026)
Scrutiny Chair:	Cllr. Dylan Rees

1. Who will be the portfolio holder presenting / leading the report?

Portfolio Holder	Role
Councillor Gary Pritchard	Portfolio holder for Economic Development
Service Officer (Supporting)	Role
Tudur H. Jones	Chief Officer – Economic Development

2. Why the Scrutiny Committee is being asked to consider the matter

Providing an update on the delivery of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund on Anglesey.

3. Role of the Scrutiny Committee and recommendations

- For assurance
 For recommendation to the Executive
 For information

<p>Recommendation(s):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the successful delivery of Anglesey's UK Shared Prosperity Fund and the positive outputs achieved between 2022 and 2026 2. Note the implementation of Anglesey's UK Shared Prosperity Fund in line with UK Government guidance 3. Recognises the on-going role of the Council in managing the delivery of the funding on the Island, as well as supporting local delivery partners

4. How does the recommendation(s) contribute to the objectives of the Council's Plan?

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) has been developed against the context and aligned to the vision, objectives and values of the Council Plan 2023-2028, informing the submission of the Regional Investment plan for SPF delivery in North Wales.

5. Key scrutiny themes

Key themes the Scrutiny Committee should concentrate on:

1. Collaboration with stakeholders
2. Corporate objectives
3. Next steps

6. Key points / summary

a) Background

The SPF Programme was extended into 2025/26, with UK Government confirming the following further allocation for Anglesey (in addition to the £16.1M received for 2022-2025):

- Capital £1,495,296
- Revenue £3,898,805
- Total £5,394,101

The Programme encompassed five key investment themes:

- Employability
- Healthy, Safe and Inclusive Communities
- Skills
- Support for Business
- Thriving Places

Existing Delivery Partners were asked to submit applications to continue their current activities for a further 12 months for the extension period, with most of the outputs and outcomes being reported on remaining the same. This resulted in 20 projects (12 Single LA projects and 8 Multi LA i.e. Regional projects) securing approval. Annex A provides a summary of our delivery partners and their approved projects.

Each Delivery Partner has been responsible for implementing and managing their own approved project, with the Council's SPF team (consisting of two officers: SPF Project Manager and SPF Grants Officer, as well as colleagues in Finance) providing support. The SPF team also liaised closely with the Regional Lead Authority (Gwynedd Council) and the Delivery Partners to monitor and regularly review progress, expenditure and compliance. Stringent project quality and budget monitoring took place along with risk management.

b) Governance

The final decision regarding the allocation of funding on Anglesey was with the Local Authority, through the Anglesey UK SPF Programme Board following an open call for projects. This

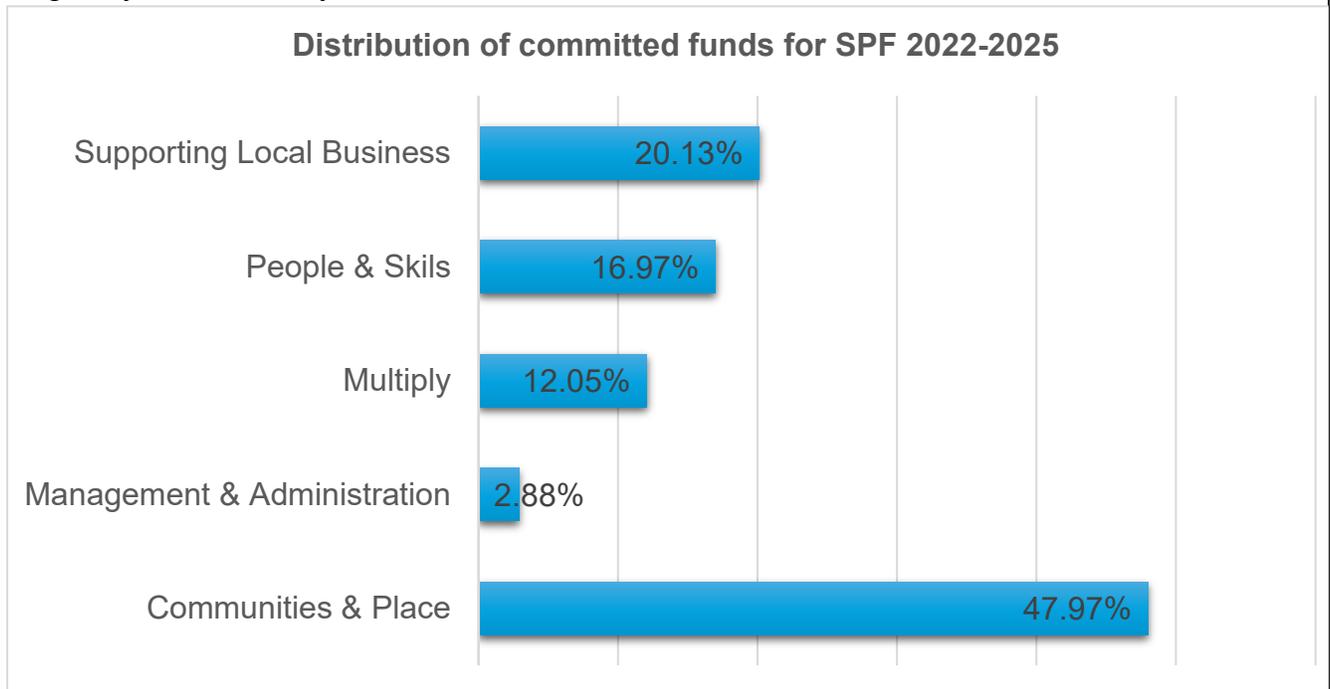
Programme Board consists of the Leader, Portfolio Holder for Finance, the Chief Executive, the S151 Officer and the HoS for Regulation and Economic Development.

The other role of the Council is to monitor the projects. The Council's SPF Team continues to work closely with each of the Delivery Partners to progress their projects and to monitor key issues and risks. Meetings are held every four weeks with each of the 20 projects currently in delivery. These meetings are an opportunity to discuss all aspects of the project delivery and putting projects in touch with other partners where there is an opportunity to work together, avoid duplication and share best practice.

The Council's SPF Team also meet separately with UK Government representatives once a month to update them on progress, highlight areas of concern and share best practice.

c) Programme Overview

The chart below illustrates the distribution of committed funds across the SPF Programme on Anglesey to the Priority Areas for 2022-2025:



This chart illustrates the distribution of committed funds across the SPF Programme's investment themes on Anglesey for 2025-2026 only.

Distribution of committed funds for SPF 2025-2026

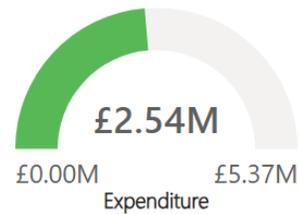
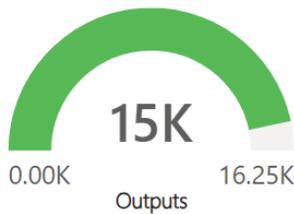


The Council's SPF team has been working closely with Delivery Partners and have fostered strong working relationship built on trust, openness and collaboration to realise the best possible outcomes for Anglesey. The priority has been to ensure that all allocated project expenditure is utilised, and meaningful benefits are achieved, for the benefit of Anglesey residents and businesses. Monthly monitoring meetings are held with each project, with a set agenda focusing on progress, milestones, expenditure, public relations, risks, outputs and outcomes, general updates, and alignment with other programmes. Quarterly claims offer additional opportunities to assess performance.

Overall, the final year of the SPF Programme (2025/26) is performing extremely well with no major concerns. All projects have now submitted their Quarter 3 claims. To date (up to 31 December 2025):

- 93% of planned outputs have been delivered
- 44% of outcomes have been achieved
- Total expenditure stands at £2,544,398, representing 47.17% of Anglesey's SPF allocation.

The above is in line with delivery and expenditure profiles. Due to the ongoing grant disbursement and timing of capital claims which are typically submitted later in the Programme lifecycle.



£5,374,979.87
Total Grant Awarded

£2,544,397.67
Total Claimed

£2,830,582.20
Balance Remaining

Across the full span of the SPF Programme on Anglesey (2022-2026), it is envisaged that by the time all the final claims are submitted and processed, the projects should have delivered significant benefits for Anglesey residents and communities, including (but by no means exhaustive):

- Financial support to 843 businesses, enterprise and organisations
- Supported the creation of, or safeguarded 218 jobs on the Island
- Helped 539 people to gain employment
- 240 amenities/ facilities created or improved.

Annex B provides further details on the Programme’s achievements. Note that these figures are up to 31st December 2025 (the latest project claims). Many outputs are still being achieved right up to the end of the projects.

Beyond the achievements highlighted above, a valuable outcome of delivering the SPF Programme on Anglesey has been the strong focus on inclusivity and partnership working. From the initial design of the programme through to project delivery, the work has brought together voices from businesses, the third sector, and the public sector. This broad engagement, combined with the local SPF Team’s ability to connect delivery organisations, share information, and encourage complimentary collaboration, have given the Programme legitimacy and relevance. It has ensured that activities were aligned with local priorities and that the benefits reached across the Island’s communities.

d) Extension to current Programme and Closure Process

On the 17 of December 2025, UK Government announced an extension to the SPF Programme to 30 September 2026, allowing more time to complete the delivery within existing grant award. No additional funding is being provided for project activity or SPF administration. The SPF Team are in discussion with each of the project managers as to who will be making a request to extend the end date of their project from the current date of 31 March 2026. There will therefore be a staggered project closure process amongst Anglesey SPF projects.

In terms of project evaluation, each project has allocated funding for an independent evaluation to be carried out and submitted with their final claim. The SPF Team are working with the projects to ensure all evaluation milestones and commitments are met.

e) Programme Evaluation

The Regional Team carried out a light touch evaluation on the delivery of the SPF Programme in North Wales (2022-2025) – which will be revisited to evaluate this final year.

The UK Government also commissioned a national evaluation of the Programme, to which the Council submitted information.

At the conclusion of the SPF Programme in September 2026, the Anglesey SPF Team plans to undertake a high-level evaluation to capture the impact and reach of SPF funding across Anglesey. The aim is to provide an accurate reflection of the positive difference the investment has made to communities, places, businesses and individuals throughout the Island. This will be shared with all Elected Members.

f) Risks

The risks encountered during the delivery of the SPF Programme on Anglesey included:

- I. Delivering the programme within the timeframe set out by UK Government.
- II. Reputational risk for the Council as the 'lead body' responsible for selecting the successful projects and managing the overall UK SPF allocation for Anglesey.
- III. Projects requiring more funding than is available within the Programme due to the impact of inflation and increased costs.
- IV. Delivery being primarily dependent on the performance of external Delivery Partners.
- V. The need to continuously review and adapt to changes in circumstances of Delivery Partners.

Each of the projects developed and maintained their own Risk Registers which were updated on a quarterly basis.

g) Next Steps / Future Funding

With the closure of any funding Programme, there are staffing implications. Within the Council, 11 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions are directly funded by UK SPF. Some of these roles are internal secondments, therefore impacting additional staff. Furthermore, at least 39 positions external to the Council are considered at risk following the closure of SPF-funded projects on Anglesey.

The present situation post-SPF is that a new fund will be established, the Local Growth Fund (LGF) which while similar, does have distinct differences to SPF and its core principles. UK Government have stated that for 2026/ 2027, the Governance of SPF will carry on (similar to the transition year of 2025/ 2026 for SPF) but with a reduced allocation of approximately £4.5M and also with the majority of funds being capital based.

Post 2027, the LGF at present, will be delivered by the Regional Corporate Joint Committee's (CJC) which will differ from being delivered in-house by an SPF Team. We await further guidance from Government following a pre-Christmas consultation where the Council (and other LA's) responded robustly.

7. Impact assessments

7.1. Potential impacts on groups protected under the Equality Act 2010

None – applications by and for protected groups under the Equality Act 2010 will be dealt with exactly the same and funding could be targeted towards those groups.

7.2. Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage (strategic decisions)

Positive – this funding has the potential to be targeted towards those at a socio-economic disadvantage.

7.3. Potential effects on opportunities to use Welsh and not treat the language less favourably than English

Positive – by creating employment opportunities in the area it is hoped that more Welsh speakers will be able to benefit and stay in the locality.
Opportunities to learn Welsh/ increase confidence through some of the SPF Projects.
Raise the profile of the Welsh Language

7.4. Potential impact on the Council's Net Zero Carbon target

Positive – As part of the reporting and monitoring process delivery partners have to provide details on any activities undertaken to support Net Zero.

8. Financial implications

Neutral – there are no financial implications on the County Council as staffing costs have been paid for and will be met through the grant funding the programme by UK Government.

9. Appendices

Annex A – Anglesey SPF Project Summaries
Annex B – Outputs Summary for Anglesey UKSPF Programme (2022-2026)

10. Report author and background papers

[Overview of the Anglesey UK Shared Prosperity Fund.pdf](#)

Annex A – Anglesey SPF Projects Summaries

Investment Priority: Community and Place

Project Name	Delivery Organisation
Improving Anglesey resident financial resilience and wellbeing economy	IACC
This project, in collaboration with Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) Ynys Môn, aims to enhance the financial resilience of households on Anglesey through one-on-one support in community spaces. By focusing on early intervention and ongoing assistance, it seeks to address immediate hardship and improve long-term financial stability for those facing poverty and deprivation.	
Balchder Bro	Menter Môn
The project will deliver activities and improvements across Ynys Môn, aligning with community and strategic priorities. Its key aims are to stimulate local pride, improve well-being, and empower communities. It will enhance local identity, support arts and environmental events, strengthen community hubs, and promote sustainability through net-zero initiatives and conservation efforts.	
Connecting People, Nature and Place	Small Woods
This project will enhance skills, resilience, and well-being for those facing employment barriers by developing accessible outdoor sites and expanding learning activities on Anglesey. It will offer nature-based programs, training, and volunteering opportunities while promoting green careers, restoring woodlands, and improving accessibility.	
Green Destination Programme	IACC
The project will support environmental and visitor economy goals, aligning with the AONB Management Plan and Destination Management Plan. It focuses on enhancing landscapes, addressing the nature crisis, promoting well-being, supporting vibrant communities, and managing climate change impacts.	
Creu Ynys Actif	IACC
This project has three key elements: grants for local sports clubs, Môn Actif initiatives supporting dementia care, water safety, and youth health, and capital investment in leisure centres.	
Prosiect Pontio Cymunedau Môn	IACC
This project, in partnership with Medrwn Môn, aims to create a resilient island by empowering communities to design and deliver solutions based on local needs. Key initiatives include developing and modernizing community hubs, creating new safe spaces, conducting a feasibility study for play and green spaces, and providing training to strengthen community groups' capacity.	
Lle Da	IACC
The Place-Making Programme for Anglesey's town centres and villages aims to improve urban spaces, support town councils, and enhance local facilities. Key actions include developing Place-Making Plans, re-occupying empty premises, improving shop fronts, and promoting events and visual enhancements.	
North Wales Active, Healthy and Happy	Gogledd Cymru Actif
This multi-authority project across Anglesey, Gwynedd, Denbighshire, and Flint aims to support regular physical activity by building capacity, skills, resilience, and confidence in communities. Led by the communities, it focuses on empowering them to create sustainable solutions for daily activity.	
North Wales Growth Vision Opportunities	Ambition North Wales
This multi-authority project across North Wales aims to maximize benefits from investments aligned with the North Wales Growth Deal. It focuses on five key workstreams—regional collaboration,	

skills, digital, energy and net zero, and social value—delivering activities to ensure communities benefit from these initiatives.

Caru Cymru	Keep Wales Tidy
This multi-authority project in Anglesey, Conwy, Flint, and Wrexham focuses on expanding community litter-picking efforts and supporting local initiatives to reduce litter. Activities include growing volunteer networks, promoting litter-free zones, raising awareness, supporting local authority strategies, and organizing events like repair cafes and recycling pop-ups to tackle waste and fly-tipping.	

Investment Priority: Supporting Local Business

Project Name	Delivery Organisation
Cefnogi Busnesau Môn	Môn CF
This project offers one-on-one mentoring, business planning, cash flow assistance, UTR application support, and small grants for new and existing businesses. Services include help with business plans, grant applications, self-employment training, online presence improvements, and referrals to other resources.	
Igniting Innovation	MSParc
Igniting Innovation will create high-level employment, support business growth, foster start-ups, and upskill locals in the digital and energy sectors across Anglesey. It will also help children at risk of becoming NEET by teaching life skills and promoting business pathways, while strengthening personal and economic resilience.	
Specialist Support for Social Enterprises in North Wales	Cwmpas
This multi-authority project in Anglesey and Gwynedd provides specialist consultancy and market development support to enhance Social Business Wales (SBW). It offers tailored consultancy in areas like HR, tax, and finance, along with networking, training, and events to help the sector grow and access funding opportunities.	
Hwb Menter	Menter Môn
This multi-authority project in Anglesey and Gwynedd will maintain and develop the Enterprise Hub (Hwb Menter) to support entrepreneurs with knowledge, advice, networking, and space for their start-ups. It will also promote the use of SMART activities in local towns through the "SMART Gwynedd a Môn" initiative.	
Skills and Innovation Voucher Scheme	Bangor University
This multi-authority scheme in Anglesey, Gwynedd, and Flint offers the Skills and Innovation Voucher (SIV) Scheme to support SMEs and graduate entrepreneurs. Vouchers can be used for accessing Bangor University's expertise, facilities, and training related to R&D, innovation, and skills development.	

Investment Priority: People and Skills

Project Name	Delivery Organisation
Anglesey Young People – Succeeding Together	IACC
This project aims to support young people on Anglesey by improving skills, well-being, and reducing the risk of becoming NEET. It will provide an alternative curriculum with emotional well-being support, outdoor activities, and qualifications, as well as extended work experience opportunities through local employer partnerships.	
A Space for Life	IACC
This project aims to renovate a storage facility in Llangefni Library into a welcoming community space for both the library and local organizations. It will offer a variety of events and activities, including author visits, creative workshops, and digital support to help residents improve their IT skills.	
Supportive Steps	GLLM
Supportive Steps is a multi-authority scheme that offers tailored mentoring for participants aged 16 to 25 transitioning into further education, along with comprehensive well-being and mental health support to aid their progression from college to employment.	
Employer Skills North Wales	GLLM
This multi-authority project help employers identify training needs and skills gaps in their workforce, offering group and individual sessions to support employee skill development and business growth.	
Môn Ymlaen	Môn CF
Intense employment Support Services to reduce unemployment and inactivity rates across Anglesey, which will in turn assist local businesses to fill empty vacancies and upskill staff. Upskilling participants with a tailored delivery programme of training and qualifications whilst also offering paid work placement to participants as a stepping stone into employment.	

Annex B – Outputs Summary for Anglesey UKSPF Programme (2022-26 (figures accurate up to 31 December 2025 project claims))

Investment Priority: Community & Place		
Output	Forecast	Actual
Amount of green or blue space created or improved (m ²)	1,701	7,446
Amount of land made wheelchair accessible/ step free (m ²)	50	45
Amount of public realm created or improved (m ²)	550	511
Number of amenities/ facilities created or improved (number of amenities of facilities)	99	210
Number of commercial buildings completed or improved (number of buildings)	76	68
Number of events / participatory programmes	845	1,513
Number of feasibility studies developed as a result of support	54	48
Number of households receiving support	256	278
Number of households supported to take up energy efficiency measures	140	135
Number of local events or activities supported	1,152	1,315
Number of neighbourhood improvements undertaken	698	395
Number of new or improved cycleways or footpaths	53	8
Number of organisations receiving financial support other than grants (number of organisations)	30	50
Number of organisations receiving grants	121	210
Number of organisations receiving non-financial support	186	166
Number of people attending training sessions	78	71
Number of people reached	21,545	21,481
Number of rehabilitated premises	3	3
Number of Tourism, Culture or Heritage assets created or improved	47	70
Number of trees planted	5,250	5,250
Number of volunteering opportunities supported (number of opportunities)	2,679	2,332

Investment Priority: Supporting Local Business		
Output	Forecast	Actual
Amount of low or zero carbon energy infrastructure completed (m ²)	5,006	64,319
Number of angel investors engaged	42	45
Number of decarbonisation plans developed as a result of support	39	32
Number of enterprises receiving angel investment	9	9
Number of enterprises receiving financial support other than grants	61	57
Number of enterprises receiving grants	516	500
Number of enterprises receiving non-financial support	955	918
Number of events/ participatory programmes	51	75
Number of low or zero carbon energy infrastructure installed (number of units)	23	23
Number of people attending training sessions	150	197
Number of people reached	100	100
Number of potential entrepreneurs assisted to be enterprise ready	421	414
Number of Tourism, Culture or Heritage assets created or improved	16	32

Investment Priority: People and Skills including Multiply		
Output	Forecast	Actual
Number of economically inactive people engaging with keyworker support services	615	778
Number of people accessing mental and physical health support leading to employment	76	46
Number of people attending training sessions	180	204
Number of people in employment engaging with the skills system	347	340
Number of people receiving support to gain vocational licence	82	82
Number of people receiving support to gain employment	539	432
Number of people retraining	236	218
Number of people supported onto a course through provision of financial support	440	387
Number of people supported to access basic skills	856	1,016
Number of people supported to engage in job-searching	648	742
Number of people supported to engage in life skills	1,759	1,377
Number of people supported to gain a qualification	839	808
Number of people supported to participate in education	687	580
Number of people taking part in work experience programmes	116	98
Number of socially excluded people accessing support	211	260
Number of volunteering opportunities supported (number of opportunities)	66	66
Number of adult numeracy courses run in a local area through Multiply (Number of courses)	90	123
Number of different cohorts participating in numeracy courses (Number of cohorts)	45	55
Number of people achieving a qualification	196	178
Number of people participating in Multiply funded courses	1550	1476
Number of people receiving support to sustain employment	150	150

****A number of the projects are still claiming outputs right to the project end date. Discussions with delivery partners indicate that the forecasts will be achieved.***