



**Funded by  
UK Government**

**Rushcliffe Borough Council  
Business Support Revenue and Capital Grants £1k - £40k**

**UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Rural England Prosperity  
Fund**

**2025/26**

**Grant Guidance Document**

The UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) and Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) provides funding for local investment until March 2026. Government's ambition is that UKSPF is used to support initiatives which will kickstart economic growth, make Britain a clean energy superpower and break down barriers to opportunity.

The Council has allocated an amount of UKSPF to support projects aligned with government's priorities and Rushcliffe's corporate priorities.

UKSPF funding can support capital and revenue projects across the Borough.

REPF is ringfenced capital funding to facilitate the delivery of projects tackling specific rural challenges. All of Rushcliffe excluding West Bridgford is an eligible area for REPF. The Council is currently waiting for confirmation of REPF. If funding is allocated this will increase the total funding amount available and enable more projects to be supported.

## GRANT FUNDING AVAILABLE:

Grants of between **£1k and £40k** are available to fund projects which fit within the Government's priorities:

- Development of the visitor economy: creation and expansion of high street, leisure and tourism businesses.
- Business sites and premises: including grants to support improving energy efficiency and decarbonisation and visible improvements to premises.
- Supporting growing businesses: including support for new to the firm technologies or processes, engaging in new markets, research and development and improved productivity.

## ELIGIBILITY:

- The application must be from a properly constituted organisation or business in the Borough of Rushcliffe or who are providing business support to businesses in Rushcliffe. The Council will need to see a copy of the organisation's constitution, memorandum and articles of association and/or written rules.
- Projects must take place solely in the Borough of Rushcliffe.
- Organisations must be able to spend their grant allocation by **no later than 31 March 2026**.
- Funding will not be available before 30 June 2025. Any spending committed ahead of grant contracts being signed cannot be claimed.
- Projects cannot be funded where there is a statutory duty to provide them.
- Funding must not be used to replace existing funding sources.
- Funding must enable activity to take place that would not otherwise happen, or to increase the scope, scale or intensity of activity.
- Projects will not be eligible for **capital grants** in this funding round if they were successful in 2023/24 or 2024/5. Organisations may be eligible as long as funding is sought for a different project.
- Previous unsuccessful applicants are welcome to re-apply, with the same or a different project. Our previous grant funds were significantly over-subscribed, so that many eligible projects could not be supported.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

### Match Funding:

- The business requesting the grant will be responsible for funding 60% of the total project cost – the grant will fund 40% up to a maximum of £40,000. For example:
  - If your total project value = £2,500 60% match = £1,500 40% grant = £1,000
  - If your total project value = £100,000 60% match = £60,000 40% grant = £40,000
- Applicants will be required to detail their proposed match funding in their application and provide most recent accounts (audited if this is a requirement for your business).

### Payment of Grants:

- Payment of grants will generally be by a single payment on completion of the project, with the Council requiring copies of receipts, evidence of project delivery and of expenditure of match funding before the payment is released.
- To help with cash-flow the grant may be paid in two or three stages, again subject to the Council being provided with copies of receipts, evidence of project delivery and expenditure of match funding, before each stage payment is released.
- Where VAT is non-recoverable it is an eligible cost. Where VAT is recoverable it is not an eligible cost.

## UKSPF & REPF Themes and Example Projects

The following provides applicants with examples of the types of projects that could be supported, this is not an exhaustive list:

THEME	EXAMPLE PROJECTS
<p>Development of the visitor economy: creation and expansion of high street, leisure and tourism businesses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding for the development, promotion and upkeep of local tourist attractions</li> <li>• Funding to support the establishment of a new open-air market.</li> <li>• Development of local visitor experiences, trails and tours to increase footfall – this can include events and place marketing materials.</li> <li>• Funding to support the expansion/enhancement of tourism businesses (including hospitality and leisure) within town/village centres to attract new visitors and increase employment opportunities.</li> <li>• Funding to support the diversification of a high street business to attract new customers and increase dwell time.</li> </ul>
<p>Business sites and premises: including grants to support improving energy efficiency and decarbonisation and visible improvements to premises.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding to support the establishment, expansion and improvement of business premises.</li> <li>• Creation of rural business hubs providing shared workspace and networking opportunities for rural businesses.</li> <li>• Funding for net zero initiatives for local business including the introduction of new technology to improve energy efficiency of the business premises, vehicles etc.</li> <li>• Funding for initiatives which will reduce carbon emissions.</li> <li>• Funding to support a business to develop new low carbon products and services to grow their business and support other businesses</li> </ul>
<p>Supporting growing businesses: including support for new to the firm technologies or processes, engaging in new markets, research and development and improved productivity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funding to enable firms to buy and implement new industrial digital technology solutions which will improve productivity.</li> <li>• Research and development grants for new products, services and markets.</li> <li>• Funding to enable a business to invest, innovate, scale and grow, this can include capital investment to acquire, build or upgrade physical assets, including:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A one-time purchase of a fixed asset</li> <li>➤ Acquisition of land and or buildings</li> <li>➤ Building and construction costs</li> <li>➤ Professional fees associated with building and construction.</li> <li>➤ Plant, machinery and equipment.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Development of new products, facilities or building conversions to help rural businesses diversify outside of agriculture.</li> </ul>

**PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES:**

Projects must achieve a minimum of one output or outcome from the list below. An output is what the project delivers or achieves. An outcome is the impact of a project being successful.

<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
1. Amount of commercial space completed or improved (m2)	1. Jobs created as a result of support
2. Amount of green or blue space created or improved (m2)	2. Jobs safeguarded as a result of support
3. Amount of rehabilitated land (m2)	3. Number of vacant units filled
4. Number of amenities / facilities created or improved (m2)	4. Estimated carbon dioxide equivalent reductions as a result of support
5. Number of low or zero carbon energy infrastructure units installed	5. Increased visitor numbers
6. Total length of new or improved cycle ways or footpaths (km)	6. Increase in visitor spending
7. Number of tourism, cultural or heritage assets created or improved	7. Premises with increased digital connectivity as a result of support
8. Number of farm diversification projects supported	8. Number of enterprises with improved productivity
	9. Increased use of cycleways or footpaths
	10. Number of new enterprises created as a result of support
	11. Number of enterprises adopting new or improved products or services
	12. Number of enterprises adopting new to the firm technologies or processes
	13. Number of new to the market products
	14. Number of organisations involved in knowledge transfer activity following support
	15. Number of R&D active enterprises
	16. Increased users of facilities / amenities
	17. Increased number of properties better protected from flooding

## ASSESSMENT:

Successful applications will need to demonstrate:

- Alignment with a particular theme.
- Ability to deliver specific outputs and outcomes, listed above.
- Need - how will this grant funding facilitate the delivery of activity that wouldn't have been possible otherwise?
- Deliverability - How will the work be delivered; reliably, accountably and within the required timeframe?
- Match funding - including evidence / confirmation that this is secured.
- Compliant procurement - A minimum of 3 written quotes must be sought and evidenced (for spend above £2500). Alternatively, an explanation of procurement methodology will be required e.g. if 3 quotes were not sought/have not yet been sought.
- Subsidy control compliance - You will need to confirm the amount, and the date of any grant funds received in the last 3 years. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/subsidy-control-regime>
- Relevant permissions are in place e.g. planning, building control, listed building consent, landlord consent. If planning permission might be required, we encourage you to engage with Rushcliffe's Planning Department at the earliest possible stage: [Do I Need Planning Permission - Rushcliffe Borough Council](#)
- That the applicant has consulted and worked with other stakeholders as required

## HOW TO APPLY:

To apply for funding, applicants must first contact Rushcliffe Borough Council at [ukspfenquiries@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:ukspfenquiries@rushcliffe.gov.uk) providing the following details:

- Brief outline of project and location.
- Total value of project.
- Value of grant requested.
- Project timescale - estimated start and end dates.

The Council will respond to discuss a grant application in more detail and to provide a formal invitation to apply to prospective applicants with eligible applications. The invitation to bid does not imply that an application will receive funding but that, based on the information available, it is eligible for funding.

**Applications submitted without engaging in the pre-application process will not be accepted.**

## TIMELINE:

- Applications accepted: 14 March 2025 – 30 April 2025 (17:00)
- Successful applicants notified: 9 June 2025
- Project ready to begin: 30 June 2025
- Project complete (all spending, delivery, grant claims and reporting): 31 March 2026

## Data Protection Privacy Notice

The personal information you provide will only be used by Rushcliffe Borough Council, the Data Controller, in accordance with UK General Data Protection Regulation/ Data Protection Act 2018 to:

process your application, query or to provide a service that you are requesting

**or**

undertake a statutory function (also known as a 'public task')

Your personal information will not be shared with any third party, other than our data processor (put the supplier's name).

Your personal data will be kept in accordance with the Council's retention policy and schedule. Details of which can be found on the Council's website at [http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/retention\\_schedule/](http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/retention_schedule/)

In accordance with UK GDPR you have a right to:

- have a copy of the personal information that we hold about you. Details of how to obtain this are available at <https://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/aboutus/aboutthecouncil/freedomofinformation/#rightofaccess>
- Request that your personal data be corrected or completed.
- Complain to the Information Commissioner if you feel that your information is not being handled appropriately (<https://ico.org.uk/>)

You may also have a right to:

- have your personal data transferred (data portability)
- prevent automated processing and profiling.
- erasure (also known as the right to be forgotten)
- restrict processing.
- object to processing

Your data protection rights are not absolute and in most cases are subject to the Council demonstrating compliance with other statutory legislation. For further information see <http://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/privacy/>

For further details about how your personal information may be used or about your rights under data protection legislation, please contact the Council's Data Protection Officer -

- By post: Data Protection Officer, Rushcliffe Borough Council, Rushcliffe Arena, Rugby Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7YG
- By email: [customerservices@rushcliffe.gov.uk](mailto:customerservices@rushcliffe.gov.uk)
- By Telephone: 0115 981 9911