



DELEGATED DECISION BY THE STRATEGIC HEAD OF ECONOMY & GROWTH

BURNLEY TOWN HALL

PRESENT

OFFICERS Carol Eddleston

1. UK SHARED PROSPERITY FUND (UKSPF) – INNOVATION PROGRAMME - APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL AND ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT
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PURPOSE:

To consider a recommendation from the UKSPF officer to award the University of Central Lancashire funding from Burnley Council's UK Shared Prosperity Fund to deliver the Innovation Programme.

REASON FOR DECISION:

Burnley's Economic Recovery Strategy highlights that Burnley businesses need to increase innovation, research/development and have an increased knowledge base across several sectors such as low carbon, design, technology and digital, in order to close the productivity gap.

The increasing trend for digitisation and automation within engineering and manufacturing presents opportunities for higher value activity and higher-level skilled job roles but investment is needed, and this project will help businesses to develop an innovation roadmap enabling them to access the support needed to facilitate business growth and/or to become more resilient.

This programme will strengthen education/business relationships with the 3 Higher Education Institutes (HEI's) in Lancashire coming together in a unique partnership. The 2 UCLan Burnley sites at Victoria Mill and Newtown Mill (when it is finished) will be the main hub(s) for Burnley businesses.

DECISION:

In accordance with the authority delegated by the Executive, at its meeting on 28th July 2022, to commission services funded by the UKSPF, that the Strategic Head of Economy & Growth, in consultation with the Executive Member for Economy & Growth approve the award of £350,865.60 of UKSPF funds to UCLan to deliver Innovation Programme.

DECISION MADE BY:

STRATEGIC HEAD OF ECONOMY AND GROWTH

DATE: 25th July 2023