

# UK Shared Prosperity Fund Edinburgh Newsletter

August 2024



The UK Shared Prosperity Fund in its existing form concludes in March 2025 and the future of the fund is yet to be announced. In the meantime, current work continues and as a city we are keen to ensure that services are as consistent as possible up until the end of the programme. Seven months of funded activity remain, and a wealth of positive impact is still to be delivered for people and communities across Edinburgh.

This newsletter is particularly focussed on the theme of education. It includes case studies from three organisations delivering support for young people and enabling them to take steps towards work. There is also an article from the Multiply programme. Multiply funding is provided under the UKSPF umbrella and is ringfenced specifically for supporting adults with numeracy skills. The Wider Achievement and Lifelong Learning team in City of Edinburgh Council have led this piece of work, creating some internally-led courses and commissioning work out to partners such as Edinburgh College and several third sector organisations.

We continue to update our blog at [www.edinburghukspf.org](http://www.edinburghukspf.org), which helps to showcase the positive work that has been funded by UKSPF and delivered by a broad set of partners across the city.

We also shared some impact figures earlier this year, which can be found on the blog [here](#) if you haven't already seen it. If there is anything you would like to discuss with the team, please feel free to get in touch.

*UKSPF Programme Team*

Capital City Partnership / City of Edinburgh Council

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## UKSPF EDINBURGH PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT

UKSPF Funding is distributed by UK Government through local authorities. It runs 2022 – 2025 and is focused on three core themes: Communities and Place, People and Skills, Supporting Local Business. There is an additional funding stream called Multiply.

The programme management office for UKSPF Edinburgh is based at Capital City Partnership, an arms-length external organisation with expertise in grant funding and working with Edinburgh's third sector. The programme management team works closely with City of Edinburgh Council colleagues to oversee UKSPF delivery and report to UK Government as required.

## BARNARDO'S PARTICIPANT SHINES ON FILM STUDIO WORK PLACEMENT

Written by Rachel Nanson, Project Worker



Barnardo's Works supports young people and their families towards employment, study or further training. One young person who has benefitted from the programme is Jack.

Jack began by taking part in weekly one-to-one support meetings with his project worker Nicola, and together they identified that some hands-on work experience could help Jack with his job applications and furnish him with some practical skills.

Earlier this year, Barnardo's made links with the LBM Dept Q Ltd. in Leith. Through this connection, Jack spent five days working in the construction department helping to build and create film sets. He was sworn to secrecy by signing a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) so he couldn't say much more than that about the production itself. However, we know that he developed lots of fantastic skills, learning from the experienced joinery team there. Jack's supervisors were very impressed with his contribution and his dedication. He made great links with people working in the industry and received professional advice, including that he was encouraged to work towards his CSCS card to be eligible for other opportunities in the construction industry. You can read this story in more detail on our blog [here](#).

## AIMING HIGH WITH ACTION FOR CHILDREN

Written by Deborah Condie

Children's / Locality Services Manager



Action for Children has worked with children and families for over 150 years and our vision is that "every child and young person in the country has a safe and happy childhood and the foundations they need to thrive".

Through the funding provided by UKSPF, Action for Children offers sector-based group courses in hospitality and construction and a general employability course called Aiming High with the option of one-to-one support.

Aiming High offers information on different career routes working with experts in different sectors, as well as covering transferable employability skills, for those who are not yet sure what career path they wish to take. A personal assessment is completed at the start of a person's involvement with us and a 6-month aftercare programme offers support during their next steps toward sustained employment.



Whilst gaining qualifications and making positive progress are the main reasons for young people being referred to us, the softer interpersonal and social skills that they develop are just as important in enabling them to take the next steps towards gaining and sustaining employment and realising their aspirations.

You can read about one young person's experience with Action for Children on the UKSPF blog, [here](#).

## GETTING INTO RETAIL WITH THE PRINCE'S TRUST - KYLE'S STORY

Written by Stephanie Carney,  
Youth Development Lead



Kyle, 24, from Edinburgh was unemployed before his work coach at the Job Centre told him about the Prince's Trust retail course in partnership with BP. Kyle had never been in paid employment and was looking for something to do after wrapping up his volunteer work for Cancer Research UK.

He had been applying for lots of jobs but had rarely heard back. He says: *"My mental health wasn't the best it could have been, I had a lot of self-doubt and self-esteem issues when it came to my abilities and what I could actually do."*

However, when his work coach stumbled upon a Prince's Trust advertisement, Kyle came along to meet with an Edinburgh Youth Development Lead and went through the BP induction process, progressing onto the Taster Day. Kyle said: *"I felt like it was actually way more helpful to get the experience and get to know everyone in the store ahead of the interview as they had already spent time with me. Not only that but the work experience itself helped me formulate what I was going to say in the interview."* Kyle was successful in securing a permanent position with BP after a fantastic job interview. He said: *"Getting to learn new things and work alongside people really helped my confidence! The future, for me, is looking pretty good."*

To read the full article on our blog click [here](#).

# MULTIPLY

## MULTIPLY OPENS DOORS FOR LEARNERS

Written by Neil Saddington, Multiply Lead

The Multiply strand of funding is designed to improve adults' functional numeracy skills through free personal tutoring, digital training, and flexible courses. In Edinburgh, the Multiply funding is managed by the Wider Achievement and Lifelong Learning team with the City of Edinburgh Council.

The programme includes internally-led provision including courses such as Maths on Toast, Pottery by Numbers, Nutrition and Numbers, Cooking by Numbers, ESOL and Numbers courses, ESOL Numbers and Crocheting, SQA courses and Driving Test Theory courses.

Additionally external partners are running a wide range of courses. These include Level 5 SQA Numeracy courses run by Edinburgh College and Workers' Educational Association (WEA) courses specialising in personal budgeting. Various community-based organisations are being supported to embed numeracy into their existing work. These include Access to Industry, Fresh Start and Space at the Broomhouse Hub. You can read more on the blog [here](#).



Read more at [www.edinburghukspf.org](http://www.edinburghukspf.org).

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