

**OFFICER DECISION RECORD**
**Decision Title:** Selection for funding of Rural England Prosperity Fund (REPF) Business Grants

**Decision reference number:** ODN23\_0013

**Decision date:** Monday 16 October 2023

**Background / reason for decision:**

The Rural England Prosperity Fund is nationally allocated funding to support business and community projects in rural parts of the country. In the West of England, parts of Bath and North East Somerset Council and South Gloucestershire Council are eligible for the funding and a total of £827k was received by the Mayoral Combined Authority from the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs to be spent in-line with the priorities set out in the REPF addendum to our UK Shared Prosperity Fund plan.

In summary, this plan apportioned the available funding equally between the business and community themes. This led to a Rural Business Grant scheme launching for applications from businesses in eligible rural areas against a published set of eligibility guidance, including assessment and appraisal criteria. The application window closed in late August and following completion of assessment and appraisal, under the delegation given by the Committee to agree and approve REPF grants, the Mayoral Combined Authority Chief Executive in consultation with the other West of England CEOs has made this decision.

**Options considered:**

Option 1 – Reject all or some of the applications recommended for selection for funding.

Option 2 – Approve all of the applications recommended for selection for funding.

**Decision:** The decision was made by the Chief Executive of the West of England Combined Authority in consultation with the other unitary authority Chief Executive Officers, to approve all of the applications recommended for selection for funding. These are listed below by beneficiary name and value of grant to be allocated.

<b>Business Name</b>	<b>Grant Value</b>
Bath Laundry	£19,600.00
Corston Fields Farm Partnership	£20,000.00
Rockys Magic Parties	£6,119.00
Magpie Vintage & Curiosities Ltd	£6,480.00
Landscape Editions Ltd	£16,244.00
Limeburn Hill Vineyard	£16,926.94
Somerset Cider Solutions Ltd	£20,000.00
Partridge Medical Solutions Ltd	£11,360.00
Carry On Screening	£6,432.00
Ying Liu T/A Liuying Ceramics	£5,432.00

Rockaway Ltd	£16,000.00
Seven Hills (Bath) Ltd	£7,560.00
S G Taylor Clocks and Watches	£16,354.00
Total Country Care Ltd	£6,800.00
Jack England T/A Bitcade	£20,000.00
Wild Events Ltd. T/A Wild Pizza Co	£8,760.00
The Compass Inn (Tormarton) Ltd	£20,000.00
VN Planter Ltd	£20,000.00
Jekka's Ltd	£9,900.00
Mr N S Howes T/A Marshfield Mobile Ice Cream	£15,830.40
Vintage Birdcage on The Bridge Ltd	£12,863.96
Meadows Livery	£18,338.00
Aristocats Boarding Cattery	£20,000.00
The Thornbury Clinic Ltd	£14,149.00
Everlayer Ltd	£9,208.00
Mister Uniform Ltd	£20,000.00
Acorno Ltd T/A Bristol Caravans	£20,000.00
Mountbatten Corporation Ltd T/A Mountbatten Car Sales	£20,000.00

Grants will be awarded as Minimal Financial Assistance and each beneficiary has provided the necessary declaration confirming that the full requirements of using MFA can be met.

**Consultation:** The original REPF plan was subject to wide consultation to agree its approach and priorities. Business and Skills Directors of each Unitary Authority were consulted on the recommendations.



**Position:** Interim Chief Executive, West of England Combined Authority

**Report / appendices / background documents:**

