| **Service Area**  | **Projects** | **Value** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Transport  | **St Helens specific projects:** **St Helens Town Centre Multimodal Interchange**Enhancements to the bus station area and active travel infrastructure around the town including to key sites such as Glass Futures. An integral part of the ambitious town centre regeneration proposals. **St Helens North Housing Access (Routes to Regeneration)**Improved connectivity between St Helens town centre and the Cowley Hill development site. It will improve sustainable access and connectivity to the town centre including the provision of safe and reliable walking and cycling routes. **Highways Maintenance** A series of maintenance packages in St Helens which will deliver key improvements to the highway network, transport systems and assets. Over the 5-year funding window:* Improving cycle infrastructure, c.3,150 potholes repaired per year
* Significant improvement of drainage in known flooding hot spots, along with maintenance of roads, lighting, street furniture and bridges.
* Investing in improving road conditions to relieve congestion and improve safety for active travel, bus and other road users.
* Benefits will extend beyond transport, improving access to key sites in the city region for education, housing, health, growth and productivity.

**Parkside Access Road** Investment by the Combined Authority has provided funding to connect the A49 in Newton-Le-Willows directly with the M6, unlocking significant commercial development and wider economic benefits. It is expected that over 5,600 net jobs and net additional GVA of £227.4m will be created by the wider development enabled by the new road, contributing to St Helens wider vision of transforming the local economy.**Key Route Network – Parkside** Highways enhancements to facilitate access to the Parkside regeneration project. The scheme will deliver an off-road segregated cycle track, improved signalisation and essential maintenance to strengthen the Parkside Road Bridge. Severance will be reduced with journey reliability improved and safer access for cyclists.**Lea Green (St Helens Southern Gateway)**Provision of better passenger facilities at Lea Green Rail Station, cycling and walking routes as well as park and ride capacity improvements. This will help to connect residents to key employment, education, retail and leisure sites through sustainable transport whilst also creating decongestion benefits. **Liverpool City Region-wide projects benefiting St Helens:****Bus Reform**Work is ongoing to reregulate the region’s bus network, reversing Thatcher’s disastrous deregulation of bus services outside London. Rather than being run for private profit, the region’s buses would be run in the interests of passengers.Franchising (the region’s preferred model) would give local leaders greater say over fares, routes and timetables and enable failing bus operators to be held to account. This is a key part of the Mayor’s work to build a London-style transport system that will put the public back at the heart of public transport.**Hydrogen Buses**The city region’s first publicly-owned hydrogen buses will serve the 10A bus route connecting St Helens, Knowsley and Liverpool. These state of the art buses come complete with increased space for prams and wheelchairs, comfortable seats, wireless phone charging and live journey information – including updates on local train times.Beyond transport, it will also significantly reduce carbon emissions, providing air quality and health benefits for residents.**Green Bus Routes (10A)**A new Green Bus Corridor will provide a new high-quality, fast and reliable public transport link between key centres of growth and opportunity on the 10A route. This will address worsening journey time and passenger satisfaction issues and provide a clean, reliable service on a corridor with comparatively low levels of car ownership. Benefits extend beyond transport, improving access to key sites in the city region for education, housing, health, growth and productivity.**Cheaper bus fares**In September 2022, the Mayor introduced a £2 capped fare which meant that nobody would pay more than £2 for a single bus journey, a significant decrease on the £2.30 fare operators were charging previously. As of February 2023, more than 10 million £2 fares have been sold – an average of 2 million each month. This fare cap will remain in place for 3 years – significantly longer than the government’s £2 fares gimmick lasting only a few weeks.The cost of a MyTicket, offering unlimited bus travel for young people, has also been frozen at £2.20 for three years.**Smart Ticketing**Wide range of measures which will contribute to the long-term vision of a London Style Transport Ticketing system in the Liverpool City Region. This will create a multi-modal, multi-operator tap and go system. The scheme will be integral to providing affordable, multi modal access to employment, training and key facilities and addressing the costs and convenient barriers. | £12m £14m£34.3m£24m (+£9m of Freeport seed funding)£6m£14.8m£12.5m£30m |
| Strategic Investment Fund | **Glass Futures** A new open global research and innovation centre for the glass industry with access to a 30tonne per day glass furnace. The facility will open with a state-of-the-art container glass line with space for the future development of a flat glass production and testing line. It is expected that 40 FTE jobs will be created when the facility opens, will realise £10m per year of R&D investment and deliver a GVA of £90.8m.**St Helens Manufacturing and Innovation Campus**Acquisition of land adjacent to Glass Futures,enabling the development of Glass Futures 2 and associated Manufacturing & Innovation Campus.**Gerards Park Phase 2**35,384 sq. ft. Grade A industrial space supporting SME start-ups and expansion**Parkside Colliery redevelopment Phase 1**Creation of a commercial industrial site on former colliery site.**Mayoral Towns Fund and UK Shared Prosperity Fund**We are investing in a number of place and community interventions and support for businesses, with a total investment of £2.9m across the Mayoral Town Fund and UKSPF Communities and Places. Under UKSPF, there is also £0.6m in funding to support local businesses and approximately £0.9m for people and skills. | £11.04m£7.2m(subject to final assurance)£1.04m£41.5m£4.4m |
| Brownfield Land Fund | **Moss Nook Phase 1** – Harworth, 258 units - these consist of a mix of affordable homes and open markets units being delivered by Taylor Wimpey. The first housing completions and handovers have already taken place.**Moss Nook Phase 3** – Harworth, 262 units - 50 affordable units, with an assumed split between social and intermediate rent. These units will be transferred to a Registered Provider following completion. Then 100 build to rent (BTR) 2, 3 and 4-bed homes to be retained by Harworth. Finally, 112 market sale units. Harworth will complete the site enabling works, before selling a 3.17-hectare net developable area to a house builder for the delivery of these units.**Thatto Heath** – Vistry Partnerships, 164 units - 81 homes for open market sale and 83 homes (50% provision) will be Affordable Housing split as 50 S106 units and 33 National Affordable Housing Programme (NAHP) funded units. Schemes approved and will enter Grant Funding Agreement:**Manor Street** – 46 units – all are affordable rented units, which will be retained by the Your Housing. Each of the units will have air source heat pumps installed. **Parr Fire Station** – 40 units – this scheme is being delivered by local company Gradan Homes (a new SME developer) and they will retain the homes to privately rent them. | £2.05m£1.95m£0.77m £0.69m£0.6m |
| Housing Retrofit | Under **Local Authority Delivery 2,** 176 low-income poor energy efficiency homes were improved in St Helens last year through £2.2m of funding.Under the **Sustainable Warmth Fund,** a further 246 low-income homes have been retrofitted to date to improve energy efficiency.  | £2.2m£2m |
| Housing First and Homelessness | **Housing First** – showing that there is an alternative to the Torie’s draconian approach, treating people as human beings and giving them the chance to turn their lives around with the support they need. ‘radical kindness’* **34** complex individuals currently being supported through Housing First, with **18** successfully sustaining tenancies, with **4** of these having done so for over 2 years. **5** individuals have successfully graduated the service, either by sustaining their own tenancy or moving into a suitable accommodation solution (such as supported housing or residential rehabilitation facility).
* Dedicated Housing First Panel evolved to inform the borough’s multi-agency Complex Cares Panel, which is administered by a Housing First Co-ordinator, with CA’s Commissioning Lead part of its Steering Group. Housing First deliver updates on existing cohort and receive and discuss referrals directly through this forum to ensure the most suitable individuals are being onboarded through a partnership consensus.

 **Trailblazers *(to Mar-25)**** Three full-time Early Intervention and Prevention Officers funded through the Combined Authority’s Rough Sleeper Initiative (RSI) bid, focusing on supporting individuals and families before they become statutorily homeless, and thereby alleviating pressure on Housing Options colleagues.
* These staff members meet counterparts across the city region to discuss cases, share best practice, and attend training and development sessions co-ordinated through the Combined Authority.
* In the previous quarter *(Oct-Dec 22)*, the St Helens Trailblazers have supported **54** individuals with advice including income maximisation, landlord liaison, identifying appropriate support pathways, and either tenancy sustainment or help in finding alternative accommodation, thereby reducing demand on the local authority. For half of these individuals, the team were able to maintain the tenancy or prevent homelessness.

 **Assertive Outreach *(to Mar-25)**** Similarly funded through the Combined Authority’s Rough Sleeping Initiative (RSI) bid, the commissioned assertive outreach service sees The Whitechapel Centre and Mersey Care deliver targeted support to the most entrenched and vulnerable homeless people across St Helens, Halton and Knowsley.
* Learning from the Assertive Outreach has informed St Helens’ wider response to rough sleeping and homelessness.
* Strong partnership working with the LA, hostel providers, charities and other statutory services – alongside Housing First – to ensure individuals are identified at pace and supported in a meaningful way.
* In the previous quarter *(Oct-Dec 22)*, the Assertive Outreach service in St Helens has supported **38** individuals, supporting **26** of them indoors.

 **Homelessness Social Worker *(May-23 – Oct-24)**** With learning from the previous Assertive Outreach, we are piloting a Homelessness Social Worker post funded by RSI with the aim to identify and support statutory pathways, and enable homelessness commissioned staff to develop their knowledge around adult social care assessments.
* The role will also support commissioned services to identify move-on options from hostels, freeing up space for further homeless referrals and in turn reducing temporary accommodation costs for St Helens.
* An appointment has been made and the secondee is due to start in May 2023 for an 18-month pilot, with learning being incorporated from partners in Manchester, Nottingham and West Sussex.

 **Accommodation for Ex-offenders *(to Mar-25)**** The city region has been successful in securing funding for a targeted fund supporting prison leavers into the private rented sector, which is co-ordinated through the Combined Authority and runs across St Helens, Liverpool, Sefton and Wirral (the model is slightly different in Halton and Knowsley).
* The commissioned service sees Crisis delivering support for individuals who would not otherwise receive priority housing support.
* As part of the continuation funding, a dedicated Housing Options officer will be funded through this scheme for St Helens, enabling a focus on prison leavers to maximise accommodation and settled outcomes for individuals.
 |  |
| Adult Education Budget and Other Skills Programmes | **Adult Education Budget*** The devolved Adult Education Budget is currently delivering the fourth academic year.
	+ In the last full academic year 2021/22, £4.718m was allocated to St Helens based providers.
	+ This investment alongside the delivery of other providers supported 3,120 St Helens resident learners benefiting from 6,130 learning enrolments/opportunities.
	+ Community Learning alone from St Helens College and St Helens MBC supported 1,630 learners in 2021/22 with 2,650 learning enrolments/opportunities.
	+ A further £4.718m was allocated in the 2022/23 academic year.
	+ Mayor recently announced that colleges and training providers that deliver adult education in Liverpool will receive a one-off 5% funding rate uplift this year to help them cope with rising costs and inflation.

**Test and Learn innovative skills delivery*** LCRCA invests around 5% of its devolved funds in innovative projects designed to address gaps in skills provision
* Providers in St Helens were awarded 8 innovative test and learn projects totalling £381k to support learners in 2021/22. Projects included: wellbeing into work; fibre optic splicing; ESOL to progress into employment; working with parents and their children in small group sessions to support GCSE; literacy and numeracy to support parents; home working, online safety and digital support.

**Free Courses for Jobs*** £0.796m was allocated to St Helens based providers for Level 3 skills delivery in specific areas highlighted as national skills needs supporting 80 learners in 2021/22 with 80 learning Level 3 opportunities/enrolments

**Multiply (UKSPF funded maths skills)*** Multiply aims to address maths skills needs of local residents and engage more learners.
* £0.306m was allocated to St Helens based providers in 2022/23 (4 months of the) financial year with £50k of this used to support the delivery of maths skills through local voluntary and community sector organisations.
* A further £0.328m has been allocated for the 2023/24 financial year of which £75k will be contracted to the local voluntary and community sector to deliver.

 **Digital and Access Grants for learning*** During and following the pandemic £180k was awarded to St Helens based providers to support the purchase of laptops and IT equipment to help ensure the continued delivering of learning and increased accessibility for learners who were required to isolate.

**Skills Capital Investments*** Over the period that Local Growth Fund has been devolved for Skills Capital to the city region £3.3m of Local Growth Funds have been awarded to St Helens College and St Helens Chamber.
* Digital Starting Point - Refurbishment of an existing Learning floor space St Helens Chamber to provide digital pre- employment training in economic growth sectors and additional digital equipment totalling over - £0.5m.
* Investment in St Helens College campuses for growth sector and logistics facilities as well as low carbon site improvements and site maintenance totalling over - £2.8m

**Skills Bootcamps** * Initially just covering digital skills, this has now been expanded to cover a range of other sectors such as Construction, Green Skills, Logistics
* Three training providers deliver training in St Helens, Genesis, Onpoint Trac and Total Futures. Five face-to-face courses have been delivered in St Helens. In addition, there are fifteen online courses that can be accessed by learners across the region.
* Overall, at the end of Q3 of the 22/23 financial year, 42 learners from St Helens have participated in Skills Bootcamps programme.
 | £4.718m£4.718m£0.381m£0.796m£0.18m£3.3m£102,069 |
| Households into Work (HiW) | **Households Into Work – St Helens**Pilot programme that has delivered life-changing support to thousands of long-term unemployed people as they try to find work. Since Households into Work launched, around 2,700 people have been supported, many of whom have either never worked or been long-term unemployed, with nearly 400 successfully finding work. 20% of those on the programme have never worked before, while nearly 40% have been unemployed for more than three years.­­In July 2022, CA approved £2m funding to keep the project running after Tory broken promises on UKSPF meant there was a £15m funding gap.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **October 2020 to date** |  |  |
| **Total Registered on Programme to date** | **188** |
| **Total currently live/active** | **46** |
|  |  |  |
| **Demographic Breakdown** |  |  |
| Male | 113 | 60% |
| Female | 74 | 39% |
| Unemployed | 106 | 56% |
| Inactive | 82 | 44% |
| Aged 50+ | 50 | 27% |
| BAME | 13 | 7% |
| Disabled  | 82 | 44% |

 **Soft Outcomes Achieved**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Supported with Skills Development courses  | 77 | 41% |
| Supported with work-related activities | 32 | 17% |

 **Hard Outcomes Achieved\***Of the 142 individuals who have since left the programme;* 22 (15%) progressed into formal Education or Training
* 20 (14%) Unemployed participants progressed into Employment
* 18 (13%) Inactive participants progressed into Employment or Job Search

 This means that 60 (42%) of those who have left the programme have done so with a positive result.  *(\* Only one hard outcome type can be claimed per participant.)* **Other Support**We have the ‘Walk Your Way’ walking group which is attended by participants weekly to enhance their health & wellbeing. The team are also involved with community activities at both the Wonderland Community Centre and The Hope Centre, and they have forged good relationships with social prescribers who refer individuals into HiW. |  |
| Fair Employment Charter  | Fair Employment Charter a manifesto commitment. Designed in consultation with local businesses, workers and trade unions, it aims to highlight good working practices (such as paying the Real Living Wage and clamping down on the insecure work or zero hours contracts) and drive up employment standards across the region.There are currently 3 organisations which have achieved the Aspiring Level of the Fair Employment Charter in St Helens:

|  |
| --- |
| St Helens Chamber |
| St Helens Council |
| Youth Focus NW  |

 |  |
| One Public Estate  | **Brownfield Land Release Fund round 2** – first scheme in city region to demolish structures to prepare for housing awarded to St Helens town centre | £0.812m |
| Digital Connectivity – LCR Connect | **Overview**  * LCR Connect is a 212km full-fibre, ultrafast, gigabit-capable network spanning the Liverpool City Region, delivered as a Joint Venture 50% owned by the Combined Authority; with over 30km of network passing directly through and into St Helens.
* Predicted to give an immediate boost of more than £100m to the city region economy, with the potential to be worth closer to £1bn in the long term.

**What does it mean for St Helens?** * LCR Connect will make St Helens town centre one of the best-connected locations in the City Region, with 4 separate network segments converging in the town centre.
* Will allow us to attract new jobs, businesses and investment – and help to deliver improved public services.
* St Helens Town centre is one of the 4 core Points of Prescence (PoP’s) on the network, providing the high-capacity backhaul right into the heart of the Town, with future expansion opportunities for local providers to connect businesses and residents.
* Local businesses such as **Inovus Medical** (headquartered in St Helens) are already connected to the network and benefitting from access to high-speed connectivity. (N.B. references to this customer contract are still commercial in confidence)
* LCR Connect has also supported the ongoing fibre to the premises roll-out across St Helens by City Fibre, utilising new ducting to deliver faster and with reduced highway congestion.
* We have delivered 8 Career Carousel events through the St Helens Chamber’s Learning to Work program, providing career advice to local pupils. LCR Connect have committed to sponsoring the programme for two years.
* LCR Connect has engaged with community and voluntary organisations in St Helens, working alongside council colleagues, to identify a location for 12-months of free connectivity to a local community hub in the town centre.
 | £30m |
| Low Carbon Skills Fund | 9 St Helens Council owned buildings have completed Decarbonisation Plans carried out by the **NW Net Zero Hub** on behalf of the council. To work towards capital grants to implement in 23/24. | £72K |
| Community Environment Fund  | Four community led environmental based projects shared £34,000 funding this year.  | £34k |
| Race Equality Programme | **EmbRACE: anti racism training** EmbRACE is an anti-racism training course which has been developed in partnership by the Liverpool City Region local authorities. The training course is grounded in lived experience of people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic backgrounds and will see 21,000 local authority staff from across Liverpool City Region receive the training. This includes over 3,000 staff in St Helens Council.**The World Reimagined**Liverpool City Region hosted an installation of 10 large globe sculptures alongside some digital installations that informed a heritage trail that touches on 9 themes dealing with the impact of the transatlantic slave trade and its enduring legacy and impact on contemporary racial inequality. 41 learning globes complimented the large globe trail created by schools and community groups across the region. Through an education and art programme, the project was rooted in local schools and communities to facilitate dialogue around racial equality and justice and linked deeply to where people live. St Helens large globe was hosted by Pilkington’s World Of Glass, featured in the garden near the canal. The connection was the Sankey Canal aka St Helens Canal and how it was used during the enslavement period to transport commodities from the Trans-Atlantic Slave trade. All the below received a bursary and artist fees to support the create of the learning globe from LCRCA to ensure they could participate at no cost. (£850+VAT per bursary. £750 per artist + £100 materials)* Buzz Hub St Helens CDP – Community centre
* MD Creatives – Community group at the Citadel theatre
* Rainford Brook Lodge – Primary school
* Broad Oak Community – Primary school
* The Sutton Academy – Secondary school
* Rainford High school – Secondary school

In addition, LCRCA funded for the two primary schools to attend a workshop at Pilkington’s World Of Glass, where the young people were able to create their own mini globes made out of glass that replicated the larger art installations around the borough. | £700k£200k |