

Report to STC August 2022

Cllr. Hilary Frank



1. Community Network Areas Update

Chairs and Vice Chairs of Community Network Areas across Cornwall are being invited to a series of workshops to help design the future shape of the areas. As Chair of our Gateway Network Area, I attended an initial workshop in Heartlands last week, together with the Vice Chair, Cllr. Gary Davies of Torpoint Town Council. We were given assurances that Cabinet had listened to representations from across Cornwall protesting about the draft proposals, and were encouraged to give our views about the functions we would like to see the areas delivering. We were assured that discussions around the form and size would only take place after more clarity had been identified around the functions.

We learned that any change to the number or size of the network areas will necessitate a change in the Constitution, and therefore any proposal will have to be endorsed by a meeting of Full Council after it has been debated by Cornwall Council's Constitution and Governance Committee.

2. Shared Prosperity Fund Update

At the end of July, Cornwall Council's Cabinet agreed on a Shared Prosperity Fund programme. Opportunities to access these programmes will be announced over the coming weeks on ciosgoodgrowth.com.

Invitations will be opened up for projects to bid for funding against the following themes:

- Cultural events and talent programme (£4.4m)
- Culture / heritage regeneration programme and aligned skills and training activity (£10.82m)
- Community hubs and community skills hubs (£5.198m)
- Digital connectivity and inclusion (£1.5m)
- Business, research and development and enterprise infrastructure (£18.7m)
- Town, rural and coastal retail development and aligned skills programme (£4.4m)
- Multiply numeracy programme (£0.496)

There will be assistance available for businesses and organisations to apply for these funds. Due to timescales for spending in the first year there will be a short deadline for project applications but there will be further opportunities for applications in 2023/24.