

**Report of: The West North West Area Leader**

**Report to: Inner West Community Committee (Armley, Bramley & Stanningley and Kirkstall)**

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**Date: 8<sup>th</sup> October 2014                      For decision**

## **Inner West Wellbeing Update Report**

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### **Purpose of report**

1. This report provides Members with the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2014/15.

### **Main issues**

2. This report provides the Inner West Community Committee with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund 2014/15 which has been revised for the new Community Committee boundary. The report outlines the current balance of the small grants and skips budgets including those small grants and skips that have been approved since the last meeting.
3. An update is provided on the Youth Activities Fund with a decision required on how to proceed with the monies remaining.
4. Consider the new Wellbeing application for Ley Lane youth activities;
5. Agree how to proceed with the Wellbeing fund commissioning process for 2014/15.

### **Options**

#### **Background information**

6. Community Committees have a delegated responsibility for the allocation of Area Wellbeing Funding. The amount of Wellbeing funding provided to each committee is

calculated using a formula agreed by Council taking into consideration both population and deprivation of an area.

7. In 2014/15, the former Inner West Area Committee received a Wellbeing revenue budget of £123,670. After deducting any existing commitments and taking account of the 2013/14 carry forward position, the Area Committee had £191,605 of funding available to allocate. The majority of this funding was committed in March 2014. All approved projects are detailed at Appendix 1.
8. The new Inner West Community Committee was established at full council on 16th June 2014. With the creation of the new Inner West Community Committee, the Wellbeing budget of the former Inner North West Area Committee has been reviewed, and projects relating to Kirkstall Ward are listed at **Appendix 2**. As the former Inner North West Area Committee allocated its total large grant budget to projects in March 2014, there is no available balance for large grants transferring into the Inner West Community Committee budget during 2014/15. Funds have been transferred, however, into the Committee's small grants and skips pot, and the Youth Activities Fund budget, details of which are outlined later in this report.

The unallocated Wellbeing revenue budget on 29th September 2014 for each ward is as follows:

**Armley Ward: £28,965**

**Bramley & Stanningley Ward: £9,811**

**Kirkstall Ward: £0**

**Total: £38,776**

9. The Inner West Community Committee has no available Capital Wellbeing or Capital Receipts Incentive Scheme at this time.

### **Main issues**

10. Wellbeing Budget Statements 2014/15
11. The latest Wellbeing Budget Statement, detailing all projects currently funded for 2014/15, is included as **Appendix 1** covering Armley and Bramley and **Appendix 2** for Kirkstall.
12. **New Wellbeing Grant Application : Ley Lane Youth Activities: £3,000**
13. The Ley Lane area of Armley has been identified as a hotspot for crime and anti-social behaviour. During the summer, a multi-agency partnership ran a programme of activities on the nearby recreation ground to engage with local residents and young people. The sessions were funded by the Community Committee and proved very popular, culminating in an afternoon of family fun on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August.
14. A working group has been set up with a number of local residents to look at other opportunities to improve the local area and continue providing out of school activities for young people. The group will meet early in October, and the Community Committee is asked to consider providing a budget of £3,000 from the Wellbeing fund for the group to allocate to activities or equipment for the recreation ground. Further information is attached at Appendix 3

## 15. Wellbeing Budget – Small Grants & Skips

16. There is a balance remaining of **£6,168** in the small grants and skips budget on 29th September 2014.

17. The table below details small grant and skip approvals since the report to the July Community Committee 2014.

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Organisation /Department</b>	<b>Amount Approved</b>
Clubhouse Painting	Burley RUFC	£500
Burglary Reduction in Kirkstall	West Yorkshire Police	£500
New Wortley International Day	New Wortley Community Association	£500
Dog Show	West Yorkshire Police	£500
Cold Calling Zone	Trading Standards	£500
Skips	3 approved	£375

## 18. Youth Activities Fund

19. The 2014/15 budget for the Inner West Area Committee's Youth Activities Fund was £32,400. Bramley cluster agreed to contribute towards the Youth Activities Budget for projects in Bramley and Stanningley Ward plus the Wythers in Armley Ward.

20. An additional sum of £6,814 will be transferred from the unallocated balance of the Inner North West Youth Activities Fund for Kirkstall Ward.

21. The Youth Activities Fund must be allocated in consultation with young people. Over the past year, the Area Support Team and Ward Members consulted with more than one hundred 8-17 year olds through schools, youth groups and community events. Children's Services have attempted to establish a regular Children & Young People's Panel for the Inner West, however there has little progress made, and work is underway to review how these meetings can be better promoted and made easier for young people to attend.

22. A wide variety of projects have been funded to date which are detailed at **Appendix 4**.

23. The unallocated Youth Activities Fund balances by ward are as follows:

**Armley - £0**

**Bramley & Stanningley - £5,690**

**Kirkstall - £6,814**

24. Members now need to decide on how to allocate the remaining balance, options are:

1: New open grants round - Invite applications for after school provision and weekend provision for autumn / spring. Members consider applications and award grant funding. This option will increase the variety of activities commissioned by the

fund but there is a fairly limited budget with the average session costing around £400-450.

2: Commission directly from local organisations - Approach voluntary sector youth service providers that have successfully delivered YAF projects to put forward proposals. This option lets Members target specific locations, and provides an opportunity to continue popular activities but may limit the variety of activities offered by the funding.

**25.** At the General Purposes meeting in September a discussion was had on how to progress with the monies remaining. A commissioning process could take place but as it is a relatively small amount of money there is also the option of approaching successful projects that run during the summer for continuation projects. Members agreed that feedback from the summer activities was needed before a decision could be made.

## **26. Wellbeing Open Application and Commissioning Process 2015/16**

**27.** Members are asked to consider how they would like the process for Wellbeing Fund applications and commissioning to run for the 2015/16 financial year.

**28.** Open application round or direct commissioning? If Members followed the same process as last year, a call for applications to the Wellbeing Fund would be put out in November with a deadline early in the new year. The Area Support Team will plan in time with Members to look at applications and get more information where needed.

**29.** Members may wish to opt for a more direct commissioning model, where they identify priority areas or gaps, and the Area Support Team works with partners to bring applications forward that meet these. The Area Support Team could meet with Members at the beginning of the open application process to identify possible projects.

**30.** Allocate all funding in March or hold some back? For the last few years, the Area Committee has allocated almost most of its funding at the beginning of the financial year, keeping a small amount back to respond to anything that develops during the year. There is the option to allocate all or hold some back, this may be dependent on the applications that are received.

**31.** Divide money on a ward basis or operate together? In the past in Inner West the funding has been split on a ward basis and allocated on a ward basis with some projects being jointly funded. Would Members like to operate jointly with one pot of money or keep funding separated on a ward basis?

**32.** Consultation with Members pre Committee - Following the closure of the open application round the Area Support Team has circulated summaries of all applications to Members; met with Members on a ward basis to discuss applications and then presented applications to all Committee Members at a Wellbeing workshop. Would Members like to continue with this approach?

**33. General Purposes Discussion** – at the September meeting a full discussion was had about the commissioning process. The meeting proposed an open application round for the majority of funding with some retained for direct commissioning and for responding to issues/ projects that come up during the year. There was also discussion about whether the budget should be split on a ward basis or used for the Committee as a whole. There was some agreement that moving forward money

could be spent more wisely through a shared budget which could account for a portion of the total budget whilst retaining some monies for discreet ward pots.

## Corporate considerations

**34. Consultation and Engagement** - Local priorities were set through the Area Business Plan process and the 2014/15 Wellbeing application round was advertised to all Area Committee contacts. The Youth Activity Fund application rounds were promoted through the Breeze Culture Network and local providers. Feedback from young people was presented to Ward Members and the Bramley Cluster steering group alongside the Youth Activities Fund applications.

**35. Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration** - All Wellbeing funded projects are assessed in relation to Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration. In addition, the Wellbeing process is currently being reviewed citywide, which will include undertaking a new Equality Impact Assessment to ensure the Wellbeing process continues to comply with all relevant policies and legislation.

**36. Council policies and city priorities** - Projects submitted to the Community Committee for Wellbeing funding are assessed to ensure that they are in line with Council and City priorities as set out in the following documents:

- Vision for Leeds
- Leeds Strategic Plan
- Health and Wellbeing City Priorities Plan
- Children and Young People's Plan
- Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
- Regeneration City Priority Plan

**37. Resources and value for money** - Aligning the distribution of Community Committee Wellbeing funding to local priorities will help to ensure that the maximum benefit can be provided.

**38. Risk management** - Risk implications and mitigation are considered on all Wellbeing applications. Projects are assessed to ensure that applicants are able to deliver the intended benefits

## Conclusion

**39.** Wellbeing funding provides an important opportunity to support local organisations and drive forward improvements to services.

**40.** Projects funded via the Wellbeing fund and Youth Activities Fund are presented in the attached appendices.

## **Recommendations**

The Committee is asked to:

1. Note the current budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2014/15 (8).
2. Note the current position of the Small Grants and skips budget and those small grants and skips that have been approved since the last meeting (15-17).
3. Approve or otherwise the application for funding for activities at Ley Lane (12-14).
4. Note the current position of the Youth Activity Fund and projects funded through a delegated decision and decide how to progress with the remaining monies (18-25)
5. Decide how to progress with Wellbeing commissioning for 2014/15 (26-33).

## **Background information**

- None