

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

**Report to: The Outer West Community Committee – Calverley & Farsley; Farnley & Wortley; Pudsey**

**Report author: Harpreet Singh 336 7862**

**Date: 28 February 2018**

**For decision**

## **Finance Update Report**

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### **Purpose of report**

1. This report provides the Outer West Community Committee with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund and Youth Activities Fund for 2017/18 and the current position of the Small Grants and skips pots.
2. The report provides an update on the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund, Small Grants and Skips that have been approved since the last meeting.
3. The report also outlines the applications received through the open funding round for funding in the 2018/19 financial year.

### **Main issues**

4. 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.
5. The Outer West Community Committee seeks to ensure that Wellbeing funding is allocated in a fair and transparent way and that recipients are able to commence delivery of their projects as early as possible in the financial year. To facilitate this process, a commissioning round is held which requires organisations to submit proposals for projects. Once the annual Wellbeing budgets are set by Executive Board and ratified by Full Council, the Community Committee meets to agree which projects will be supported in the year ahead. These projects are then monitored and assessed by the Community Committee throughout the year to ensure they are fully meeting their objectives.

6. In addition, the Outer West Community Committee receives a sum of Youth Activity Fund funding.
7. The Community Committee also received an allocation of Capital Funding in 2017/18.
8. The Wellbeing Fund Large Grant programme supports the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of a Community Committee area by funding projects that contribute towards the delivery of local priorities. A group applying to the Wellbeing fund must fulfil various eligibility criteria including evidencing appropriate management arrangements and finance controls are in place; have relevant policies to comply with legislation and best practice e.g. safeguarding, equality and diversity; and be unable to cover the costs of the project from other funds.
9. Projects eligible for funding could be community events; environmental improvements; crime prevention initiatives or opportunities for sport and healthy activities for all ages. In line with the Equality Act 2010 projects funded at public expense should provide services to citizens irrespective of their religion, gender (including Trans), marital status, race, ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation or disability; under the Public Sector Equality Duty the Council must have due regard to the need to **eliminate** discrimination, advance **equality** of opportunity and **foster** good relations between different people when carrying out their activities. Funding for projects specifically targeted at certain groups is allowed under the Equality Act provided there is a clear evidence base for doing so (such as activities to promote women's health through sport projects or a project targeted at people with hearing impairments, or one for new migrants to help integration). Further advice on these can be given on a case by case basis if required. The fund cannot be used to support an organisation's regular business running costs; it cannot fund projects promoting political or religious viewpoints to the exclusion of others; projects must represent good value for money and follow Leeds City Council Financial Regulations and the Council's Spending Money Wisely policy; applications should provide, where possible, three quotes for any works planned and demonstrate how the cost of the project is relative to the scale of beneficiaries; the fund cannot support projects which directly result in the business interests of any members of the organisation making a profit.

Wellbeing Revenue Budget Statement 2017/18

10. The Outer West Community Committee received an allocation of **£104,670** for the 2017/18 financial year. Taking into account project underspends and carry forward figures from 2016/17, the total fund available for new projects in 2017/18 was **£112,237.06**. This funding was committed to **26** projects for 2017/18. **Table 1** below outlines the Wellbeing Applications which have been received or approved since the last meeting of the Outer West Community Committee.

**Table 1: Wellbeing Revenue applications received for consideration or approved**

| <b>Project Name</b> | <b>Organisation / Department</b> | <b>Amount Requested</b> | <b>Amount Approved</b> |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Owlcotes Phase 2    | Seagulls                         | £5,184                  | £5,184                 |

11. The Wellbeing Revenue 2017/18 budget is fully committed.

Small Grants & Skips

12. The Small Grants & Skips budget for 2017/18 is fully committed.

### 2017/18 Wellbeing Capital Projects

13. In addition to Wellbeing revenue the Community Committee also receives an allocation of capital funding. The Outer West Community Committee has allocated capital funding to five projects for 2017/18. The latest update from the Council's Finance Department shows there is **£32,900** in capital monies available for allocation.

### 2017/18 Youth Activities Fund

14. In 2017/18, the Outer West Community Committee received a sum of **£37,690** Youth Activity Fund. This fund is to commission sports and cultural activity for young people age 8-17. This should be allocated with the involvement and participation of children and young people in the decision making process.
15. Taking into account project underspends and carry forward figures from 2016/17, the total fund available for new projects in 2017/18 was **£42,436.61** which has now been fully committed.

### Wellbeing and Youth Activity Fund Budget Position 2018/19

16. The Wellbeing funding round for 2018/19 received 24 applications for revenue funding totalling £106,392.
17. Four applications for Capital Funding were received totalling 15,083.00.
18. The funding round received 8 applications for Youth Activities Funding totalling £42,065.
19. These applications will be assessed against the funding criteria for the Outer West Wellbeing Fund at the Wellbeing funding Meeting on 28 February. Members will review the applications in detail and agree the projects that should go forward for consideration. A list of these projects will be provided as supplementary information to this report at the Community Committee meeting.

### Newsletter

20. The Communities Team produce newsletters at each round of Community committees as a means of communicating business to the public. At Appendix 1 is the latest OW newsletter.

## **Corporate considerations**

### **a. Consultation and Engagement**

21. The Community Committee has previously been consulted on the projects detailed within the report. The Youth Activity Fund application rounds are promoted through the Breeze Culture Network and local providers, with consultation from children and young people being taken into account through Youth Engagement events.

### **b. Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

22. 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.

c. Council policies and City Priorities

23. 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

**d. Resources and value for money**

24. Aligning the distribution of Community Committee Wellbeing funding to local priorities will help to ensure that the maximum benefit can be provided.

e. Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

25. There are no legal implications or access to information issues. This report is not subject to call in.

f. Risk Management

26. 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**

27. Wellbeing funding provides an important opportunity to support local organisations and drive forward improvements to services. This report provides members with an update on the Wellbeing programme for 2016-17.

## **Recommendations**

28. The Committee is asked to:

- Note the current budget position for the revenue Wellbeing Fund for 2017/18 and applications that have been approved since the last meeting at **Table 1**
- Note the current budget position for the small grants and skips
- Note the current budget position for the Capital Wellbeing Fund for 2017/18
- Note the current budget position for the Youth Activities Fund for 2017/18
- Consider the projects listed in the supplementary information report, which will be tabled at the meeting
- To approve the Community Committee Newsletter

## **Background information - None**