

Area Committee Well-being Fund – Project Proposal

Expand sections as required

Project Name: Middleton Participatory Budgeting

Organisation	Area Management Team
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Project Summary (including a brief description of what your project is and the main activities and why this project is needed):

To pilot the use of ‘Participatory Budgeting’ approach in order to contribute to increasing a cohesive community and help inform a longer term approach. This project aims to encourage local residents to say what’s great about Middleton and come up with ideas for making it even better, particularly safer and improve community relations, sense of belonging and identity and to overcome various challenges in the area. The approach to be used, ‘Participatory Budgeting’, involves local people in making decisions about how a local budget is spent in their area.

Participatory Budgeting project ideas would be encouraged from a range of sources (primary schools, faith, youth and community groups, pubs, clubs, shops, businesses etc).

The project aims must meet one or more of the following priorities:

1. Letting Middleton know what's great about:
 - a) *The People of Middleton, the People of Leeds* – whatever beliefs, age or background of people – e.g your neighbours, your class at school, customers, bringing different people together, experiencing different lifestyles etc.
 - b) *Middleton - the place you live, play or work in* – e.g your street, your home, your work, your primary school, community centre, place of worship, your favourite activity or a favourite play area or place you like to go to etc.

2. Ideas for enabling *Middleton be a safer place* for people to live, work, play and visit.

Project Delivery - How the project will be delivered (inc how any partners are involved in the project, timescale etc):

Key elements for delivering Participatory Budgeting include:

- establishing a small steering group of key stakeholders.
- running support sessions to a wide range of residents/groups and agencies to explain the Initiative, help local people develop ideas and

establish key priorities.

- encouraging groups/organisations to apply with ideas.
- projects presented locally by applicants to public and voted on, on 'Decision Day'.
- results announced to the community, projects begin and are monitored.
- assistance, guidance and advice given to all applicants through the process.
- publicity to include visits to groups, on street promotion, press coverage and publicity of finally decided projects.

Partners include Aire Valley Homes, West Yorkshire Police, Safer Leeds.

The approximate timescale is 3 to 6 months (starting from Dec 2008) with projects completing in 2009/10.

Please demonstrate how your project links with key priorities/action with Area Delivery Plans:

The project supports the Area Committee's delegated Function for community engagement and supports the Area Delivery Plan Stronger Communities theme, particularly the Strategic Outcomes of 'More inclusive, varied and vibrant neighbourhoods through empowering people to contribute to decision making and delivering local services' and 'Improved community cohesion and integration through meaningful involvement and valuing equality and diversity'.

Outcomes (a summary the main outcome, outputs and benefits the project will achieve):

It is planned that this initiative would contribute to:

- enhancing a positive sense of belonging and community identity for some of the residents and organisations living and working in Middleton.
- a range of local people who feel empowered and entrusted to make decisions about developing positive relations in the community.
- agencies/services developing a greater knowledge and understanding of Middleton including key issues and wants in the area and gaps.
- a positive perception of the support that key agencies (particularly public/statutory bodies) and Elected Members provide to the community.

The pilot would contribute to the following Local Area Agreement National Indicators:

- NI 1 % of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area
- NI 2 % of people who feel that they belong to their neighbourhood
- NI 23 Perceptions that people in the area treat one another with respect and consideration

The pilot would deliver the following outputs

- At least 1,000 households to be informed about the Initiative.
- At least 20 youth/community groups/workplaces involved
- At least 6 to 10 projects funded

Project Cost (an indication of how much the project will cost, how much Well-being funding is sought and the breakdown between capital and revenue):

The total direct costs of the project are £30 K for participatory budgeting projects and £2K for promotion and administration costs.

The Area Committee is requested to provide £700 revenue funding in 2008/09 for promotion and administration costs and £10K for participatory budgeting projects in 2009/10.

Area Valley Homes and West Yorkshire Police will be asked to contribute the same amounts.

Which geographic areas will benefit (ie particular neighbourhoods, wards etc) and which Area Committee this project is relevant to:

The proposed area of Middleton would be the central part of the original 'old' estate (ie approx 1,700 households either side of Middleton Park Ave bordered by Sissons Rd, Throstle Terrace, Thorpe Rd (including Acres).

Other key information not covered by the above: