



Report of the South East Leeds Area Manager

East Outer Area Committee

Date: 9 February 2010

Subject: Outer East Area Committee Capital Budget 2009/10

Electoral Wards Affected:
All Outer East Wards

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council
Function

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

Delegated Executive
Function not available for
Call In Details set out in the
report

Executive Summary

The Area Committee capital budget for 2009/10 is £160,200. This is made up of the annual allocation and previous years underspend. The budget has been split evenly across the 4 Outer East Wards.

This report requests that Area Committee supports several new projects.

1.0 Purpose Of This Report

1.1 This report outlines project proposals requiring funding from the capital budget.

1.2 It also updates Members on breakdown of spend by Ward.

2.0 Background Information

2.1 The Outer East Area Committee has a capital budget of £160,200 in 2009/10.

2.2 This report recommends that Area Committee supports projects in the area from the capital budget.

3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Halton Moor Nature Zone

- 3.1.1 The Leeds Access to Nature (A2N) application is a partnership bid between Leeds City Council Regeneration Service, Parks & Countryside, Groundwork Leeds, Wyke Beck Valley Community Forum (WBVCF), Leeds Voice, BTCV and Leeds Ahead. The aim of the A2N bid is to deliver a range of projects through partners to increase activity along the Wyke Beck Valley, by engaging with young people through schools and local residents living in the EASEL neighbourhoods creating a natural wild life space. The total project costs are £350K. If the application is successful delivery will be August 2010-September 2013.
- 3.1.2 The Halton Moor Nature Zone site is part of Halton Moor Avenue greenspace, the site is off Cartmell Drive. It is a major part of the A2N bid to Natural England. The aim of the nature zone is to enhance the natural greenspace and uplift the area alongside a well used path. Currently the area lacks features for people to enjoy or encourage people to show any interest in the local wildlife. The proposal is to plant different plants and shrubs to increase activity in the area, to provide seating and improve some of the paths through the greenspace.
- 3.1.3 The project will be delivered by the partners of the A2N bid led by Parks and Countryside. Volunteers will be used to assist to deliver the works through the schools and local residents from Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe.
- 3.1.4 The main achievements of the project will be the improved greenspace area in Halton Moor along a well used path from the estate to Meadowfield Primary School; increase activity in the area from local residents using the greenspace; increase wildlife in the nature reserve.
- 3.1.5 The consultation on this project is detailed below:
- The WBVCF has been working with Groundwork and Parks & Countryside to develop a local greenspace plan for the Halton Moor area.
 - The forum has sent out a newsletter to their members and to the parents at Meadowfields Primary School asking for their views on the local space.
 - There is extensive consultation planned as part of the A2N and Green Leeds bids, the capital works are suggestions and residents will have an opportunity to input into the plans. The WBVCF are a lead partner in the project and one of their members from Halton Moor is assisting with the consultation with local residents.
- 3.1.6 The request is for Area Committee to contribute £10,000 towards this project.
- 3.1.7 This proposal supports the following local improvement priorities of the Area Delivery Plan:
- Improve the condition and appearance of open/public spaces

- Encourage local community groups and residents to participate in environmental improvement projects within their local neighbourhoods.
- Increase the sense of pride in communities across Outer East Leeds

3.2 Garforth & District Lions

- 3.2.1 Garforth & District Lions perform charitable and community work right across Garforth, Kippax and many other villages in East Leeds.
- 3.2.2 The organisation has use of a concrete garage on the allotment site off Gibson Lane, Kippax. The garage is in poor condition and requires a new roof and new doors. The garage is used as a storage facility for the clubs equipment.
- 3.2.3 Garforth & District Lions are requesting £750 capital cost for materials to replace the roof and door. The labour will be carried out by Lions members.
- 3.2.4 This proposal supports the following local improvement priorities of the Area Delivery Plan:
- Supporting community cultural events and activities.

3.3 Garforth Educational Trust – Oak Road ICT Community Training Centre

- 3.3.1 Number 53 Oak Road is a council owned semi-detached former residential building that in the past has been used as a community centre providing services for young people. It is owned by Leeds City Council and currently leased to Garforth Community College as a training centre for delivery of Hair & Beauty vocational courses to post 16 students.
- 3.3.2 The current lease expires in August and on expiry the School Partnership Trust is seeking to use the building as a community ICT training centre that will provide a facility for members of the public to obtain the skills to use the newly installed Cirrus Network.
- 3.3.3 The School Partnership Trust is committed to providing wireless broadband access to all entitled users in the town through Project Cirrus, an innovative government funded initiative. Families of entitled users will want to use their existing computing equipment to connect to the Cirrus wireless cloud. The Trust will be able to offer technical help in setting up domestic networks. It is planned to provide schemes whereby families can purchase or lease laptops that will connect to Cirrus. These laptops can be set up to be “Cirrus-Ready” using the facilities at Oak Road.
- 3.3.4 The Oak Road centre will also act as a training centre for adult learners. The Trust will be able to offer night classes as part of the adult education programme that delivers basic computer skills to the community. Oak Road will have a tutorial room housing laptops that will facilitate this training.
- 3.3.5 Working in partnership with Garforth Community College day time use of the centre will provide workshop facilities for students to learn about computer hardware

construction as well as basic computer networking principals. There is no available space at the school for this function.

3.3.6 Leeds is at the centre of digital communications technology and there is demand for accredited network specialists who have hardware and cabling expertise. With the development of Oak Road the Trust will be able train students with the necessary skills that go some way in meeting these demands. Students will be able to access the more advanced courses currently provided by other establishments such as the College of Technology.

3.3.7 The proposed timetable is as follows:

February – July	Trainers undergo Cirrus training
March – June	Oak Road Refurbishment
April	Cirrus goes live with community training to begin
July – August	Community courses for adult learners advertised
September	New Courses start

3.3.8 The cost of the project is:

Refurbishment	£12,000
Furniture	£500.00
Course Hardware	£8,000.00
Tutorial room Smart Board	£2,000.00
Training Courses for staff	£2,000.00
Cisco Subscription	£1,000.00
Laptops	£10,000.00
Total	£35,500.00

3.3.9 The major funding for this project (£25,000) is anticipated to come from Garforth & Swillington Members Ward Based Initiatives (WBI) funding. Garforth Educational Trust will fund the cost for training courses (£2,000) and Cisco subscription (£1,000).

3.3.10 Area Committee is requested to fund £7,500 towards the hardware costs i.e., computer lines and equipment to centre and ICT lines to enable use.

3.3.11 This proposal supports the following local improvement priorities of the Area Delivery Plan:

- Encourage initiatives which enhance the skill level of the local workforce.

- Improve learning outcomes for all 16 year olds.
- Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 19 year olds.

3.3.12 Area Committee will note **Appendix 1** at the end of this report which breaks down expenditure by ward. Garforth & Swillington ward has overspend by £3,703. However this overspend will be met from the Kippax & Methley ward allocation after an agreement was made between Ward Members from each ward. The tasking team for these wards meets jointly but the £10,000 allocated to each ward is separated. Coincidentally the Kippax & Methley allocation is overspend by approximately £4,000 whilst the Garforth & Swillington allocation is underspent by a similar amount. The overspend and underspend in the respective tasking budgets will now be combined to balance this funding stream.

3.4 Naburn Close (Whinmoor) Play area

3.4.1 Leeds City Council Parks and Countryside has acquired £55,000 to re-instate the children's play area at Naburn Close, Whinmoor. The funding has been acquired from the Department of Children, Schools and Families Playbuilder budget.

3.4.2 In order to build the park to a higher specification Area Committee is requested to award a further £20,000 to this project.

3.4.3 The target age range for the park is 8 to 13 year olds and the apparatus to be included in the park will be subject to local consultation which will commence in February 2010.

3.4.4 The start date is expected to be June of 2010 but this is subject to weather conditions. The latest date the project will start is September 2010.

3.4.5 This proposal supports the following local improvement priority of the Area Delivery Plan:

Culture – Providing new and improved sports and leisure facilities across Outer East

3.5 Provision of bicycles for PCSO's in Cross Gates & Whinmoor and Temple Newsam

3.5.1 West Yorkshire Police Neighbourhood Policing Team (NPT) for Cross Gates & Whinmoor and Temple Newsam were awarded £4960 by Area Committee in 2009/10. The funding was approved at the meetings held on the 7th of July and 8th of September respectively.

3.5.2 West Yorkshire Police have now cancelled this request as the NPT have been provided with bicycles from within the service that still have 18 months of life. There is therefore no present need for any additional bicycles.

4.0 Implications For Council Policy and Governance

4.1 The details described in this report and its recommendations fit with existing Council policy and governance arrangements.

5.0 Legal and Resource Implications

5.1 There are no new legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 Conclusions

6.1 The report requests funding to support several projects across Outer East Wards.

6.2 The report provides details of expenditure to date with a breakdown of funding by Ward on ***Appendix 1***.

7.0 Recommendations

7.1 Area Committee is recommended to approve funding for the following projects:

- Halton Moor Nature Zone - £10,000
- Garforth Lions - £750
- Oak Road ICT Community Training Centre - £7,500
- Naburn Close Play area - £20,000

7.2 Area Committee is asked to note the return of £4960 to the budget after the cancellation of the order for bicycles for PCSO's.

Background papers

Executive Board Report 16 July 2008 – Area Committee Roles 2008/09

Outer East Area Committee Report 8 July 2008 – Area Delivery Plan 2008-11

Area Committee capital report – 7th of July 2009 and 8th of September 2009