

Agenda Item 13

Youth Activities Fund – Supplementary Information

Main Issues:

In 2013/14, the Outer West Area Committee was delegated a Youth Activities Budget of £23,218. This funding is to commission sports and cultural activity for young people aged 8-17. This should be allocated with the involvement of children and young people in the decision making process. Following investment in summer holiday activities, the balance of the Youth Activities Fund is £11,968.

To ensure that young people are at the heart of the process, Children's Services have been asked to establish a Children & Young People's youth panel to support the Area Committee in the administration of the Youth Activities Fund. The Board will be representative of young people across the three wards and the target age group. The process of recruiting to the Board is about to begin, and it is hoped the young people will start meeting early February.

It is proposed that the Area Support Team and partners undertake informal consultation with young people as soon as possible and commission a range of activities based on their feedback. Members will be provided with information on the consultation and project proposals and asked to approve a range of schemes to be delivered.

As funding decisions will need to be taken before the next meeting, the Area Committee is asked to approve a delegated decision process in order that the Chief Officer, Citizens and Communities can authorise expenditure on projects approved by Ward Members.

Recommendation

- Authorise the Chief Officer, Citizens and Communities to take delegated decisions in relation to commissioning projects for the remainder of the Youth Activities Fund budget.
- To receive a draft consultation framework for the Youth Activities Fund to enable Members to allocate the budget in 2014/15 financial year. This will be brought to the Area Committee Meeting in March.