

Report of: Area Leader, West North West

Report to: Inner West Community Committee

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Wellbeing Fund Update and Monitoring Report

Purpose of report

1. The purpose of this report is to update Members on the projects funded through the Inner West Wellbeing Fund and Youth Activities Fund budgets. It asks Members to decommission projects that have not progressed, and includes three new applications and proposals to commission the remainder of the Youth Activities Fund budget.

Main issues

Current position

2. The 2014/15 Wellbeing revenue budgets were allocated to the former Area Committees in April 2014. Both the Inner North West and Inner West Area Committees ran an open application process and allocated the majority of their budgets to projects in March 2014. Applications for Wellbeing funding in 2015/16 are currently being submitted with a deadline of 28th January 2015.
3. All projects are required to submit monitoring on a quarterly basis at the end of June, September, December and March. Most projects are progressing as planned, with some very positive outcomes for communities in the Inner West area. Monitoring information received to date for all projects is presented at Appendix 1.
4. By the end of quarter three, it is clear that some projects will not progress, or have spent less than originally expected. Members are therefore asked to consider decommissioning the following projects and return the balance to their ward budgets:

Ref	Project	Reason	Amount
12.02	Armley target hardening burglary reduction project	Lack of referrals, and the recipient CASAC has ceased trading	£2,500
13.10	Healthy Living Network Armley Hub	Hub closed ahead of schedule following HLN merger with Barca	£2,500
13.32	Armley additional litter picker	Due to a restructure and changes to the workforce the locality team did not claim the funding although the service was provided.	£2,500
14.02	Armley festive light switch on	Due to additional funding secured from Housing Leeds and other savings, the project was underspent.	£1,590
14.09	Armley and Bramley World War One Commemorations	The Area Support Team approached various organisations but no projects were developed for the centenary itself. Bramley War Memorial Committee have asked to use the funding to produce some literature on the background and creating the new war memorial. It is recommended that £1,000 be returned to the Armley budget.	£1,000

Request to amend an existing projects

5. Armley & Bramley Apprenticeship Project – ref 13.28

In 2013, £18,000 funding was set aside to develop a project to support young people in Armley and Bramley not in employment, education or training (NEET). Several organisations were invited to submit proposals for a project, none came forward, mainly due to other commitments, or that they are already working with NEET young people in another way.

In order to meet Members' expectations for the funding, it is proposed that this project be progressed through the new priority neighbourhood programme. Youth employment is a key priority for the New Wortley, Fairfield and Broadleas neighbourhoods, and providing this funding will create an opportunity for partners to develop a joint project to support young people into employment.

Members are asked to consider this proposal and confirm whether this project should now be delivered through the two Our Place programmes.

6. Decommissioning of the Community Development Work Project in Weetwood

At the North West (Inner) Area Committee held on 27th March 2014, it was agreed to earmark £14,000 to enable the continuation of the 2013/14 community development work project in Weetwood Ward if required. The project was assessed by Members and officers in November, and it was agreed not to continue the project after the 2013/14 funding had run out. This means that the earmarked amount will be returned to the Wellbeing revenue budget.

As the project was funded by the former Inner North West Area Committee, £10,500 will be returned to the Inner North West Wellbeing Budget, and £3,500 will be transferred to the Inner West Wellbeing Budget reflecting the Kirkstall ward contribution.

Wellbeing balances

7. Including the underspends listed at paragraph 4, the remaining balance available per ward for 2014/15 is as follows:

Armley:	£35,269
Bramley & Stanningley:	£10,549
Kirkstall:	£3,500

New Wellbeing Applications

8. Gotts Park Golf Club - £5,000 (Armley Ward)
The Gotts Park Golf Club committee is due to take over the running of the council's Gotts Park golf course this April. A grant of £5,000 is requested to support the purchase of equipment and develop a café for all users of the park.

9. AIM Education - £4,310 (Bramley & Stanningley Ward)
AIM Education provides sports coaching and alternative education for young people who have low attendance or behaviour issues. This project will run an activity programme one day a week for twelve weeks for young people from Bramley and Stanningley in years 8 and 9 who are referred by schools. The aim of the project is to re-engage these young people into education and encourage positive behaviour within their local community. The sessions will run one day a week over twelve weeks, culminating in a community project of the participants' choosing.

The outcome of the project will be measured by:

- School attendance
- Reduction in behavioural issues at school
- Reduction of anti-social behaviour by the individuals in their community
- Improved academic attainment

The funding will be used to pay for staff time and room hire. The project will be supported by two young volunteers who are currently not in work or training.

Youth Activities Fund

10. Monitoring information for the projects supported by the Youth Activities Fund is attached at Appendix 3. It is proposed that the following projects that have not progressed be decommissioned:

- Herd Farm mini residential and three on site activity days - £3,136
- EQ Music Making course - £1,000

11. Assuming the above projects are decommissioned, the ward balances of the Youth Activities Fund are as follows:

Armley - £2,008
Bramley & Stanningley - £8,028
Kirkstall - £6,814
12. The Inner West Children and Young People Sub Group has recommended that the remaining balances be allocated to projects through direct commissioning in consultation with young people rather than an open application process.
13. Kirkstall Members have asked the Area Support Team to work with residents in the Queenswoods and Woodbridges to develop a new provision for the area with local young people.
14. For Armley and Bramley and Stanningley wards, it is proposed that organisations that have delivered successful projects be invited to apply for funding to deliver activities after school or during the Easter holidays.
15. Members are asked to support the above proposals to allocate the remainder of the Youth Activities funding. Projects will be approved for funding in consultation with Ward Members through a delegated decision by the Area Leader.

Corporate considerations

16. Consultation and engagement

Elected Members have been consulted on local priorities through the former Area Committee Business Plans. The 2014/15 commissioning round began with a communication to all Area Committee contacts and a press release.

Consultation with Young People will continue to identify potential projects for the Area Committee's Youth Activities Fund.

17. Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

All Wellbeing funded projects are assessed in relation to Equality, Diversity, Cohesion, and Integration. In addition, the Area Committee 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.

18. Resources and value for money

Aligning the distribution of Area Committee Wellbeing funding to local priorities will help to ensure that the maximum benefit can be achieved.

In order to meet the Area Committee's functions (see Council's Constitution Part 3, section 3C), funding is available via Well Being budgets.

19. Risk management

Risk implications are considered on all Wellbeing applications. Projects are assessed to ensure that applicants are able to deliver the intended benefits.

Conclusion

20. The Community Committee has invested its Wellbeing funding in a wide variety of projects within local communities. The majority of projects are progressing as planned with some very positive outcomes recorded.
21. A small number of projects have underspent or did not progress. If decommissioned as requested, their funding will be returned to the ward balances.
22. Three new grant applications have been received and these are presented for consideration.

Recommendations

23. Members are asked to:
 - a) Review the monitoring information for projects funded in 2014/15
 - b) Decommission the projects listed at paragraph 4.
 - c) Consider the request to change the focus of the projects at paragraphs 5 and 6.
 - d) Consider the new applications listed at paragraphs 8 and 9.
 - e) Review the monitoring information for the Youth Activities Fund at Appendix 2
 - f) Decommission the Youth Activities projects listed at paragraph 10
 - g) Approve the proposal to commission the remainder of the Youth Activities Fund as described in paragraphs 13 and 14