

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

**Report to: The Inner North West Community Committee – Headingley; Hyde Park & Woodhouse; Weetwood**

**Report author: Laura McNulty**

**Date: 21 September 2017**

**For decision**

## **Wellbeing Fund update for 2017/18**

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### **Purpose of report**

1. This report provides the Inner North West Community Committee with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund and Youth Activity Fund for 2017/18 and the current position of the small grants and skips pot.
2. The report also asks the Community Committee to approve the Wellbeing funding round process and timescales for the 2018/19 Wellbeing budget.

### **Recommendations**

3. The Inner North West Community Committee is asked to:
  - Note the current budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2017/18 (**Appendix 1**) and consider any applications.
  - Note the current position of the small grants and skips pots and those projects that have been funded so far in 2017/18.
  - Note the current position of the Youth Activity Fund and those projects supported to date through this (**Table 2**).
  - Note the current position of the Wellbeing Capital fund and consider any funding applications.

- Agree the recommended application round process and funding priorities for 2017/18.

## **Main issues**

4. This report provides members with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2017/18. The report highlights the current position of the small grants and skips pots. It also provides an update on the Youth Activity Fund.
5. Community Committees have a delegated responsibility for the allocation of 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.
6. The Inner North 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. These projects are then monitored and assessed by the Community Committee throughout the year to ensure they are fully meeting their objectives.
7. 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 and equality and diversity; and be unable to cover the costs of the project from other funds. 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 them integrate). 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.

8. In addition, the Inner North West Community Committee receives a sum of Youth Activity Fund monies. 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.
9. For 2017/18 the Inner North West Community Committee received an allocation of £96,720. Taking into account project underspends and roll forward from 2016/17, the total fund available for new projects in 2017/18 was £97,085. This funding has so far been committed to 19 projects for 2017/18, as listed in **Appendix 1** (paragraph 1.2). There is 1 project for consideration at the meeting today, see below at point 14.
10. In addition to revenue, the Community Committee also receives an allocation of Wellbeing capital funding. At the last update received from the Council's Finance Department on 4 September 2017, there was **£19,175** in capital monies available for allocation. See **Appendix 1** (paragraph 1.6) for a full budget update.
11. For 2017/18, the Inner North West Community Committee received a sum of £20,670 Youth Activity Fund (YAF) monies. Taking into account project underspends and roll forward from 2016/17, the total fund available for new YAF projects in 2017/18 was **£20,774**. This funding has so far been committed to 5 projects for 2017/18, as listed in **Appendix 1** (paragraph 1.5)

### **Wellbeing budget statement 2017/18**

12. The latest Wellbeing budget statement for 2017/18 is included at **Appendix 1** to this report. There is **£15,886** remaining to allocate this financial year.
13. Since the last meeting on 15 June 2017, two projects have been approved by delegated decision, as detailed below:
  - a) An amount of £6,087 for the Cardigan Centre's Emotional & Wellbeing Support project, running targeted youth work in Weetwood, in the form of weekly group sessions at Ralph Thoresby, to help engage young people in the area and reduce anti-social behaviour.
  - b) An amount of £1,725 for Leeds Music Hub in an amount of £1,725 to make improvements to their premises at Chapel Works. Members agreed to fund this project through the capital receipts programme.
14. There is one project listed for consideration at the meeting today. An application has been received from Parks & Countryside for the North West Leeds Country Park & Green Gateways Project asking for support in promoting the trail in the form of leaflets, website development and interpretation boards. A project summary was circulated to Members prior to the meeting, and enquiries were made into the availability of Section 106 monies. The application gave two amounts for

consideration, £1,153, or £4,273. Members are asked to consider the application from the Council's Parks & Countryside department. Members may wish to forward the application for consideration under Section 106.

15. Appendix 1 sets out the current budget position for Wellbeing projects showing the amount approved by the Community Committee and the value of funds spent to date. The Wellbeing budget statement also outlines the current budget position of those projects funded in previous years which still have funding left to spend.

#### 16. Wellbeing Budget – Small Grants & Skips

There have been 2 small grants approved so far this financial year and no skips. The small grant is listed in **Table 1** below. There is currently **£7,140** available for allocation for small grants and skip hire in the 2017/18 budget. The Community Committee is asked to note the current position of the budget and those grants and skips that have recently been approved.

**Table 1: Small grants – Projects funded to date**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Organisation /Department</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Amount Approved</b>
PHAB Youth Group	Leeds PHAB Group	<b>£474</b>	<b>£474</b>
Money Buddies	Ebor Gardens Advice Centre	<b>£184</b>	<b>£184</b>

#### 17. Youth Activity Fund

For 2017/18, the Inner North West Community Committee had £20,774 available for allocation. This fund is to commission sports and cultural activity for young people aged 8 - 17. **Table 2** below lists those projects currently agreed from the Youth Activity Fund. This leaves **£2,890** available for allocation.

**Table 2: Youth Activity Fund – Projects funded to date**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Organisation /Department</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Amount Approved</b>
Holiday Activity Sessions	Groundwork Leeds	<b>£2825</b>	<b>£2825</b>
Urban Art Workshops	DJ School UK	<b>£940</b>	<b>£940</b>
Carnival Mash Up	Geraldine Connor Foundation	<b>£6110</b>	<b>£6110</b>
Mini Breeze	Breeze	<b>£7700</b>	<b>£7700</b>
All Sports Camps	ACES	<b>£2900</b>	<b>£2900</b>

#### 18. 2017/18 Wellbeing Capital Projects

At the last update received from the Council's Finance Department on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017, there was **£19,175** in capital monies available for allocation. A full update regarding those capital projects currently ongoing is available at Appendix 1 (at 1.6).

#### **2018/19 Wellbeing Application Round**

19. Members are asked to approve the method by which Wellbeing grants are approved for 2018/19. In previous years, this has been done through an open application process synced with the Inner West and Outer West Community Committees.

It is proposed that the application round follows the same process again, with applications invited between 27 October 2017 and 12 January 2018, for approvals at the March Community Committee meeting.

The proposed priorities below are also reflected in the Community Plan 2017/18.

#### Inner North West Wellbeing fund priorities

1. Increase community activity and local residents' involvement in decision making
2. Work with our partners to improve services in our local neighbourhoods
3. Support activities that make people and places feel safer
4. Enhance the quality of our parks and public spaces
5. Develop and make better use of community assets
6. Support children and young people to be engaged, active and inspired
7. Promote healthy lifestyles and tackle health inequalities
8. Provide opportunities for people to get jobs, volunteer or learn new skills
9. Improve access and engagement in sport and cultural activities

The Communities Team will consult with Members before and during the process, bringing everyone together for a workshop to review all applications.

Members are asked to approve the process.

#### **Corporate considerations**

20. **Consultation and Engagement**

The 2017/18 Wellbeing application round was advertised to all Community Committee contacts. The Youth Activity Fund application rounds are promoted through the Breeze Culture Network and local providers, with consultation from children and young people also being taken into account.

21. **Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

All Wellbeing funded projects are assessed in relation to Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration.

22. **Council policies and City Priorities**

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

23. **Resources and value for money**

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

24. **Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

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

25. **Risk Management**

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

26. **Conclusion**

The Inner North West Community Committee Wellbeing Fund 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 2017-18.

27. **Recommendations**

The Committee is asked to:

Note the current budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2017/18 (**Appendix 1**) and consider any funding applications.

Note the current position of the small grants and skips pot (**Table 1**).

Note the current position of the Youth Activity Fund and those projects supported to date through this (**Table 2**) and consider any YAF applications.

Note the current position of the Wellbeing Capital fund and consider any funding applications.

Agree the recommended application round process and funding priorities for 2017/18.