

Report of: The West North West Area Leader

Report to: The Outer West Community Committee – Calverley & Farsley; Farnley & Wortley; Pudsey

Report author: Harpreet Singh 336 7862

Date: 27 September 2017

For decision

Finance Update Report

Purpose of report

1. This report provides the Outer West Community Committee with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund and Youth Activities Fund for 2017/18 and the current position of the Small Grants and skips pots.
2. The report provides an update on the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund, Small Grants and Skips that have been approved since the last meeting.

Main issues

3. Community Committees have a delegated responsibility for the allocation of Area 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.
4. The Outer 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. To facilitate this process, a commissioning round is held which requires organisations to submit proposals for projects. Once the annual Wellbeing budgets are set by Executive Board and ratified by Full Council, the Community Committee meets to agree which projects will be supported in the year ahead. These projects are then monitored and assessed by the Community Committee throughout the year to ensure they are fully meeting their objectives.
5. In addition, the Outer West Community Committee receives a sum of Youth Activity Fund funding.

6. The Community Committee also received an allocation of Capital Funding in 2017/18.
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, equality and diversity; and be unable to cover the costs of the project from other funds.
8. 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.

Wellbeing Revenue Budget Statement 2017/18

9. The Outer West Community Committee received an allocation of **£104,670** for the 2017/18 financial year. Taking into account project underspends and carry forward figures from 2016/17, the total fund available for new projects in 2017/18 was **£112,237.06**. This funding was committed to **23** projects for 2017/18. **Table 1** below outlines the Wellbeing Applications which have been received or approved since the last meeting of the Outer West Community Committee.

Table 1: Wellbeing Revenue applications received for consideration or approved

Project Name	Organisation / Department	Amount Requested	Amount Approved
Money Buddies	Ebor Gardens	£1,716	£1,716
Mainly Men	Farsley and Pudsey Live at Home Schemes	£2,000	To be considered (Please see Appendix1)

10. Taking into account underspends and if the 'Mainly Men' project above is approved, there would be **£422** still available for allocation for Wellbeing Revenue in the 2017/18 budget.

Small Grants & Skips

11. **Table 2** below outlines those Small Grant applications that have been received or approved since the last meeting of the Outer West Community Committee. **Table 3** outlines those skips that have been approved since the last meeting.

Table 2: Small Grants Received and / or Approved

Project Name	Organisation / Department	Amount Requested	Amount Approved
Wortley & Farnley Christmas Tree Festival	The Parish of Wortley & Farnley	£500	£500

Table 3: Skip Approvals

Project Name	Organisation / Department	Amount Requested	Amount Approved
Community clean up	Christ the Savior Church	£140	£140
Friends of St John's Farsley	Friends of St John's Farsley	£135	£135
Community Garden Project	Swinnow Community Group	£140	£140

12. Taking these into account, there is **£4,916** still available for allocation for Small Grants and for Skip Hire in the 2017/18 budget. The Community Committee are asked to note the current position of the budget and those grants and skips that have recently been approved.

2017/18 Wellbeing Capital Projects

13. In addition to Wellbeing revenue the Community Committee also receives an allocation of capital funding. The Outer West Community Committee has allocated capital funding to five projects for 2017/18.

14. **Table 4** below outlines those Capital applications that have been received or approved since the last meeting of the Outer West Community Committee.

15. Table 4: Wellbeing Capital Approvals

Project Name	Organisation / Department	Amount Requested	Amount Approved
Restoration of Farsley Gas Lamp	Farsley Business Forum	£3,747	£3,747

16. The latest update from the Council's Finance Department shows there is **£30,153** in capital monies available for allocation in 2017/18.

2017/18 Youth Activities Fund

17. In 2017/18, the Outer West Community Committee received a sum of **£37,690** Youth Activity Fund. 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.
18. Taking into account project underspends and carry forward figures from 2016/17, the total fund available for new projects in 2017/18 was **£42,436.61** which has now been fully committed.

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 Inner North West Community Committees.
20. 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.
21. The proposed priorities below are also reflected in the Community Plan 2017/18

Outer West Wellbeing fund priorities

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

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

Corporate considerations

a. Consultation and Engagement

24. The Community Committee has previously been consulted on the projects detailed within the report. The Youth Activity Fund application rounds are promoted through the Breeze Culture Network and local providers, with consultation from children and young people being taken into account through the Youth Engagement Panels.

b. Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

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

c. Council policies and City Priorities

26. 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

d. Resources and value for money

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

e. Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

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

f. Risk Management

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

Conclusion

30. Wellbeing funding 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 2016-17.

Recommendations

31. The Committee is asked to:

- Note the current budget position for the revenue Wellbeing Fund for 2017/18 and applications that have been approved since the last meeting at **Table 1**
- Note the current budget position for the small grants and skips and those applications that have been approved since the last meeting at **Table 2 and 3**
- Note the current budget position for the Capital Wellbeing Fund for 2017/18 and those applications that have been approved since the last meeting at **Table 4**
- Note the current budget position for the Youth Activities Fund for 2017/18
- Agree the recommended application round process for 2017/18.

Background information

1. None