

Report of: The West North West Area Leader

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

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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 integration). 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 **26** 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
Mainly Men	Farsley and Pudsey Live at Home Schemes	£2,000	£2,000
Bumps and Babes	Active Leeds	£600	£600 (a £179 contribution came from the small grants pot).

10. The Wellbeing Revenue 2017/18 budget is fully committed.

11. Details of monitoring returns provided by Wellbeing projects funded in 2017/18 are set out in Appendix 1. It shows what progress has been made by projects to deliver the activity as agreed through the application process, which projects are now complete and which are still live. Members are asked to note the content of the Wellbeing monitoring returns.

Small Grants & Skips

12. There is **£4,237** 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. The latest update from the Council's Finance Department shows there is **£33,900** in capital monies available for allocation in 2017/18.

2017/18 Youth Activities Fund

14. 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.
15. 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.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

16. On the 21st October 2015 the council's executive board approved a process for the allocation of CIL in Leeds. Any planning application approved prior to the 6th April 2015 do not qualify for a CIL contribution. As part of this payment schedule, Leeds City Council retains up to 70-80% centrally, 5% for administration and 15-25% goes to a Community Committee or the relevant Town or Parish Council. This 15-25% of the CIL receipt (25% if there is an adopted neighbourhood plan, 15% if there isn't) is known as the 'Neighbourhood Fund'. In the absence of a Town or Parish Council, the Neighbourhood Fund element of CIL is allocated to the Community Committee.
17. Members, representing all 3 outer west wards, met on the 10th November to discuss the process they wish to use for allocating the Community Committee element of the Neighbourhood Fund in outer west. The recommendation is that any funds raised through CIL is, are retained by the ward in which it is generated.

Corporate considerations

a. Consultation and Engagement

18. 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

19. 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

20. 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

21. 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

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

f. Risk Management

23. 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

24. 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

25. 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 content of the end of year monitoring returns for projects funded in 2017/18 (Appendix 1).
- Note the current budget position for the small grants and skips
- Note the current budget position for the Capital Wellbeing Fund for 2017/18

- Note the current budget position for the Youth Activities Fund for 2017/18
- Note and agree the Community Infrastructure Levy recommendations agreed on the 10th November.

Background information

1. None