

Report of: Area Leader, West North West

Report to: Inner West Community Committee

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For decision

Finance Update and Monitoring Report

Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to update Members on the projects funded through the Inner West Wellbeing and Youth Activities Fund budgets.

Attached at Appendix 1 is the Finance Monitoring Report which provides Members with details of the current financial and monitoring position of the Wellbeing, Youth Activity and Capital fund.

Members are asked to:

- a) Note the balance of Wellbeing Fund at **4**
- b) Note the balance of small grants and skips at **9**
- c) Note the balance of the Youth Activities Fund **11**
- d) Note the balance of the Capital Fund at **12**
- e) Note the Community Infrastructure Levy allocation at **13**
- f) Note the spend of the Wellbeing, Youth Activities and Capital budget and monitoring report at **Appendix 1**

Main issues

1. 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.
2. 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.

Current position

3. The Community Committee received a Wellbeing revenue allocation of **£128,500**. Including carry forward from 2016/17, the Committee had a total budget of **£141,226** for 2017/18 which is split between the three wards as follows:

Armley: £46,062

Bramley & Stanningley: £55,214

Kirkstall: £39,948

Wellbeing balances

4. Following the commissioning round at the March Committee meeting, the remaining balance available per ward for 2017/18 are as follows:

Remaining Balances For 2017/18	
Armley	£211
Bramley & Stanningley	£2,294
Kirkstall	£7,561

5. Attached at appendix 1 is the Finance Statement which provides Members with details of the current financial and monitoring position of the Wellbeing Fund and the Youth Activity Fund.
6. Full monitoring details can be provided on projects at the request of Members.

New Wellbeing Applications for 2017/18

7. There are no projects for consideration.

Small grants and skips

8. Since the October Committee, no small grants have been approved.
9. The balance of the small grants and skips budget available at 13th November 2017 was **£2,668**.

Youth Activities Fund

10. The Community Committee received a Youth Activities Fund allocation of **£34,530**. Including carry forward from 2016/17, the Committee had a total budget of **£37,370** for 2017/18 which is split between the three wards as follows:
- Armley: £12,183
 - Bramley & Stanningley: £12,106
 - Kirkstall: £13,080
11. Following the commissioning round at the March Committee meeting, the remaining balance available per ward for 2017/18 are as follows:

Remaining Balances For 2017/18	
Armley	£97
Bramley & Stanningley	£843
Kirkstall	£1,502

Capital Wellbeing Balance

12. Following a recent injection of funds, the current Inner West Capital Receipts Incentive Scheme balance is **£36,700**.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

13. 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.

2017/18 Wellbeing Funding Round

14. At the last meeting, Members approved the process for allocating grants and funding projects in 2018/19. The deadline for grant applications is 5pm on 12th January 2018. Members are asked to encourage projects to apply where they meet the Community Committee's priorities.
15. The Communities Team will consult with Members in ward groups before and during the process, bringing everyone together for a workshop to review all applications on week commencing 12th February 2018.

Corporate considerations

Consultation and engagement

16. Consultation with Children and Young People will take place through the Inner West Youth Summit for the Committee's Youth Activities Fund.
17. Elected Members have been consulted on local priorities through the former Area Committee Business Plans. The 2018/19 commissioning round began with a communication to all Community Committee contacts and a press release.

Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

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

Resources and value for money

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

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

Risk management

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

Conclusion

22. The Community Committee has invested its Wellbeing funding in a wide variety of projects that benefit local communities. The majority of projects are progressing as planned with some very positive outcomes recorded.

23. Early feedback indicates that the summer holiday projects funded through the Youth Activities Fund were a great success.

Recommendations

24. Members are asked to:

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- e) Note the Community Infrastructure Levy allocation at **13**
- f) Note the spend of the Wellbeing, Youth Activities and Capital budgets and monitoring report at **Appendix 1**