

Report of: Area Leader

Report to: Inner West Community Committee

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For decision

Finance Update Report

Purpose of report

This report provides the Inner West Community Committee with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund and Youth Activities Fund for 2018/19 and the current position of the Small Grants and skips pots.

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

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:

Small Grants & Skips

3. The following small grants and skips approved since the last meeting:

Project Name	Organisation / Department	Amount Requested	Amount Approved
A Community Band for West Leeds	Tutti! Leeds Community Concert Band	£419.38	£419.38

4. The balance of the small grants and skips budget still available is **£8,423**.

Delegated Decisions

5. Sometimes urgent decisions may need to be made in between formal Community Committee meetings regarding the administration of Wellbeing and Youth Activity budgets, and also regarding the use of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Neighbourhood Fund which has been allocated to the Committee. Concurrently with the Committee, designated officers have delegated authority from the Director of Communities and Environment to take such decisions.

The Community Committee has previously approved the following ‘minimum conditions’ in order to reassure Members that all delegated decisions would be taken within an appropriate governance framework, with appropriate Member consultation and only when such conditions have been satisfied:

- a. consultation must be undertaken with all committee/relevant ward members prior to a delegated decision being taken;
- b. a delegated decision must have support from a majority of the community committee elected members represented on the committee (or in the case of funds delegated by a community committee to individual wards, a majority of the ward councillors), and;

details of any decisions taken under such delegated authority will be reported to the next available community committee meeting for members' information.

Associated Recommendation: Members are asked to review the minimum conditions as set out in above, consider whether any amendments are required and approve such conditions for operation in 2018/2019. These conditions would need to be satisfied prior to an urgent delegated decision being taken in between formal Community Committee meetings in respect of the administration of Wellbeing and Youth Activity budgets and also the use of the CIL Neighbourhood Fund which has been allocated to the Committee.

A delegated decision has been taken since the last Committee to fund the following:

6. Pyjama Drama c/o Bramley Cluster Children and Family Services £1125

Pyjama Drama facilitate highly imaginative, immersive and interactive creative play sessions for pre-school age children. Many families in Bramley are less able to access these play sessions due to economic and geographical barriers. The aim of the project is to rectify this, to make these sessions available locally to Bramley residents, at no cost.

The grant will be used to pay for the use of Bramley Community Centre, the session fees of a Pyjama Drama practitioner, to cover the costs of marketing, resources and social snack time at the end of the session.

Wellbeing Budget 2018/19

7. The 2018/19 Inner West Wellbeing revenue budget, including the additional injection from Executive Board is:
 Wellbeing - £169,170
 YAF - £38,500

Current Wellbeing & YAF Balances

8.

Wellbeing	
Armley	£21,484
Bramley & Stanningley	£12.303
Kirkstall	£23.869
Youth Activities Fund	
Armley	£2780
Bramley & Stanningley	£390
Kirkstall	£1717

9. Armley Lights Switch On Event

Following discussions with the Armley Elected Members £445.75 additional funding towards the cost of this event has been agreed.

10. Target Hardening Care & Repair

Due to underspend on this 2017 project £1414 has been returned to the 2018 funding pot, split between the 3 wards.

New Wellbeing applications for 2018/19

11. Leeds Little Free Library £3000 Armley & Kirkstall

We are asking the Community Committee to support the building and installation of 10 little free libraries across the city of Leeds, with 3 in Inner West. The idea behind little free libraries is very simple. The libraries are beautifully hand-painted little cabinets full of books, placed out in the community. Made from marine ply and with perspex doors, they are sturdy, weather proof and built to last for at least 10 years. Each is hand-painted by a local artist as an individual work of art that reflects the community or setting in which it is placed.

12. Thursday Night Youth Group £960 Bramley & Stanningley

This project came from a request at the Children & Young Peoples sub group to have a traditional youth club that people can drop in to in Bramley Community Centre. There is nothing similar on an evening in the area. Barca agreed to deliver this project with its LCC funding to deliver youth work in Bramley with support from LCC youth Service

The grant will be used to pay for the venue hire at Bramley Community Centre from April 2018-March 2019.

Capital Wellbeing Balance

13. The current Inner West Capital balance has had an injection and is currently **£27.500**. There has been no new Capital Projects since the last meeting.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

14. 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.

Youth Activities Fund

15. The balance of the 2018/19 Inner West Wellbeing updated YAF budget is now **£4,887** as shown at point 8. There are no new YAF applications since the last meeting.

Corporate considerations

16. Consultation and engagement

Elected Members have been consulted through a workshop event. The 2018/19 commissioning round began with a communication to all Community Committee contacts and advertised on social media.

Consultation with Children and Young People has taken place through school groups and children's projects across the area for the Committee's Youth Activities Fund.

17. Equality and diversity / cohesion and integration

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

18. 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 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.

2019/20 Wellbeing Application Round

20. Members are asked to approve the method by which Wellbeing grants are approved for 2019/20. In previous years, this has been done through an open application process synced with the Inner West and Inner North West Community Committees.
21. It is proposed that the application round follows the same process again, with applications invited between 26 October 2018 and 11 January 2019, for approvals at the March Community Committee meeting.
22. The proposed priorities below are also reflected in the Community Plan 2018/19

Inner 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

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

24. Members are asked to approve the process.

Conclusion

25. 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.

Recommendations

26. Members are asked to:

- a) Note the balance of the Small Grants budget for 2018/19 at **4**;
- b) Approve the minimum conditions set out for delegated decisions set out at **5**;
- c) Note the delegated decision taken at **6**;
- d) Note the revised Wellbeing and YAF balances set out at **8 and on App 1**;
- e) Consider the new Wellbeing applications at **11-12**;
- f) Note the balance of the Capital Fund at **13**;
- g) Note the balance of the Youth Activities Fund at **15**,
- h) Agree the recommended application round process for 2019/20 at **20**