

Report of: Head of Locality Partnerships

Report to: Outer North East Community Committee
(Alwoodley, Harewood and Wetherby)

Report author: Elaine Matson, Localities Officer

Date: 14th July 2024

For decision

Outer North East Community Committee Finance Report

Purpose Of Report

1. The report provides the Community Committee with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund, Youth Activity Fund and Capital Budget for 2024/25. Financial decisions are taken to the Community Committee meetings to ensure transparency and that financial regulations are met.

Main Issues

2. Each Community Committee has been allocated a Wellbeing Budget (revenue and capital) and Youth Activities Fund which it is responsible for administering. The aim of these budgets is to support the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the area and provide a range of activities for children and young people, by using the funding to support projects that contribute towards the delivery of local priorities.
3. A group applying for funding must fulfil various eligibility criteria, including evidencing appropriate management arrangements and financial controls are in place; have relevant policies to comply with legislation and best practice e.g., safeguarding and equal opportunities and be unable to cover the costs of the project from other funds.
4. Wellbeing funding cannot be paid retrospectively. An application form must be submitted and approved by the Community Committee before activities or items being purchased through wellbeing funding are completed or purchased.
5. 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. Capital (CRIS) injections are provided as a result of council assets being sold. 5% of the sale price (up to a maximum of £100,000) of a council asset is pooled city-wide and redistributed to the Community Committee areas on the basis of deprivation. The Community Committee will receive a new capital injection every six months.

7. The Community Committee is asked to note that there is no Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) for the Outer North East Community Committee. Leeds City Council retains up to 70-80% centrally, 5% is needed for administration and 15-25% is vested with the local Town or Parish Council. This local money is known as the 'Neighbourhood Fund' and should be spent on similar projects to the Wellbeing Fund.
8. In the Outer North East Community Committee this means that the CIL money for the Alwoodley, Harewood and Wetherby wards will be administered by the following Parish and Town Councils; Aberford, Alwoodley, Bardsey, Barwick in Elmet, Boston Spa, Bramham, Clifford, Collingham and Linton, East Keswick, Harewood, Scarcroft, Scholes, Shadwell, Thorner, Thorp Arch, Walton and Wetherby.
9. Until the UK left the European Union, the EU's State Aid rules controlled how UK and discretionary EU funding was provided to enterprises and entities that engage in economic activities. Now the UK has left the EU, it is no longer bound by the State Aid rules and has developed its own domestic subsidy control regime, The Subsidy Control Act 2022. As the Subsidy Control Act 2022 has potential implications for the Community Committees as funding bodies, a 'subsidy control' assessment will be undertaken on all funding requests received by the Community Committees.
10. Projects eligible for funding by the Community Committee 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, marital status, race, ethnic origin, age, sexual orientation or disability; 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.
11. Any request for funding would involve discussions with appropriate ward members. Where projects do not have support from the Community Committee and are not approved, applicants are offered further discussions and feedback, if this is requested.
12. In order to provide further assurance and transparency of all decisions made by the Community Committee, any projects that are not approved will be reported to a subsequent Community Committee meeting.
13. Sometimes urgent decisions may need to be made in between formal Community Committee meetings regarding the administration of budgets which have been allocated to the Community Committee. Alongside the Committee, designated officers have delegated authority from the Director of Communities, Housing and Environment to take such decisions.
14. 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 the following 'minimum conditions' have been satisfied.
 - a. That all 3 Ward Members must be in agreement (unanimous) for a delegated decision to be approved. This was reiterated at the first meeting of 2023/24

15. Members are reminded that the necessary scrutiny of applications to satisfy our own processes, financial regulations and audit requires the deadline for receipt of completed applications to be at least five weeks prior to any Community Committee. Some applications will be approved via Delegated Decision Notice (DDN) following consultation with Members outside of the Community Committee meeting cycle.

16. For the committee's awareness, urgent delegated decisions on wellbeing funding also covers small grant decisions. In agreement with the Executive Board Member for Communities, Community Committee Chairs and also in accordance with the communication that was sent out to all committees/Elected Members in March 2023, the approval threshold for small grants has now increased from the 1st April 2023; up to £1,000 per ward. This approach will ensure consistency in terms of administering small grants, in accordance with the committees' minimum conditions.

Wellbeing Budget Position 2024/25

17. The total Wellbeing budget approved by Executive Board for 2024/25 was **£40,341.00** Table 1 shows a carry forward figure of **£87,586.92** which includes allocated, unallocated and underspends from projects completed in 2023/24. **£42,839.66** represents Wellbeing allocated to projects in 2023/24 and not yet completed. The total Wellbeing funding available to the Outer North East Community Committee for 2024/25 is therefore **£85,088.26**. A full breakdown of the projects approved or ring-fenced is available on request.

18. The total amount approved on Table 1 includes all the projects the committee has approved in 2024/25. It is possible that some of the projects may not use their allocated spend. This could be for several reasons, including the project no longer going ahead, the project not taking place within the dates specified in the funding agreement, or failure to submit monitoring reports. Due to this the final revenue balance may be greater than the amount specified in Table 1.

19. The Community Committee is asked to note that there is currently a remaining Wellbeing balance of **£77,405.45**. A full breakdown of the projects is listed in Table 1 and is available on request.

TABLE 1: Wellbeing 2024/25

	£
NEW FUNDING ALLOCATION 2024/25	£40,341.00
Balance brought forward from previous year	£87,586.92
Total	£127, 927.92
Less allocated projects brought forward previous year	-£42,839.66
TOTAL WELLBEING FUNDING AVAILABLE 2024/25	£85,088.26

		Ward Split		
		Alwoodley	Harewood	Wetherby
TOTAL WELLBEING AVAILABLE 2024/25	£85,088.26	£24,161.04	£25,964.97	£34,962.25
Funding Applications				
Walton Village Hall Refurbishment	£4,480.88			£4,480.88
Wetherby Small Grants	£2,310.00			£2,310.00
Harewood Small Grants	£1,156.80		£1,156.80	
Total Amount Approved	£7,947.68	£0.00	£1,156.80	£6,790.88
Underspends	£5,545.36	£1,595.47	£2,023.38	£1,926.51
Actual Remaining Balance (Total/Per ward)	£82,685.94	£25,756.51	£26,831.55	£30,097.88

Delegated Decisions (DDN)

20. Since the last Community Committee meeting on the 21st March 2024, there has been one project approved by DDN for Walton Village Hall Refurbishment. Total cost £8,000. (2023/24 £3,519.12 and 2024/25 £4,480.88)

21. The Community Committee are asked to note the following small grants:

- Aberford Village Hall Skip £300.00
- Drovers Day, £1,000.00
- Run Bramham £310.00
- Tommy Motif Memorial, £856.80
- Wetherby Dickensian Christmas Market £1,000.00

Youth Activities Fund Budget Position 2024/25

22. The total Youth Activities Fund (YAF) budget approved by Executive Board for 2024/25 was **£40,375.00** Table 2 shows a carry forward figure of **£29,690.43** which includes allocated, unallocated and underspends from projects completed in 2023/24. **£24,987.00** represents YAF allocated to projects in 2023/24 and not yet completed. The total YAF funding available to the Outer North East Community Committee for 2024/25 is therefore **£45,078.43**. A full breakdown of the projects approved or ring-fenced is available on request.

23. The total amount approved on Table 1 includes all the projects the committee has approved in 2024/25. It is possible that some of the projects may not use their allocated spend. This could be for several reasons, including the project no longer going ahead, the project not taking place within the dates specified in the funding agreement, or failure to submit monitoring reports. Due to this the final revenue balance may be greater than the amount specified in Table 1.

24. The Community Committee is asked to note that there is currently a remaining Youth Activities Fund balance of **£45,078.43**. A full breakdown of the projects is listed in Table 1 and is available on request.

TABLE 2: Youth Activities Fund 2024/25

	£
NEW FUNDING ALLOCATION 2024/25	£40,375.00
Balance brought forward from previous year	£29,690.43
Total	£70,065.43
Less allocated projects brought forward previous year	-£24,987.00
TOTAL YAF FUNDING AVAILABLE 2024/25	£45,078.43

		Ward Split		
		Alwoodley	Harewood	Wetherby
TOTAL YAF FUNDING AVAILABLE 2024/25	£45,078.43	£17,125.42	£15,436.75	£12,516.26
Funding Applications				
Leeds Rhinos Multisport Camp	£5,000			£5,000
Breeze 2024	£3,800			£3,800
Total Amount Approved	£8,800	£0.00	£0.00	
Underspends	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Actual Remaining Balance (Total/Per ward)	£36,278.43	£17,125.42	£15,436.75	£3,716.26

Funding Applications for Consideration and Approval

Declined Projects

25. Since the last Community Committee meeting on the 21st March 2024, one project has been declined Sandringham Playground Wetherby £6,000.

Wellbeing

The following projects are presented for Members' consideration:

26. **Project title:** Wetherby 200 Celebrations

Name of group/organisation: Wetherby Civic Society

Total project cost: £3,604.00

Amount proposed: £1,904.00

Wards covered: Wetherby

Project description: Event to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the Great Sale of Wetherby.

27. **Project title:** Wetherby Fly Tipping

Name of group/organisation: Leeds City Council

Total project cost: £1,480

Amount proposed: £1,480

Wards covered: Wetherby

Project description: Removal of 6 tons fly tipping, waste, and debris.

28. **Project title:** Outer North East Burglary Prevention 2024 25

Name of group/organisation: West Yorkshire Police

Total project cost: £8,844.00

Amount proposed: £8,844.00

Wards covered: Alwoodley, Harewood and Wetherby

Project description: Provision of 264 hours (88 per ward) overtime to target and disrupt criminal activity, safeguard homes and businesses and potentially remove burglars from the community over the next 12 months.

Note: Alwoodley Ward Councilors have declined the application

29. **Project title:** Outer North East Road Policing 2024 25

Name of group/organisation: West Yorkshire Police

Total project cost: £9,045.00

Amount proposed: £9,045.00

Wards covered: Alwoodley, Harewood and Wetherby

Project description: Provision of 270 hours (90 per ward) of additional policing key hotspots and issues identified through intelligence.

Note: Alwoodley Ward Councilors have declined the application

30. **Project title:** Crime Prevention

Name of group/organisation: West Yorkshire Police

Total project cost: £5,220.00

Amount proposed: £5,220.00

Wards covered: Harewood

Project description: Purchase of property marking equipment.

Youth Activity Funding

The following projects are presented for Members' consideration:

31. **Project title:** Moor Allerton Holiday Play Scheme
Name of group/organisation: Moor Allerton Play Scheme
Total project cost: £6,497.08
Amount proposed: £1,000.00
Wards covered: Alwoodley
Project description: Delivery of Play Schemes during the school holidays for 25 local young people aged 8-12.
32. **Project title:** Provision of External Training Facilities
Name of group/organisation: Alwoodley Juniors
Total project cost: £936.00
Amount proposed: £936.00
Wards covered: Alwoodley
Project description: To provide external training facilities in wet weather to ensure the teams can continue to play throughout the 2024-25 Season
33. **Project title:** Bardsey Tennis Court Renovation
Name of group/organisation: Bardsey Tennis Club
Total project cost: £29,276.00
Amount proposed: £5,000.00
Wards covered: Harewood
Project description: Repair of courts to ensure delivery of community and school sessions.

Capital Budget

34. There are no funding applications for Capital.

Capital Budget 2024/25

35. The Capital budget received an injection in April 2024 of **£3,100.00** with a carry forward of **£23,786.05**. The total Capital budgets available to the Outer North East Community Committee for 2024/25 is therefore **£26,886.05**. Members are asked to note the capital allocation by ward and summarised in **Table 3**.

TABLE 3: Capital 2024/25

NEW FUNDING ALLOCATION 2024/25	£3,100.00
Balance brought forward from previous year	£23,786.05
TOTAL CAPITAL FUNDING AVAILABLE 2024/25	£26,886.05

		Alwoodley	Harewood	Wetherby
Balance March 2024	£23,786.05	£2,844.72	£11,487.66	£9,453.67
Capital injection April 2024	£3,100.00	£1,033.33	£1,033.34	£1,033.33
Balance April 2024	£26,886.05	£3,878.05	£12,521.00	£10,487.00

Monitoring Information

36. As part of their funding agreements, all projects which have had funding approved by the Community Committee are required to provide update reports on the progress of their project. These reports are so that the Community Committee can measure the impact the project has had on the community and the value for money achieved.

Corporate Considerations

Consultation and Engagement

37. The Community Committee has previously been consulted on the projects detailed within the report.

Equality and Diversity/Cohesion and Integration

38. All wellbeing funded projects are assessed in relation to Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration. In addition, the Communities Team ensures that the wellbeing process complies with all relevant policies and legislation.

Council Polices and City Priorities

39. 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:

1. Vision for Leeds 2011 – 30
2. Best City Plan
3. Health and Wellbeing City Priorities Plan
4. Children and Young People's Plan
5. Safer and Stronger Communities Plan
6. Leeds Inclusive Growth Strategy

Resources and Value for Money

40. Aligning the distribution of community wellbeing funding to local priorities will help to ensure that the maximum benefit can be provided.

Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

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

Risk Management

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

Recommendations

43. Members are asked to make a decision on and note:

- a. Minimum condition arrangements for 2023/24
- b. Details of the Wellbeing Budget position (Table 1)
- c. Wellbeing proposals for consideration and approval (paragraph 21)
- d. Details of the Youth Activities Fund (YAF) position (Table 2)
- e. Youth Activity Funding proposals for consideration and approval (paragraph 28)
- f. Details of the Capital Budget (Table 3)