



Report of the South East Area Manager

East Outer Area Committee

Date: 6 July 2010

Subject: Well Being Budget (Revenue) 2010/11

Electoral Wards Affected:

Cross Gates & Whinmoor
Garforth & Swillington
Kippax and Menthley
Temple Newsam

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

Council
Function

Delegated Executive
Function available
for Call In

Delegated Executive
Function not available for
Call In Details set out in the
report

Executive Summary

This report updates Area Committee on project work funded through the Well Being budget for 2010/11. The budget for 2009/10 is £220,727.

1.0 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 1.1 The Well Being budget for Outer East Area Committee is £220,727 in 2010/11.
- 1.2 The budget has one commitment of £38,500 to cover the cost of LeedsWatch CCTV monitoring and maintenance for its 11 cameras.
- 1.3 The remainder of the budget was set against particular projects and priority themes in the Area Delivery Plan.
- 1.4 This report updates Area Committee on progress with some of the projects it has funded.
- 1.5 The report also provides Area Committee with a legal view on spending Well Being Budget funding to privately owned individual properties, shops, premises etc.

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Well Being Budget for 20010/11 is £220,727.
- 2.2 In 2010/11 Area Committee has a total commitment of £38,500 for CCTV monitoring and maintenance costs.
- 2.3 At its meeting held in March 2010 Area Committee approved the following projects:
- a gardening service for elderly and disabled people - £39,000
 - community payback probation scheme - £15,000
 - small grants budget - £10,000.
 - the cost of an additional Community Environment Support Officer(CESO) - 27,700 per year (including on costs).
- 2.4 The CCTV commitment and cost of the other projects amounts to £130,200. This leaves a balance of £90,527 to be split evenly across the 4 wards.
- 2.5 Area Committee agreed that the remainder of the budget was allocated against the following priority areas of work with these allocations:
- Additional Activities for young people - £32,000 (or £8,000 per ward)
 - Community Engagement - £32,000 (or £8,000 per ward)
 - Tasking Team (Community Safety and environmental work) - £32,000 (or £8,000 per ward)
- 2.6 The combined cost of all this work does slightly over commit the budget but it is anticipated that this overspend will be met by a similar sized underspend that will be carried over from 2009/10.
- 2.7 At the Area Committee meeting held on 23rd March 2010 a joint report from the Chief Customer Services Officer and the Director of City Development was considered concerning the Leeds Credit Union Branch Network. Area Committee approved a £5,000 contribution to ensure a service was retained at the Halton Moor branch. This approval was subject to the Credit Union acquiring the necessary match funding. This match funding has now been acquired and the £5,000 grant awarded to the Credit Union. This will have to be met from any budget underspend.

3.0 MAIN ISSUES

3.1 Small Grants

- 3.1.1 There is £10,000 available within the small grants budget which provides up to £500 per application. Small grant expenditure in 10/11 is detailed on **appendix 1**.

3.2 Activities for young people

- 3.2.1 The full amount of £32,000 has now been allocated to fund project work in all four wards. Details of the work and successful outcomes will be regularly reported to Area Committee meetings and Community Forums.
- 3.2.2 **Cricket coaching by Yorkshire County Cricket Club.** Area Committee has awarded £5,000 towards cricket coaching for 9 to 15 year olds to be delivered over 3 weeks during the summer. In 2009 it is estimated that up to 1500 youngsters received coaching from this programme.
- 3.2.3 In previous years the coaching has been free but due to the increased cost because of increase in demand and therefore the need to provide additional coaches there will be a 50p charge per day.
- 3.2.4 The dates and venues of the coaching are:
- Methley Cricket Club – 1st to 4th June 2010
 - Kippax Welfare Club – 2nd to 6th of August 2010
 - Whitkirk Cricket Club – 16th to 20th of August 2010
- 3.2.5 **Activities for young people in Cross Gates & Whinmoor.** This project has been awarded £7,000 and will provide a wide range of activities in this ward with the lead agency being LCC Youth Services.
- 3.2.6 The funding provided will support holiday programmes and some one off projects over the course of the year. The programmes on offer will include activities that have a focus on sport, arts, music, drama, dance and citizenship (ie youth participation projects) as well as trips and events during the Easter, Summer, October half-term, Christmas and Feb half-term 10/11.
- 3.2.7 The funding will also be used to support some targeted work in the local community in partnership with other agencies, to provide opportunities for young people to do voluntary work and environmental project. Most of the programme will be accredited and give the young people new skills and help with their personal development.
- 3.2.8 Youth Service anticipates engaging with approximately 250 additional young people from the Cross gates & Whinmoor ward over the duration of the year. This will allow Youth Services to further build relationships with young people who currently do not access regularly youth work provision and seek to engage them in meaningful and enjoyable youth work programmes.
- 3.2.9 **Activities for young people in Temple Newsam.** This project has been awarded £7,000 and will provide a wide range of activities in this ward with the lead agency being LCC Youth Services.
- 3.2.10 This project will provide out of school activities for young people 13+ from Temple Newsam Ward. The programmes available will include activities that have a focus on learning new skills, sports, arts; citizenship and youth participation; a range of trips

and local workshops intended to provide young people with opportunities to make positive use of their leisure time.

- 3.2.11 These programmes will be targeted to encourage access to local facilities and opportunity's in the local area as well as the wider region. Activities will also provide young people with the opportunity's to build on social skills, self esteem and confidence building. The programme's will include support for extended services working alongside young people from other parts of the locality and ward with the aim of increasing community cohesion.
- 3.2.12 The project will allow young people to channel their energies into positive activities while out of school and hence divert from possible nominal criminal activities. The project aims to provide opportunities for a minimum of 300 young people within the target age range.
- 3.2.13 **Activities for young people in Garforth, Kippax and villages.** This project has been awarded £13,000 and will provide a wide range of activities in this ward. The funding has been split between Youth Services, Garforth Schools Partnership Trust and Brigshaw High extended services.
- 3.2.14 The funding will help support Youth Services holiday activity programmes in the Kippax & Methley and Garforth & Swillington ward areas. The programmes available will include activities that have a focus on: learning new skills, sports, arts, citizenship & youth participation as well as a range of trips and local workshops intended to provide young people with opportunities to make positive use of their leisure time during school holidays between 01/04/10 & 31/03/11.
- 3.2.15 The work of the Schools Partnership Trust and Brigshaw High Extended Services programme will run in 2010 providing an out of school activities programme for young people aged 11-16yrs. The programme will provide a range of trips, visits and activities over Easter, Spring Bank, Summer and October covering 9 weeks of the school holidays.
- 3.2.16 The project will also attempt to address the frequent complaint from residents that there is nothing for young people of this age to do. The local sport centre will run activities for the younger age groups, but not for the 11-16 year olds.
- 3.2.17 The programme will also target Year 6 young people who attend primary school to support their transition into the high school in the September. The first week of the summer programme is solely for students in Years 6 and 7.
- 3.2.18 The grant will be used to publicise the programme to young people and their parents as well as to Police, Social Services, children's charities and other agencies who work with young people to enable them to offer access to the programme to their young people. The grant will also be used to part fund some of the activities that are particularly popular such as the mini BREEZE which attracted over 300 children, young people and parents and carers in 2009.

3.3 Community Engagement

- 3.3.1 **Year of the Volunteer events in April 2010.** A series of 4 events were held in April with the aim of recruiting new volunteers especially in the field of support to older people. The events were planned by Area Management with support from a variety of departments and agencies including the Older Persons Networks in Outer East.
- 3.3.2 The total numbers attending these events was around 500 and there has been up to 40 people putting their names forward for volunteering. The total cost for the full 4 days was approx £2,000.
- 3.3.3 **Garforth Community Gala.** This gala was awarded £1500 from the Garforth & Swillington ward allocation for community engagement. The gala will take place in July and is organised and managed by Garforth Lions.
- 3.3.4 **Older Persons Week September 2010.** This annual event is still at planning stage and in 2009 attracted up to 1000 people from across Outer East. It is scheduled to take place again in late September 2010 with at least one event in each ward. The total cost in 2009 was £3,300 and is estimated to be the same in 2010.
- 3.3.5 The request to Area Committee is that each ward contributes one-quarter of the cost from its community engagement budget to support this event. This is estimated at £825 per ward.
- 3.3.6 **Year of the Volunteer – part 2.** As part of this year to support and celebrate volunteering Area Committee has previously agreed in principle to support two events: the first was held in April to help recruit volunteers; the second is an awards event in late 2010 that will be held at the Civic Hall. To cover the room hire, buffet, certificates/flowers etc the estimated cost is somewhere between £1,000 and £1,400.
- 3.3.7 The request to Area Committee is that each ward contributes one-quarter of the cost from its community engagement budget to support this event. This is estimated at £350 per ward.

3.4 Swarcliffe Good Neighbours - gardening and decorating service for elderly and disabled people

- 3.4.1 The gardening project started in May 2010 and will last until the end of October. The project is advertised through the older person's networks and available to OAP's and disabled people who do not have family support to carry out this work.
- 3.4.2 Area Committee will be provided with details of numbers of gardens completed by ward on a regular basis. At the time of writing this report 116 gardens had been completed.
- 3.4.3 The decorating service starts in April 2010 and runs through until May 2011. At the time of writing this report there had been 10 referrals for decorating.

3.5 Community Environment Support Officer (CESO)

- 3.5.1 After the recent restructure of the Neighbourhood Warden Service in Leeds the new post of CESO was created and staff deployed across the city. From the core funded staff Outer East was allocated 2.5 CESO's.
- 3.5.2 Outer East Area Committee agreed to increase its allocation of CESO's funding 1 from the Well Being Fund to work in Garforth, Swillington, Colton and Halton. This post is now filled and the officer is working in those areas. A second post funded from Swarcliffe PFI credits and Aire Valley Homes funds is restricted to the Swarcliffe area. At the time of writing this report arrangements for interviewing applicants was taking place.

3.6 Bronze Tanning Studio, Manston Approach (Cross Gates)

- 3.6.1 At the last two meetings of Area Committee in February and March of 2010 it considered a request from Bronze Tanning Studio to provide shutters to either side of the premises. This was after a number of incidents of anti-social behaviour. The cost of this work is £3,900 (inclusive of VAT). The proposal was to consider paying half the cost provided that the owner paid the other half. Area Committee deferred any decision to support this project until it had received a legal view on Well Being Funds being used to fund work to a privately owned individual shop.
- 3.6.2 In respect of the eligibility the only guidance that appears to be available is contained in the report "Constitutional Considerations relating to Area Committees", which was a report received at all Area Committees and which sets out how the executive functions of Area Committees may be exercised. One of the appendices of this report refers to the management and purpose of the Well Being Budget and describes it as such:

"Decisions taken in relation to the utilisation of Well-Being budgets within the framework of the Council's Constitution and having regard to the Community Strategy in accordance with Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000. Specifically Area Committees will seek to:

Promote and improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the Committee's area, including enhancing service delivery outcomes within their area"

Therefore this application needs to be judged as to whether it is consistent with this requirement and if it is then it can be considered by Area Committee.

- 3.6.3 The Property and Finance section of Legal Services considered the issues relating to this application and have advised as follows:

The Area Committees can use their well-being budgets to fund anything that is likely to promote and/or improve the economic, social and/or environmental well-being of their area. This is within the terms of reference of the Area Committee.

The Local Government Act 2000 powers in this respect are cast very wide. The powers can benefit a whole LA area or just part of it as well as a group of persons or an individual person.

In making its decision on any application for well being funding, the Committee is entitled to have regard to local circumstances as well as to the wishes and needs of the local community. So, as regards the current application, it would be able to consider what the implications of making a contribution would be in terms of, say, the impact on the budget available to fund competing (or higher priority) projects; the greater or lesser extent of the environmental well-being likely to be brought about by the spend; would the spend create a precedent the Committee would not wish to be bound by in the future; the views of the local police. Having said this, the Committee also need to be aware that they must act reasonably in reaching their decision.

Whatever the committee determine, if they receive any similar applications in the future, they also need to bear in mind the determination of the current application so as to ensure consistency in decision making i.e. they wouldn't just be setting a precedent by approving the current application, they may also be setting a precedent by refusing it.

4.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

4.1 The details described in this report and the recommendation fits with existing Council policy and governance arrangements.

5.0 LEGAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no new legal implications arising from this report.

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

6.1 The report provides Area Committee with an update on its Well Being Budget expenditure in 2010/11.

6.2 The report recommends Area Committee allocate funding to two new projects.

6.2 The report also provides Area Committee with a finance and legal view on funding to install security shutters to Bronze Tanning Studio in Manston.

7.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Area Committee is asked to note the content of this report and raise any questions.

7.2 Area Committee is asked to note that the £5,000 allocated to Leeds Credit Union will have to be met from any budget underspend.

- 7.3 Area Committee is recommended to award £3,300 to fund Older Persons Week 2010.
- 7.4 Area Committee is recommended to award £1,400 to the Year of the Volunteer event to be held in late 2010
- 7.5 Area Committee is asked to note the finance and legal advice concerning the part funding of security shutters at Bronze Tanning Studio at a cost of £1950 and decide if it wants to fund this project.

Background papers

- Outer East Area Committee Report, 8 July 2008 – Area Delivery Plan 2008-11
- Executive Board Report, 16 July 2008 – Area Committee Roles 2008/09
- Well Being Report to Area Committee, February 2010
- Well Being Report to Area Committee, March 2010
- Leeds City Credit Union Branch Network, March 2010