

**Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Customer Access & Performance)**

**Report to North West (Inner) Area Committee**

**Date: 21<sup>st</sup> February 2013**

**Subject: Wellbeing Fund 2012-13 Update Report**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Headingley; Hyde Park & Woodhouse; Kirkstall; Weetwood.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. This report provides the North West (Inner) Area Committee with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2012/13, it highlights the current position of the Small Grants pot and those Small Grants that have been approved since the last meeting.
2. The report also seeks approval for the variance of agreed terms for the Caring Together...Moving Forward project's previously approved funding for use towards costs in 2013/14. It also seeks approval for the decommissioning of the Open XS Work Well Drop In Sessions project and the return of £2,000 for reallocation due to it not being possible to fully deliver the project.

**Recommendations**

The North West (Inner) Area Committee is asked to:

- Note the current budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2012/13 (Appendix 1).
- Approve the variance in terms of the remaining balance of Caring Together...Moving Forward project to contribute towards project costs for 2013/14.
- Approve the decommissioning of the Open XS Work Well Drop In Sessions project and the return of £2,000 for reallocation.
- Note the current position of the Small Grants and skips pots and those Small Grants that have been approved since the last meeting.

## 1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report provides members with an update on the budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2012/13. It also seeks approval for a variance in the agreed terms of a previously approved project.

## 2 Background information

- 2.1 Area 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.
- 2.2 The Inner North West Area Committee seeks to ensure that Wellbeing fund 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 prior to the financial year and the Area Committee meets to agree which projects will be funded in the year ahead.
- 2.3 In 2012/13, the North West (Inner) Area Committee received a sum of £215,580 of Wellbeing revenue. After deducting any existing commitments and taking account of the 2011/12 carry forward position, the Area Committee had £211,722 of funding available for allocation. All of this funding was committed to 27 projects, as listed in Appendix 1 (paragraph 1.2).
- 2.4 No additional Capital Wellbeing was allocated to the Area Committee in 2012/13.

## 3 Main issues

### 3.1 Wellbeing Budget Statement 2012 -13

- 3.2 The latest Wellbeing Budget Statement for 2012-13 is included as **Appendix 1** to this report. This sets out the current budget position for Wellbeing projects showing the amount approved by the Area Committee and the value of funds spent to date. The Wellbeing Budget statement also outlines the current budget position of those projects funded in previous years which still have funding left to spend.

### 3.3 Wellbeing Budget – Large Projects

- 3.4 Caring Together... Moving Forward – A request has been received for variance in the agreed terms for the Caring Together...Moving Forward project's previously approved funding for use towards costs. The Area Committee originally approved £10,000 towards office and room hire costs for 2012/13, on the transfer of Woodhouse Community Centre to Oblong. This was to help mitigate an increase in rental overheads to the organisation, which put Caring Together under the threat of closure.
- 3.5 Through budget management and through successfully obtaining some other short term funding, Caring Together has managed to reduce their funding shortfall for 2012/13. However, they are still facing a shortfall for 2013/14 and have asked if the remaining balance can be used towards this? Their rental costs

are due before the end of March 2013 so the funding should still be drawn down before the end of this financial year.

3.6 Given the importance of the services Caring Together provide and the precarious nature of their current funding position, the Area Committee is recommended to approve this variance in funding terms.

3.7 Open XS Work Well Drop In Sessions – This project was to raise awareness of the potential implications of the changes in welfare reform and offer advice and support to those individuals who express an interest/need to develop their range of job search skills. Due to the difficulties in targeting the right people to attend the drop in and lack of attendance, the group put the project on hold during Quarter 2 while they looked to deliver the project differently. The drop in sessions re-commenced during October 2012 and despite further promotion and delivering from an alternative venue, Open XS have informed us that the project is still attracting little to no attendance. It is therefore recommended that the Area Committee decommission this project. After costs already incurred are deducted, this would leave **£2,000** to be returned to the Wellbeing Budget for reallocation.

3.8 Wellbeing Budget – Small Grants

3.9 Table 1. below outlines those Small Grant and Skip applications that have been approved since the last Area Committee meeting. Taking these into account, there is **£1,813.68** still available for allocation for Small Grants and **£682** still available for Skip Hire. The Area Committee are asked to note the current position of available funding and those grants that have recently been approved.

**Table 1: Small Grant Approvals (1/12/12 – 1/2/13)**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Organisation /Department</b>	<b>Amount Requested</b>	<b>Amount Approved</b>
Learning the Business	Community Action Little London & Servias (CALLS)	£500	<b>£500</b>
Awareness Raising on HIV/AIDS in Little London	Women Dignity All Together - Leeds	£500	<b>£500</b>
(OPAL) Members Christmas Banquet	ESNW Cluster	£500	<b>£500</b>

## **4 Corporate Considerations**

### **4.1 Consultation and Engagement**

4.1.1 The Area Committee has previously been consulted on the projects detailed within the report. Local priorities are set through the Area Business Plan process and the commissioning round began with a communication to all Area Committee contacts.

### **4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration**

4.2.1 All Wellbeing funded projects are assessed in relation to Equality, Diversity, Cohesion and Integration. In addition, the Area Committee 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.

### **4.3 Council policies and City Priorities**

4.3.1 Projects submitted to the Area 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

### **4.4 Resources and value for money**

4.4.1 Aligning the distribution of Area Committee Wellbeing funding to local priorities will help to ensure that the maximum benefit can be provided.

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

### **4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In**

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

### **4.6 Risk Management**

4.6.1 Risk implications and mitigation are considered on all well-being applications. Projects are assessed to ensure that applicants are able to deliver the intended benefits.

## **5 Conclusions**

5.1 The North West (Inner) Area Committee Wellbeing Fund 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 2012-13.

## **6 Recommendations**

6.1 The North West (Inner) Area Committee is asked to:

- Note the current budget position for the Wellbeing Fund for 2012/13 (Appendix 1).

- Approve the variance in terms of the remaining balance of Caring Together...Moving Forward project to contribute towards project costs for 2013/14.
- Approve the decommissioning of the Open XS Work Well Drop In Sessions project and the return of £2,000 for reallocation.
- Note the current position of the Small Grants and Skips pots and those Small Grants that have been approved since the last meeting.

## **7 Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

- None

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.