

Agenda Item 7



Author/Lead Officer of Report:

Tania Bustamante, South West LAC Community Services Manager

Tel: 0114 474 3651

Report of: Community Services Manager
Report to: South West Local Area Committee
Date of Decision: 14th November 2024
Subject: South West LAC Budget 2024-25

Has appropriate consultation been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? 2832				
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-				
<i>“The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”</i>				

Purpose of Report:

Each Local Area Committee has a £100,000 budget to address local priorities. This report sets out details of the spend in respect of this that has been authorised by the South West LAC Community Services Manager, in consultation with the LAC Chair and in accordance with the delegation granted in September 2021.

Recommendations:

That the South West Local Area Committee:

- Notes the expenditure against the £100,000 budget to address local priorities in the South West Community Plan LAC in 2024/5, as detailed in the report.

Background Papers:

Lead Officer to complete:-	
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.
	Finance: Adrian Hart
	Legal: Andrea Simpson
	Equalities: Louise Nunn
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>	
2	Head of Service who approved submission: Carl Mullooly
3	LAC Chair consulted: Cllr Andrew Sangar
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Decision Maker by the Head of Service indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.
	Lead Officer Name: Tania Bustamante
	Job Title: South West LAC Community Services Manager
Date: 14th November 2024	

1. PROPOSAL

1.1 Background

1.1.1 Local Area Committees (LACs) were established by Full Council in May 2021. Their Terms of Reference are set out in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution and include:

- To agree a Community Plan setting priorities for the area of the committee, monitor delivery of that plan and keep it under review; and
- To make decisions relating to funding as delegated from time to time by the Council to fit with the priorities set out in the Community Plan and following engagement with the community.

A refreshed Community Plan was agreed by the South West LAC at its meeting on 28th September 2024.

1.1.2 To enable decisions to be taken quickly and to respond to emerging issues, in September 2021 the LAC granted delegated authority to the Community Services Manager to make decisions on expenditure from any budgets allocated to the Local Area Committee provided that:

- The decision is taken in consultation with the Local Area Committee Chair
- Spending is in line with any specific purposes of the allocated budget
- The decision may not approve expenditure of more than £5,000 per item.
- A report detailing the delegated spending decisions taken by the Community Services Manager is presented to the next Local Area Committee meeting.

1.2 2024/25 Budget Allocation

1.2.1 Funding delegated by Full Council to LACs in 2024/25 amounts to £100,000 per LAC. The South West LAC approved proposed anticipated expenditure in respect of various elements to address the Community Plan priorities at its meeting on 28th September 2024. This budget will be spent on projects benefiting all the wards in the South West LAC area.

1.2.2 An overview of the anticipated spending against priorities and the actual spending decision (s) that have been taken to date is outline in the table below.

Priority & Element	Allocated Budget	Spend to Date	Comments
Community Speed Watch	£1,000	£84	Remaining allocation of budget for purchase of additional resources for operations- such as high vis, signage.
Bug Hotels	£1000	£900	50 Locally produced bug

			houses for residents – increasing wildlife habitats.
Equipment for Litter Picking Groups	£1,000	£1,000	<p>Purchase of items requested by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lodgemoor /Fulwood Group • Crookes & Crosspool Litter Pickers • Dore & Totley Litter Pickers • Nethergreen / Ranmoor Group • Westminster Group <p>Equipment includes items such as snow shovels, recycling trolleys, yard brushes, kids dino litter pickers.</p>
Support Unpaid Carers	£2,000	£2,000	Events for unpaid carers being arranged via Sheff Care, currently consulting on activity and locations with residents.
Engagement and Public meeting costs	£2,000	£308.70	Public meeting room hire costs.
SW LAC Ward Funds, to allocate to local projects	£40,000	£12,750.31	<p>Funding for each Ward to invest in local projects that deliver against the Community Plan Priorities.</p> <p>Crookes & Crosspool= £277.71 (H Mark Bentley Lane commuted sum).</p> <p>Dore & Totley= £8,664.10 (Roof repairs Totley CRIC, Vehicle Activated sign rotation, signage at Tinkers Corner).</p> <p>Ecclesall = £1,451.09 (New bench at Silverhill).</p> <p>Fulwood = £2,357.41 (Redmires Rd speed change works).</p>
Isolation, Loneliness and Cost of Living	£20,000	£350	Only urgent 'time sensitive' grant applications agreed so far.

Events and Festivals	£4,000	£1,000	Dore & Totley= Totley Remembrance Rd Closure
Total Spend to date		£18,393	

2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?

2.1 The decision directly contributes to the following outcomes in 'Together we Get things Done', The Sheffield City Council Plan 2024 – 2028.

- Great neighbourhoods that people are happy to call home – LACs work with communities to improve the places and spaces that make neighbourhoods great places to live and be active.
- People live in caring, engaged communities that value diversity and support their wellbeing – LACs work with communities to build engagement into the way we work so that we listen better and work together to find shared solutions

3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?

3.1 The Community Plan has been developed through community consultation that has comprised of an online survey through the Council's Have Your Say platform; a paper-based survey for those less digitally enabled and to target underrepresented groups and engagement activities with representative organisations and in-person meetings.

Partner organisations and Council departments that have been identified as offering potential solutions to some of the issues identified have also been consulted, to establish whether suggestions can be realistically implemented.

4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION

4.1 Equality of Opportunity Implications

4.1.1 Decisions need to consider the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty contained in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.

This is the duty to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

- 4.1.2 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA 2149) has been developed to reflect the ongoing allocation of the LAC's budget, assessing the range of groups of people and interests likely to be impacted in equality terms. This has identified positive impacts associated with the protected characteristics of age, disability, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief; and other areas of inequality associated with health, poverty and financial inclusion, and social cohesion.

The overall impact of this decision is likely to be positive and not disproportionate from an equality, diversity and inclusion perspective. In developing a Community Plan, local communities have been given the opportunity for a greater say in local decision making for services which impact their daily lives.

- 4.1.3 The devolution of responsibilities will improve inclusion for local people and the work of the Sheffield Equality Partnership will support and enhance the approach from a citywide and underserved communities' perspective.

However, in order to ensure this approach takes into account people who share protected characteristics under the Public Sector Duties the Local Area Committee Community Plan will be supported by appropriate equality monitoring of budget.

4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

- 4.2.1 This report concerns expenditure of the LAC's allocated budgets in 2024/ 25 of £100,000.

Procurement of supplies and/or services and the award of grant aid will be carried out in line with the Council's Contracts Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

4.3 Legal Implications

- 4.3.1 The LAC must operate in accordance with its Terms of Reference, approved as part of the Council's updated Constitution, (namely pursuant to Part 3 para 3.3,) reflecting the committee system of governance, by Full Council at its Annual Meeting on 18th May 2022. In accordance with the provisions of section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Constitution provides that a Committee may delegate to a Council Officer.

5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 None. Spending decisions made by the Community Services Manager under the authority delegated by the LAC in September 2021 are required to be reported to the next LAC meeting.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The South West LAC is asked to note delegated decisions in respect of SW LAC funding to address local priorities within the Community Plan.

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