



SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL North East Community Assembly Report

Report of: North East Community Assembly Manager

Date: 11th July 2012

Subject: North East Assembly Discretionary Budget

Author of Report: Alison Rayner
North East Community Assembly Manager
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Summary:

An initial round of allocations from the North East Assembly Discretionary Budget 2012/13 was agreed at the Assembly Meeting on March 21st 2012. This report makes proposals for the remaining funds in the 2012/13 allocation.

Reasons for Recommendations:

The purpose of the Discretionary Budget is to help fulfil the priorities of the North East Assembly Community Plan, which have been identified through consultation with local residents, groups and partners.

The North East Assembly Community Plan priorities are:

- Clean, tidy, green streets to be proud of
- Improved parks and green open spaces
- Community support and people getting on together
- More things for children and young people to do
- Neighbourhoods where people feel safe
- Improved roads and public transport
- Improved local housing and the built environment
- Reducing health inequalities: add years to life and life to years
- Getting people out of poverty and into work
- Increase educational attainment and aspiration, and reduce school exclusions.

All the projects to which funding will be made available from the Assembly wide or ward pots will contribute to one or more of these priorities.

Allocating funding to quick wins pots allows flexibility in the awarding of grants.

Recommendations:

That the North East Community Assembly:

(1) Considers the information contained within this report and allocates the following:

- £9,436 from the assembly-wide allocation pot to be placed into an area-wide quick wins fund.
- £13,334 from the Burngreave ward to be allocated into the ward's quick wins pot
- £13,251 from the Firth Park ward to be allocated into the ward's quick wins pot

(2) Delegates authority to the Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Assembly and having regard to any views expressed by Ward Councillors, to allocate funding from the assembly-wide quick wins pot and the quick wins pot from all four wards.

(3) Delegates authority to the Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Assembly, to allocate funding to further the Plan priorities as identified within this report where, in the opinion of the Assembly Manager, such funding needs to be provided before the October Assembly meeting to allow sufficient time for the project / service to be delivered.

(4) Authorises the Director of Community Services, in consultation with the Director of Legal Services, to agree the terms on which all funding referred to in this report is made available and to enter into such funding agreements with recipients of the funding and any other related agreements or arrangements, and on such terms, that she considers appropriate.

Background Papers:

Category of Report: OPEN

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial Implications
YES Cleared by: Liz Orme
Legal Implications
YES Cleared by:
Equality of Opportunity Implications
Tackling Health Inequalities Implications
YES
Human rights Implications
NO
Environmental and Sustainability implications
YES
Economic impact
NO
Community safety implications
YES
Human resources implications
NO
Property implications
NO
Area(s) affected
North East Community Assembly area of Sheffield
Relevant Scrutiny Committee if decision called in
Safer and Stronger Communities
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?
NO
Press release
NO

1. Summary

An initial round of allocations from the North East Assembly Discretionary Budget 2012/13 was agreed at the Assembly Meeting on March 21st 2012. This report makes proposals for the remaining funds in the 2012/13 allocation.

2. What does this mean for people within the North East Community Assembly Area?

The allocation of North East Assembly Discretionary Funding ensures activity takes place to address the priorities in the North East Community Assembly Plan, across all four wards in the area, including;

- Clean, tidy, green streets to be proud of
- Improved parks and green open spaces
- Community support and people getting on together
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3. Outcomes and Sustainability

The funding identified in this report will contribute to the delivery of the priorities in the North East Community Assembly Plan, thus benefiting residents in the North East Assembly Area.

The projects and activity within this report contribute to all five of the key ambitions as indicated in the Sheffield City Strategy 2010-2020 (Sheffield 2020 – Where People Shape the Future) –

- **Distinctive**; using the immense sense of pride local people have in the city and the Central Assembly area to bring local projects forward for funding.
- **Successful**; working with partners at a local level with joint employment and community projects and strategically through our formal partnerships.
- **Inclusive**; support projects that enable all sections of our community to benefit and join in new activities.
- **Vibrant**; support the community and voluntary sector in working to achieve the priorities for the area.

- **Sustainable;** ensure that future generations can enjoy the open spaces in our area and that the Assembly plays a key role in protecting our environment.

4. Full Proposal

4.1 The 2012/13 Discretionary Budget for the North East Community Assembly is £345,143. The Assembly agreed allocations of £308,876 at the meeting of March 21st, 2012. This report proposes that the following allocations be made:

- £9,436 from the assembly-wide allocation pot to be placed into an area-wide quick wins fund.
- £13,334 from the Burngreave ward to be allocated into the ward's quick wins pot
- £13,251 from the Firth Park ward to be allocated into the ward's quick wins pot

Placing funding in quick wins pots allows money to be allocated flexibly throughout the year to projects in line with the themes of the assembly's community plan.

5. Financial Implications

5.1 The North East Assembly has a £345,143 Discretionary Budget to allocate in 2012/13, to help fulfil the priorities identified in the North East Assembly Plan. Funds are available from within this sum to support the area-based proposals set out above.

6. Legal Implications

In implementing these proposals reliance will probably be placed on the new 'general power of competence' (the 'GPC') conferred on the Council by Section 1(1) of the Localism Act 2011. However, because the proposals relate to general funds from which a number of as yet undetermined grants will be paid, the North East Assembly team will need to take care that the making of each individual grant falls within the Council's legal powers, taking advice from Legal Services as necessary.

(Section 1(1) came into force on 18th February 2012 and provides that, "*A local authority has power to do anything that individuals generally may do.*" This is clearly a very broad power, but it must be noted that it is subject to existing or future statutory limitations.)

The procurement of any goods, works or services must be undertaken in accordance with all relevant provisions of Sheffield City Council's Constitution including the Council's Contracts Standing Orders and all applicable procurement rules.

7. Equality of Opportunity Implications

The North East Community Assembly Discretionary budget has been allocated to help address a range of needs in the area, as dictated by the North East Community Assembly Plan.

8. Human Resource Implications

There are no specific human resource implications for the Council as a result of the allocation of this funding.

9. Environmental and Sustainability Implications

These projects have a marginal environmental benefit.

10. Mitigation of Risk

The risks relating to this proposal have been considered by the North East Community Assembly Team. These risks will be regularly reviewed and monitored.

Projects funded may not lead to noticeable improvement in the priority issue. The Assembly Team (and the Accountable Bodies Team which administers funding) will monitor the impact of activity throughout the coming year, to assess whether projects have been effective.

The Accountable Bodies Team will administer the distribution of funding and ensure agreed targets and outcomes are being met. They will do this through the receipt of monitoring forms from providers and by visiting projects / activity on the ground.

The Assembly Manager will ensure payments are made as per the project proposal form and are released on time as per Council rules. The projects need to be aware that all funding must be spent by 31st March 2013 and no carry forward or extension is likely.

11. Alternative Options

It was considered to allocate funding to specific projects but allocating to quick wins pots gives the flexibility to vary levels of funding between different projects depending on need.

12. Reasons for Recommendations

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13. Recommendations

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