



**Author/Lead Officer of Report:** Diane Owens,  
South LAC Community Services Manager  
**Tel:** 0114 474 3635

**Report of:** Community Services Manager  
**Report to:** South Local Area Committee  
**Date of Decision:** 6<sup>th</sup> July 2022  
**Subject:** South LAC Community Plan Update

Has appropriate consultation been undertaken? Yes  No

Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken? Yes  No

If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? *(Insert reference number)*

Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? Yes  No

If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-

*“The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”*

### Purpose of Report:

Each Local Area Committee has a £100,000 budget to address local priorities, identified within their respective Community Plans. This report sets out details of some proposed spending in respect of this £100,000 during the 2022/23 financial year.

This report gives an overview of some initial priorities for proposed expenditure and seeks authorisation from the South Local Area Committee to permit the South LAC Community Services Manager, in consultation with the LAC Chair, to spend monies to address identified priorities within the Community Plan.

### Recommendations:

That the South Local Area Committee:

(i) Notes the proposed allocations of £70,000 from the £100,000 budget to address local priorities in the South LAC Community Plan in 2022/23, as detailed in the report, and in particular

- Approves a budget of £10,000 to clean up “the Lumb” area in Gleadless Valley
- Approves a budget of £40,000 for community capacity building
- Approves a budget of £20,000 for activities for young people

(ii) To the extent that it is not covered by existing authority, authorises the Community Services Manager to make decisions on expenditure relating to the Lumb area of Gleadless Valley and (following further consultation as described in this report, including with the voluntary, community and faith sector) the other priorities set out in the report provided that:

- The decision is taken in consultation with the Local Area Committee Chair
- The decision may not approve expenditure in excess of the allocated budget for each priority set out in the report, and
- A report detailing the delegated spending decisions taken by the Community Services Manager is presented to the next Local Area Committee meeting.

**Background Papers:**

The South Community Plan is published at:

[South Local Area Committee Community Plan \(sheffield.gov.uk\)](https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/south-local-area-committee-community-plan)

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: Kayleigh Inman
		Legal: Andrea Simpson
		Equalities: Adele Robinson
<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	<b>Head of Service who approved submission:</b>	Nik Hamilton
3	<b>LAC Chair consulted:</b>	Cllr Simon Clement-Jones
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.	
	<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> Diane Owens	<b>Job Title:</b> South LAC Community Services Manager
	<b>Date:</b> 27/6/2022	

**1. PROPOSAL**

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.

Each LAC was allocated an initial budget of £100,000 under an executive decision by the Leader of the Council on 17th August 2021. This money is to be spent in line with the Community Plan. As the Community Plan was not finalised until late in the 2021/22 financial year very little of this budget has been spent across the LACs and it has been carried forward to the current financial year.

To enable decisions to be taken quickly and to respond to emerging issues between Committee meetings, in September 2021 the LAC authorised the Community Services Manager to make decisions on expenditure 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, and
- A report detailing the delegated spending decisions taken by the Community Services Manager is presented to the next Local Area Committee meeting.

1.2 The South Local Area Committee (LAC) developed a Community Plan through consultation with residents, community groups and other stakeholders in South Sheffield.

These conversations have helped identify key priorities within the South area, which will inform actions to address issues that matter most to local people.

The key priorities highlighted in the Plan are:

- environment and green spaces
- transport and highways
- community safety and crime
- communities
- employment and skills
- children, young people and families

At a meeting of the South LAC held on 16 March 2022, the LAC approved the Community Plan.

To enable us to start to deliver priority actions to address issues identified in the Plan, this report presents an overview of some initial proposed spending during 2022/23.

### **Priority 1: Environment & Green Spaces**

**Action:** The Lumb, Gleadless Valley

**Overview:** We will work with Council services and the community to clean up “the Lumb” area in Gleadless Valley.

We will develop an action plan to identify the actions that need to be taken both in terms of cleaning up the site and community engagement and longer term prevention, to include enhancing biodiversity

**Outcome / impact**

- Reduced levels of litter and fly tipping
- Cleaner / more attractive environment
- Increased use of area by local community

**Budget allocation:** £10,000

Funding will cover the cost of an intense clean up (including equipment hire and skips), improved signage and some possible small scale public realm projects and communications and engagement.

**Priority 4: Communities**

**Action:** Community Capacity Building

**Overview:** This priority focuses on building community capacity and infrastructure within the South LAC. The approaches used will be based on the needs of the area and could include, community planning, investing in community leaders and volunteers, supporting community led activities, developing community assets, and improving community engagement, linked to voice and influence. The project will use strength-based approaches to working with local people and organisations.

**Outcome / impact**

- Increase in community engagement and capacity
- Increase in community events and activities
- Increase in community assets

**Budget allocation:** £40,000

The South LAC will have further conversations with the local voluntary, community and faith sector to inform our approach to this priority, this could include exploring any opportunities for match funding. We will be in touch with groups to arrange this.

**Priority 5: Children, Young People & Families**

**Action:** Activities for young people

**Overview:** This priority focuses on activities for young people within the South LAC. We will work with our local Council Youth Services Team and the voluntary, community and faith sector, to try and ensure youth provision is targeted effectively and meets the needs of young people.

This will include funding some additional capacity to provide youth activities in areas of highest need. We will ensure any provision is based on the needs of young people and the activities that they would like to see. This could include youth clubs, training programmes and sports

activities.

**Outcome / Impact:**

- Increased activities for young people

**Budget allocation:** £20,000

The South LAC will have further conversations with the local voluntary, community and faith sector to inform our approach to this priority, this could include exploring any opportunities for match funding. We will be in touch with groups to arrange this.

This gives a total initial budget allocation of £70,000 leaving the South LAC with £30,000 to allocate against the remaining priorities, as outlined in the South LAC Community Plan.

- 1.3 Some of the proposed expenditure may fall within the Community Service Manager's current authorised spending limit. There will however be occasions when expenditure will exceed £5,000 and so would require a decision by the LAC to proceed, but to wait until the next meeting of the LAC would cause undue delay to the project.

To enable decisions to be taken quickly and to deliver priority actions to address specific issues identified in the Plan, it is therefore proposed that, to the extent that it is not already covered by existing authority, the Community Services Manager is authorised to make decisions on expenditure relating to the priorities set out in paragraph 1.2 above provided that a decision may not approve expenditure in excess of the allocated budget for each priority set out in the section above.

This authorisation would be subject to the conditions on consultation with the LAC Chair and expenditure being reported to the next meeting of the LAC set out in paragraph 1.1 above.

Reports detailing the activities funded and the exact amounts of expenditure under each priority heading will be brought to each Local Area Committee meeting during 2022/23, as spending is incurred.

**2. HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?**

- 2.1 Local Area Committees directly support the Communities and Neighbourhoods and Our Council commitments in the 'Our Sheffield: One Year Plan' but to be effective they need to have the capability to respond quickly to emerging local issues.

**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 Citizenspace platform; a paper-based survey for those less digitally enabled; engagement activity with partner organisations including the voluntary, community and faith sector 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.

The Equality Act 2010 identifies the following groups as a protected characteristic: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex and sexual orientation.

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.

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.

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA 916) was previously carried out in respect of the establishment of Local Area Committees.

### **4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications**

#### **4.2.1 This report concerns expenditure from the LAC's approved budget of £100,000. This budget must not be exceeded.**

The priorities outlined in this report equate to an initial budget allocation of £70,000 leaving the South LAC with £30,000 to allocate against the remaining priorities, as outlined in the South LAC Community Plan.

Procurement of supplies and/or services and any 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, reflecting the committee system of governance, by Full Council at its Annual Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> 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 Decisions on any expenditure above the existing authority to the Community Services Manager could be reserved to the LAC but this would delay delivery of priority actions to address specific issues identified in the Community Plan.
- 5.2 All decisions on expenditure to support Community Plan priorities could be delegated to officers. However, this would restrict the LAC's ability to monitor its delegated budget and delivery of the Community Plan.

### **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 The South LAC is asked to note the allocation of funding under the priority headings identified to assist its ability to monitor its budget, and to authorise the Community Services Manager to approve expenditure above the current delegated authority in certain circumstances so that delivery of the Community Plan is not delayed.

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