



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: 12th January 2022
Subject: South LAC Community Plan Report

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“The (report/appendix) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (insert relevant paragraph number) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”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. To date the South LAC has allocated £70,000 of this budget. This report sets out details of spend to date and proposed spending regarding the remaining balance of £30,000, during the 2022/23 financial year.

This report gives an overview of remaining 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 £30,000 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 £11,000 to purchase 2 portable CCTV cameras
- Approves a budget of £3,000 for community capacity building
- Approves a budget of up to £16,000 for street art projects

(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 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.

(iii) Notes the expenditure to date of £70,000 as agreed by the South LAC Committee (and as outlined in section 1.2)

Background Papers:

The South Community Plan is published at:

[South Local Area Committee Community Plan \(sheffield.gov.uk\)](https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/council-and-politics/local-area-committees/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: Ann Hardy
		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	Head of Service who approved submission:	Carl Mullooly
3	LAC Chair consulted:	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.	
	Lead Officer Name: Diane Owens	Job Title: South LAC Community Services Manager
	Date: 20/12/22	

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.

At a meeting in of the South LAC held on 6th July 2022 the South LAC approved the following expenditure against priorities in the Community Plan.

£20,000 – youth activities

£40,000 – community capacity building
£10,000 – to clean up “The Lumb” area in Gleadless Valley

The £20,000 for youth activities and the £40,000 for capacity building have now been allocated and activities are being delivered. The capacity building funding has also been used to support groups to respond to the cost-of-living crisis.

The Lumb project is underway, and the clear up work is expected to be complete by January 2023. The focus will then be on the public realm element of the project.

A detailed update on these priorities will be presented at the South LAC meeting on 12th January 2023 by the South LAC Manager.

To enable the South LAC to continue to address key issues identified in the Community Plan, this report presents an overview of spend in relation to the remaining budget of £30,000 during 2022/23.

Priority 1: Environment & Green Spaces

Action: Street Art Project

Issue: Graffiti

Overview: We will develop a street art project to target a number of key graffiti hot spot sites in the South LAC area. We will look to engage local young people in the project, including working with youth services and VCFS (voluntary, community and faith sector) youth providers.

Outcome / impact

- Reduced levels of graffiti in key targeted areas
- Cleaner / more attractive environment
- Potential reduction in ASB (anti-social behaviour)
- Improved feelings of community safety

Budget allocation: up to £16,000

Funding will cover the costs of hiring skilled street artists, engaging and supporting the involvement of young people (e.g. youth worker time); and also paint and other materials.

Priority 3: Crime & Community Safety

Action: Purchase 2 Portable CCTV cameras

Issue: Crime and ASB (anti-social behaviour)

Overview: This priority focuses on working together with the Police and other partner agencies to respond to issues of crime and ASB in local communities. The 2 portable CCTV cameras will offer wireless remote coverage in selected locations. The cameras can help to reduce incidences of crime and ASB and provide reassurance to local communities. The location of the cameras will be informed by the South LAC and also the 3 established NAG's (Neighbourhood Action Groups) in the South LAC area. The funding will also provide up to 4 initial location moves for the cameras.

Outcome / impact

- Reduced levels of crime / ASB
- Increased feelings of safety

Budget allocation: £11,000

The budget will cover the purchase of 2 Portable CCTV cameras (£4500 each, £9,000 in total) and a number of location moves for the cameras (£250 per installation, up to a total of £2,000).

Priority 4: Communities

Action: To deliver a range of capacity building sessions for the VCFS (voluntary, community and faith sector) in the South LAC

Issue: Sustainability of VCFS organisations

Overview

This priority focuses on building community capacity and infrastructure within the South LAC. The capacity building sessions offered will be based on the needs of the area (gathered from our recent survey and some further engagement with groups) likely topics include, strategic planning, developing a funding strategy, investing in community leaders and volunteers, developing community assets, and improving community engagement, including using online platforms and social media.

Outcome / impact

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

Budget allocation: £3,000

The funding will be used to bring in experts from the field to run training and development sessions for local VCFS organisations. Sessions will be open to all groups in the South LAC area.

This gives a total allocation of £30,000 which is the South LAC's remaining budget for the 2022-23 financial year.

- 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 a budget allocation of £30,000 which is the South LAC's remaining budget for this financial year.

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 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 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.

