



**Author/Lead Officer of Report:** Jayne Foulds  
South East LAC Community Services Manager  
**Tel:** 07495799123

**Report of:** Community Services Manager  
**Report to:** South East Local Area Committee  
**Date of Decision:** 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023  
**Subject:** South East LAC Budget 2023-24

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? 1201				
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 (<b>report/appendix</b>) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (<b>insert relevant paragraph number</b>) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”</i>				

**Purpose of Report:**

Each Local Area Committee has a budget to address local priorities. This report

- Sets out details of the spend in respect of the initial budget of £100,000 for 2022/23 that has been authorised by the Community Services Manager, in consultation with the LAC Chair and in accordance with the delegation granted in September 2021.
- Describes funding allocated to the LAC for 2023/24 and sets out proposals for its allocation and expenditure for 2023/24 in line with the South East LAC plan.

**Recommendations:**

That the South East Local Area Committee:

- Notes the expenditure against the £100,000 budget to address local priorities in the South East LAC as detailed in the report.
- Agrees the use of the 2023/24 LAC budget of £100 000 for the South East area as described in the report.
- Agrees the use of the 2023/24 £44,918 LAC Cost of Living budget as described in the report namely that 50% of the South Easts allocation (£22,459) is awarded as a grant to Citizens Advice Sheffield to support its advice line with the remaining 50% (£22,459 used to create a new South East Cost of Living fund).
- Authorises the Community Services Manager, in consultation with the Local Area Committee Chair, to finalise the eligibility criteria and make decisions, following engagement with the relevant Ward Members, on the award of the grant funds proposed of up to £5,000 per individual award.

**Background Papers:**

<b>Lead Officer to complete:-</b>	
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: Petra de Man
	Equalities: Bev Law
<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> Carl Mullooly
3	<b>LAC Chair consulted:</b>
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> Jayne Foulds	<b>Job Title:</b> South East LAC Community Services Manager
<b>Date: 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023</b>	

## 1. PROPOSAL

### 1.1 Background

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.

In 2021 each LAC was allocated an initial budget of £100,000 to be spent in line with their Community plan. The South East LAC Community Plan was agreed in March 2022 and the unspent portion of the £100,000 budget was carried forward to 2022/23. A new community plan has been drafted to for 2023/24 and will be presented at this meeting – once the plan has been agreed this will be the basis for future LAC funding decisions.

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 award
- A report detailing the delegated spending decisions taken by the Community Services Manager is presented to the next Local Area Committee meeting.

### 1.2

#### **2023/24 budget allocation**

Full Council resolved at the Budget Meeting in March 2023 that *“additional spending amounting to £25,000 per ward, overseen by ward councillors and delivered through the Local Area Committees process, is provided as an additional spend for 2023/24”*. Though not the intention, the effect of this resolution was that these monies were designated Ward Pot budgets. The intention to create LAC budgets has now been put into effect by a decision of the Finance Committee on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023 to agree a virement of the full £700,000 into the LAC budget, amounting to £100,000 per LAC. This budget will be spent on projects benefiting all the wards in the South East LAC area.

At its meeting of June 28<sup>th</sup> 2023 the South East LAC Members agreed to the following:

- To undertake consultation with the local community and revisit the existing priorities in the current community plan following the results of the consultation. New priorities would be presented at the October meeting and decisions on the £100,000 LAC budget agreed
- To produce a final spend report for the £100 000 SE LAC budget for 22/23

<b>Priority &amp; Element</b>	<b>Anticipated Expenditure</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Crime &amp; Community Safety</b>	<b>£50 000</b> Air Drone Crime leaflets Mobile CCTV camera Crime assessments	Projects and tasks to help resolve issues of anti-social behaviour and crime and ensure community confidence in their neighbourhoods
<b>Health + Well being Children + Families</b>	<b>£30 000</b> Safe spaces in parks for teenagers. Life skills training Bikeability scheme More provision for teenagers in parks Community events and festivals Youth provision Lifeskills training Support for health and well being	Projects developed to help meet the issues raised in consultation
<b>Environment</b>	<b>£17 000</b> Funding for local env groups Environmental education	Continue to build on initial work identified from the SE environmental champions groups
<b>Meetings &amp; Admin</b>	<b>£ 3 000</b> 4 x public meetings Administration costs General meetings Public events publicity	£100k budget top sliced to provide funding for public meetings, general meetings and administration

### 1.3 Final Spend report for Lac Project £100k 2022/ 23

(there is a detailed spend sheet at appendix a)

The spend sheet below shows the final spend report for the £100k project budget. The table shows the overall themes, allocated spend and final spend.

Theme	Allocated Spend	Final Spend
Transport and Highways	£59 000	£ 59 401.92
Environment	£17 000	£ 16 057.68
Crime and Community safety	£24 000	£ 17 237.03
Youth provision		£ 4 700
Meetings + Admin		£ 2 625.63
<b>Total spend</b>		<b>£100 022.26</b>

### 1.4 Cost of Living

In its budget setting the Council agreed a sum of £400,000, allocated by Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), to LACs for Cost of Living related work. Of this amount £44,918 was allocated to the South East LAC.

The following recommendations are made:

- That 50% of the South East allocation (£22,459) is awarded as a grant to Citizens Advice Sheffield (CAS) to support its city-wide freephone advice line. The advice line is the primary means that CAS supports people with a range of advice. This is vital to the South East of the city where its distance from the centre of the city makes it harder for people to access in person services. Investment in the service will increase call capacity.
- That the remaining £22,459 is used to create a new South East Cost of Living fund

The fund will be open to those providing support to people in South East Sheffield with cost of living related issues, such as:

- Providing food & practical items

- Providing advice
- Operating a welcome place

Detailed eligibility will be developed but core criteria will include:

- Activity must take place in the South East LAC area.
- The ability to deliver activity by the end of March 2024
- Applicants with no track record of delivery in the South East of the city will need to demonstrate a sound approach to how they develop a project in the South East of the city.
- Applicants will need to demonstrate that existing funds are not already in place for the activity they are applying for.
- The fund will be open to not for profit organisations with a bank account in the organisation's name and at least two signatories who are not related.

It is proposed that the Community Services Manager, in consultation with the LAC Chair, is authorised to finalise the eligibility criteria and make decisions on expenditure relating to the grant applications received as set out above. Bids will be assessed by the LAC team and agreed. Applications will be shared with the relevant Ward Members for comment in advance of decisions being taken. Expenditure will be reported to the next meeting of the LAC.

## **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 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.

Further online and in person consultation has taken place in June and July and August 2023 in order to give Members information to consider any changes required to the LAC and Ward priorities at the September

LAC meeting.

#### **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 of the LAC's allocated budgets of £100,000 prior to 2023/24, and £100,000 (£25,000 per ward) and £44,918 (cost of living) in 2023/24. These budgets must not be**



exceeded.

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, 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 This report is in line with the previous decision of September 30<sup>th</sup> 2021 regarding expenditure below £5000, the South East Community Plan agreed on March 9<sup>th</sup> 2022 and the proposed new South East Community plan for 2023/24.

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

- 6.1 The South East LAC is asked to note the use of funding as per the previous decision of September 30<sup>th</sup> 2021 and agree further expenditure to address the identified local priorities so the community plan is not delayed.

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