



**Author/Lead Officer of Report: East LAC**  
Huda Ahmed - Community Services Manager

**Tel: 07901736801**

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**Report of:** Community Services Manager  
**Report to:** East Local Area Committee  
**Date of Decision:** 28<sup>th</sup> February 2024  
**Subject:** 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? 2601				
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) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (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 presents an overview of the 2023/24 funding allocated to the East Local Area Committee and related spend decisions:

- The East LAC project budget of £100,000
- The Cost-of-Living budget amounting to £77,100.

**Recommendations:**

That the East Local Area Committee

- Notes the expenditure against the 2023/24 £100,000 budget allocated to spend on projects that work towards implementing the East LAC Community Plan priorities as set out in Appendix 1 to this report.
- Authorises the following expenditure from the £100,000 project budget for the purposes described in the report:
  - (a) £5001 to Woodthorpe Tenants and Residents Association.
  - (b) £15,680 to The Link Community Hub.
- Notes the expenditure against the 2023/24 £38.550 East Cost of Living fund as set out in Appendix 2 to this report.

**Background Papers:**

The East Community Plan is published at:

[East Local Area Committee Community Plan | Sheffield City Council](#)

<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: <i>Andrea Simpson</i>	
	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	<b>Head of Service who approved submission:</b> Carl Mullooly	
3	<b>LAC Chair consulted:</b> Cllr Mary Lea	
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.	
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>Lead Officer Name:</b> Huda Ahmed</td> <td><b>Job Title:</b> <b>East LAC Community Services Manager</b></td> </tr> </table>	<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> Huda Ahmed
<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> Huda Ahmed	<b>Job Title:</b> <b>East LAC Community Services Manager</b>	
<b>Date: 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024</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.

1.2 To enable decisions to be taken quickly and to respond to emerging issues, in September 2021 the East 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
- A report detailing the delegated spending decisions taken by the Community Services Manager is presented to the next Local Area Committee meeting.

Spending decisions made under this delegation have been reported to the LAC at each meeting.

1.3 Funding delegated by the Council to LACs in 2023/24 amounts to £100,000 per LAC (£25,000 per ward) plus a total sum of £400,000 for Cost of Living related work, allocated to LACs by Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) so that the East LAC's share is £77,100.

### 1.4 2023/24 budget allocation

The East LAC agreed at its meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023 that the £100,000 budget be apportioned to allocate £25,000 to each ward, to be spent on LAC Community Plan priorities:

- Children and Young People
- Environment
- Anti-social behaviour and crime
- Communities and Neighbourhoods
- Health and Wellbeing
- Highways and Transport

1.5 The £100k budget allocation for the East LAC projects has been utilised.

The funds were distributed across various organisations all working toward implementing the priorities as stated in the East LAC community plan. The breakdown of the budget is shown at Appendix 1.

- 1.6 Expenditure decisions of no more than £5,000 per item have been made by the Community Services Manager under the authority delegated to her by the LAC in September 2021. Any items of expenditure of more than £5000 must be approved by the LAC.

Therefore approval is sought for the following grant awards as indicated below in line with the East Lac priorities:

- Woodthorpe Tenants and Residents Association - £5,001.00. This fund is for the organisation for ongoing Youth Work, Activities for older residents and community support and advice
- The Link Community Hub (Community Advice worker) - £15,680.00 employ an advisor worker for 2 days a week in Richmond. This fits into our Neighbourhoods and Communities and Health and Wellbeing priorities

1.7 **Cost of Living**

At its meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023, the East LAC agreed that the £77,100 Cost of Living budget allocated to the East LAC is used as follows: 50% of East's allocation (£38,550) is awarded as a grant to Citizens Advice Sheffield to support its advice line; the remaining 50% (£38,550) is used to create an East Cost of Living fund providing support to people in East Sheffield with cost of living related issues, such as: providing food and practical items; providing advice and potential breakfast clubs; and operating a welcome place.

- 1.8 Authority was delegated to the Community Services Manager, in consultation with the LAC 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.

- 1.9 The entire allocation for the Cost-of-Living fund of £38.550 has been utilised. The £38 550 cost of living fund has been allocated towards providing essential support to forty one organisations, some that provide support to individuals, children, young people, elderly, foodbanks and families. The breakdown of the budget is shown at Appendix 2.

**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' and contribute to the priorities in 'Together we Get Things Done, the emerging Sheffield City Council Plan 2024 - 2028, 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. In June 2023 the East LAC carried an online and paper community survey that acknowledged the six East LAC Community Plan priorities identified last year are still relevant.

#### **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.

- 4.1.2 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, to ensure this approach considers 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 of £100,000 (£25,000 per ward) and £77,100 (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 set out within paragraph 3.3.3 of the Council's updated Constitution, reflecting the committee system of governance, by Members at its Annual Council 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 inevitably delay delivery of priority actions to address specific issues identified in the Community Plan.

All decisions on expenditure to support Community Plan priorities could be delegated to officers. However, this would restrict and undermine the LAC's ability to monitor its delegated budget and delivery of the Community Plan.

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

- 6.1 This report is in line with the LAC decisions of 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023 regarding expenditure of its 2023/24 budgets. Please see appendix 1 and 2 in this report.