

PART A - Initial Impact Assessment

Proposal Name: South LAC Community plan 2023- 24

EIA ID: 2368

EIA Author: Adeola Banjoko

Proposal Outline: The South LAC Community Plan reflects conversations between public sector partners, VCF organisations, TARA representatives, local Councillors and local residents. This helps ensure that any budgets allocated to the South LAC to deliver the plan, will be supporting local priorities. The South LAC Community Plan has been revised for 2023-24 with new priorities added in terms of supporting people with the cost of living and supporting local businesses and shopping districts to increase footfall and vibrancy. This EIA focusses on the current agreed and proposed projects that will be supported through the 2023-24 South LAC budget. It is a live document which will be updated as new projects are agreed. The South LAC does not lead on delivery of the majority of the projects, its role is as a funder, facilitator, and partner, the EIA reflects this.

Proposal Type: Non-Budget

Year Of Proposal: 23/24

Lead Director for proposal: Lorraine Wood

Service Area: Local Area Committes, Community Services

EIA Start Date: 28/09/2023

Lead Equality Objective: Understanding Communities

Decision Type

Committees:

Local Area Committees

- South

Portfolio

Primary Portfolio:

Neighbourhood Services

EIA is cross portfolio:

No

EIA is joint with another organisation:

No

Overview of Impact

Overview Summery:

Local Area Committee's aim to engage, empower and enable our diverse communities. The South LAC works closely with the VCF sector to further facilitate their invaluable community projects, raise and listen to community issues, work collectively to problem solve and help to create an even better local neighbourhood. Our approach to deliver and engage our diverse communities across the themes in our plan, requires our team to be flexible and open, working closely with community based groups, who have strong relationships with and knowledge of local communities. We have EDI at the core of what we do and work to consider the equality implications of our decisions to mitigate any potential negative impacts. A number of projects agreed through the 2023-24 South LAC budget, have a strong emphasis on the cost of living and supporting communities and individuals. Linked to this the South LAC has received £59,610 in funding to allocate, which was allocated by the IMD and Vulnerable Household Score to support COL work. In terms of impact on different groups, due to the nature of the potential projects being supported at this stage

we expect there could be a disproportionate positive impact in terms of disabled people, single parents, carers, older people, younger people and communities of colour and the trans community, this will be explored in more detail in the EIA. The EIA will remain a live document, and so as new projects are agreed the EIA will be updated.

Impacted characteristics:

- Age
- Disability
- Cohesion
- Poverty & Financial Inclusion
- Race
- Religion/Belief
- Sex
- Health
- Sexual Orientation
- Voluntary/Community & Faith Sectors

Impacted local area(s):

South

Consultation and other engagement

Cumulative Impact

Does the proposal have a cumulative impact:

Yes

We have facilitated a number of community workshops around the cost of living to support meaningful engagement with our diverse communities. We conducted a survey on citizen space to inform the plan and supported local VCF groups to carry out the same survey with groups less likely to have their voices heard. We plan to continue working closely with the VCF sector to ensure local voices are reflected in how we deliver against the Community Plan and carry out further engagement activities as required.

Impact areas:

Geographical Area, Across a Community of Identity/Interest

Initial Sign-Off

Full impact assessment required: Yes

Review Date: 28/09/2023

PART B - Full Impact Assessment

Health

Staff Impacted: No

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact:

The Cost of living Support - The COL funding would improve the emotional and mental health of the South LAC communities by providing dedicated specialist advice and guidance either on the phone or in community based settings. The funding could also provide more capacity to the food banks across the South LAC, enabling them to purchase food or supplies as needed, which could include additional fresh produce. The small grants awarded to community groups will also support warm spaces to be available over the winter months. In order to continue to have a positive impact on this group we will seek to explore any barriers that may prevent disabled people from accessing this support

This is Woodseats - The project will improve emotional, physical and overall wellness by uplifting the Woodseats highstreet, including providing benches for people to rest whilst visiting the area / shopping. Play equipment in Highfield Park – providing additional equipment that enables children to socialise with other children, play outdoors in nature, encourages physical activities, which overall will improve health and wellbeing. £10k Small Grants Pot (NE&S) – positive impact for groups and organisations that deliver health focused activities and providing opportunities for people just to come together as this is likely to improve people's mental health. Dementia

Garden, Heeley City Farm - helping people living with dementia to socialise and connect with others, taking part in physical activity and stimulate the senses and memories, all of which greatly improves their health and well-being.

Name of Lead Health Officer:

Comprehensive Assessment Being Completed:

No

Public Health Lead signed off health impact(s):

Age

Staff Impacted:

No

Customers Impacted:

Yes

Description of Impact:

COL- the Cost of living support will benefit people of all ages. The workers providing advice or support will have experience of working with communities from all age groups. We will also ensure that age friendly principles are encouraged for the COL worker to reflect upon. Additionally, we will promote the available support with Age UK, diverse community organisations, schools and colleges in the locality. The food banks across the South LAC will stock a range of foods that are suitable for both the older and younger generation. We will continue to engage with the food banks to ensure they are also thinking about inclusivity and reducing barriers to access. This is Woodseats - we will encourage the project group to consider and engage with youth focused initiatives and the aging population by encouraging them to speak with Age UK, reflect upon age friendly principles, community youth teams and community organisations in the locality. Through recent community and business engagement led by the project, people of all ages are in favour of additional seating along the woodseats highstreet. Although overall we would expect the benches to have a greater benefit for older people as it will provide somewhere to rest if needed. Extra bench in Highfield and Chelsea parks – this will create a positive impact for older people and young/younger people as the as

the benches will provide an additional place to sit and rest if needed. This type of bench has a supportive back frame, this increases its accessibility and inclusivity for a wider range of people to benefit from. As the additional benches will be in local parks, this will further enable people to socialise whilst observing nature which is positive for health and wellness. Play equipment in Highfield Park – positive impact in terms of young people as extra equipment will be available for them to play, learn and develop. Dementia Garden, Heeley City Farm – with an ageing population the number of people living with dementia in the UK is estimated to double in the next 30 years. This project will provide a safe space and support a service so that people with dementia stay as active as they can - physically, mentally and socially. Street Art (£14k budget to support ongoing projects) – project will engage young residents throughout the delivery of the scheme and will provide a space for them to improve their local area and influence the designs whilst learning new skills.

Cohesion

Staff Impacted:

No

Customers Impacted:

Yes

Description of Impact:

This is woodseats - improving the local shopping centre at woodseats will attract more people across sheffield and South Yorkshire to visit. In addition, a wider range of diverse businesses may further expand to the Woodseats area, creating a more attractive and vibrant area to live. This will positively improve community cohesion and relationships amongst the community. £10k Small Grants Pot (NE&S) – positive impact for local groups and organisations to apply for funding which will enable and support social cohesion activities for local people. Lowedges capacity building project – enabling and strengthening community leaders to work together and identify a more strategic vision for the neighbourhoods that they serve. Street Art (£14k budget to support ongoing projects) - beneficial project that will bring together different parts of the community and will add colour and vibrancy to neighbourhoods, making it a more attractive and enjoyable place to live and work.

Staff Impacted: No

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact: Cost of Living support- any advice and benefits support whether in person or telephone based would need to consider the needs of disabled people and accessibility. This could include accessible building and locations, software adaptations and access to specialist support e.g. BSL. It is important that every person accessing help has an approach that works well for them to gain the best support. We will encourage any lead organisations to ensure their services are fully accessible. Equality monitoring data will also be requested from any lead organisations to review how they can amend our approach to further reach those who may experience additional barriers regarding access. Due to the higher levels of poverty experienced by disabled people we would expect the cost of living related projects to have a disproportionate impact on the group. This is woodseats - the project group will be advised to consult with the Access Liason group, Disability Sheffield and SCC's Equality partnerships where necessary, to ensure their plans for small scale public realm improvements are accessible for disabled people. Additionally, we will ensure that when the project group decide on the design of a benches, we will keep in mind the age friendly principles, seek advice from professionals and consult those with lived experience. Extra bench in Highfield and Chelsea parks – positive impact in terms of disabled people, as the benches will provide an additional place to sit and rest if needed. The benches will also enable people to chat and socialise. We have ensured that the type of bench selected has a supportive back frame. This will increase accessibility and inclusivity as a wider range of people will be able to benefit from using the bench. As the additional benches will be in local parks, this will further enable people to socialise, whilst observing nature which positively supports health and wellness. Dementia Garden, Heeley City Farm – positive impact for people with dementia who face psychological and emotional barriers to being able to do more in their community, alongside physical issues.

Staff Impacted: No

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact: COL - the proposals could improve the support available for individuals and families who are struggling, by ensuring additional accessible support is available for them. The proposal could see additional advice and financial and benefits support available either in person or on the phone. Play equipment in Highfield Park – enhances the play opportunities for children whilst providing a free play facilities for families. £10k Small Grants Pot (NE&S) – provides additional opportunity for local groups and organisations to access funding for supporting individuals and families around the cost of living crisis.

Race

Staff Impacted: No

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact: Cost of living Support - the South LAC is a diverse area, 26% of the population are non white british. Any support or advice services will need to consider issues of inclusivity including language barriers and how they will support people who may not be fully fluent in English or have it as a first language, this could include the use of interpretation and translation services e.g. Language Line. In neighbourhoods with more diverse communities due to the higher levels of poverty experienced, there may be a disproportionate impact on communities of colour. In addition, we will ask for data regarding who is accessing support to ensure we are meeting the needs and reaching the most vulnerable. We will encourage the Food banks to continue to think about inclusivity and the diverse cultures in the South LAC when they are planning their service. This is woodseats - The project group will be advised to ensure diverse voices are heard as part of their project planning and delivery. Advice to support the group can be provided if needed. Play equipment in Highfield Park – the park is in a very diverse neighbourhood, so the additional equipment will provide extra play facilities for young people from a range of culturally diverse backgrounds.

Religion / Belief

Staff Impacted: No

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact: COL - any advice or support services will be encouraged to use places of faith as a means to engage with communities. Advice and support will also need to take into consideration any faith cultural implications which can effect things like loans. It will be for any lead organisations to provide this specialist support and guidance.

Sexual Orientation

Staff Impacted: No

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact: COL - any advice or support service needs to be accessible to anyone regardless of their sexual orientation. We will encourage any lead organisation to ensure their services are accessible and will actively promote services with the LGBTQ+ communities, including through SAYiT and LBGT Sheffield. This is Woodseats - we will influence the project group to think and carry out a light touch EIA will sugesst they speak so SAYiT and LGBT sheffield if appropriate for further consultation or advice in relation to their project plans.

Voluntary / Community & Faith Sectors

Staff Impacted: Yes

Customers Impacted: Yes

Description of Impact: Our VCF partners have been engaged in the design, decision making and delivery stage of the COL and "This is woodseats" project and in a number of cases

will be acting as the lead organisation. This is Woodseats project team is led by a VCF organisation and businesses working in collaboration. £10k Small Grants Pot (NE&S) – provides additional opportunity for local groups and organisations to access funding and enhance their activities. Lowedges capacity building project – provides an opportunity to build and strengthen assets based in and around a community whilst providing a shared space for key community leaders. The South LAC will continue to work with a strength asset based community approach, by engaging, maintaining and build meaningful relationships with the VCF sector across all levels.

Action Plan & Supporting Evidence

Outline of action plan:

The South LAC is not the lead delivery organisation on the majority of the projects captured in this EIA. Our role is grant funding, facilitation and partnership working. We will take identified actions and mitigations into conversations with organisations as appropriate specifically. Conversations with "is Woodseats" project leads in terms of disabled people and accessibility. The engagement of younger people and diverse communities in the project e.g. LGBTQ+ community. And consultation and engagement with older people to help inform the designs and plan. We will also provide advice on conducting specific EIA for the project. Conversations with lead organisations in relation to COL projects in terms of, communications and inclusion (reaching those who may not come forward) and ensuring open, inclusive and accessible services. We will also advise them about equality monitoring data to measure access. Conversations with Heeley City Farm in relation to the Demer Garden and inclusivity and inclusion.

Action plan evidence:

Census data 2023
https://sheffield.communityinsight.org/?indicator=total_kgc
2023 Insights Data profiles for wards and neighbourhoods.

Changes made as a result of action plan:

Mitigation

Significant risk after mitigation measures: No

Outline of impact and risks:

Review Date

Review Date:

28/09/2023

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