

NORTH SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

8 January 2009

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES BUDGET (SIB): REGENERATION ISSUES REPORT

Report of the Acting Chief Executive

1.0 Purpose Of The Report

1.1 This report outlines current expenditure from the Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB) and applications for funding from this budget in order to support new initiatives, which will benefit the area.

2.0 Description of Decision (Recommendation)

2.1 The Committee is requested to approve the following:

- Funding to support proposals for one new project. The applications are included in Annex 1.

2.2 Following the recent communication with Members, the Committee is requested to consider the principle of deferring commitment of expenditure from next year's SIB budget (subject to budget approval), except in cases of clear emergency. The Committee is further requested to defer consideration of Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) expenditure until the new financial year.

3.0 Background

3.1 Each Regeneration Framework area has been allocated a minimum budget of £200,000 per annum over the last thirteen years. Over this period, therefore, the Framework area has been allocated £2,866,160.

3.2 Annex 2 gives a full breakdown of individual projects since 2006/7, and Annex 3 provides criteria for SIB funding.

4.0 Current Position

4.1 Following the last Committee meeting of 30 October 2008, £220,949 was allocated, leaving £62,610 to allocate from the 2008/9 budget

4.2 One application for funding is presented to this Committee requesting £13,990 from the 2008/9 budget. Should the Committee grant the request, this will leave £48,620 to allocate, with one committee meeting remaining this financial year.

5.0 Reasons for the Decision

5.1 SIB was established to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Area Regeneration Frameworks, and to attract other funding into the area. Applications for SIB funding should demonstrate the potential benefits to local communities the proposed project would bring, and subsequently be able to provide evidence and statistics that can illustrate these benefits.

5.2 The suggestion to defer new applications seeking funding from the 2009/10 SIB budget (subject to approval) and SIP allocation is to enable the Area Committee to maximise the amount of budget available using their newly developed Local Area Plans.

6.0 Alternative Options

6.1 Each project is required to indicate what alternative options they have considered in section 7.4 of its application form, which is attached as Annex 1.

7.0 Relevant Consultations

7.1 Financial Implications

Each project is required to indicate what financial implications there may be in section 7.5 of its application form, which is attached as Annex 1.

7.2 Implications for Other Services

Each project is required to indicate what implications there may be for other services in section 3.11 of its application form, which is attached as Annex 1. They are also required to identify any support or sponsorship that might be required from a Sunderland City Council Directorate in Section 3.12 of its application form.

7.3 The Public

Each project is required to indicate what consultation it has undertaken and other documentary evidence it has to support its proposal in sections 3.8 and 3.9 of its application form, attached as Annex 1.

7.4 The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and the Councils Race Equality Scheme.

Each project is required to indicate whether it has an equal opportunities policy, or what measures it employs to address equal opportunity issues, in Section 4 of its application form, which is attached as Annex 1.

7.5 Public Relations and Publicity

Each project is required to indicate how it will promote SIB via project publicity in Section 3.7 of the application form. The Marketing and Communications Co-ordinator for Sunderland City Council implements the publicity and public relations schedule on behalf of the Area Committee.

7.6 Procurement and Purchasing

Each project is required to provide details of how they will ensure that the procurement and purchasing of services and equipment will be managed in accordance with requirements as detailed in the guidance notes and guidelines, in Section 7.10 of its application form, which is attached as Annex 1.

8.0 List of Appendices

8.1 Annex 1 Proposals for SIB funding

8.2 Annex 2 Summary of SIB allocations since 2006/7

8.3 Annex 3 SIB Criteria and guidelines

9.0 Background Papers

9.1 Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB): Regeneration Issues Reports to previous Area Committees

9.2 Regeneration Framework Files, North Sunderland