

West Sunderland Area Committee

7th April 2010

Report of Chief Executive

Financial Statements and Funding Request

1. Purpose of the Report

1.1 This report outlines current expenditure from the Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB), Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest and applications for funding from these budgets in order to support new initiatives, which will benefit the area and the delivery of the Local Area Plans.

2.0 Description of Decision (Recommendation)

2.1 The Committee is requested to note the 2009/10 Community Chest, SIB and SIP budget statement, as detailed in Annex 1.

2.2 The Committee is requested to approve the following project for support from the 2009/10 SIB allocation, as below and detailed in Annex 2.

- 'Hylton Castle Re-enactment': £3,000.

3.0 Background

3.1 The Council has reduced the number of areas across the City from six to five. This has resulted in a new calculation of SIB funding to be awarded to the Sunderland West Area Committee of £331,887 to be allocated up until March 2010. All allocations of funding should be matched against the criteria outlined in delivering the key priorities of the area, identified within the Local Area Plan (LAP).

3.2 SIP was approved at Cabinet in March 2008. Included within the plan was an additional one-off allocation of £1.426m to Area Committees. The amount allocated to each Area Committee was the same as SIB allocation for 2008-09. This equates to £233,230, available for the four wards of the former West Area Committee.

3.3 The Committee will be aware that the Community Chest forms part of the Strategic Initiatives Budget and that £250,000 is available for the scheme in 2009/2010, £10,000 for each Ward, plus any unclaimed allocations identified from previous years.

4.0 Current Position SIB

4.1 Following the 24 February 2010 Committee meeting, a balance of £299,814 remained to be allocated from 2009/10 years budget.

4.2 There is one project recommended for approval requesting £3,000. Should Committee approve this the remaining balance would be £296,814.

4.3 Members should note that any uncommitted expenditure from this financial year will be carried forward to the following year's budget.

5.0 Current position SIP

5.1 The full amount of £233,230 remains to be allocated and will be carried over to the new financial year. This should be spent by March 2011.

6.0 Current Position Community Chest

6.1 £86,774 was available for allocation by the ward panels. £67,748 has been allocated leaving a total of £19,026 to be carried over to the next financial year.

7.0 Reasons for the Decision

7.1 SIB and SIP were established to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Local Area Plan, and to attract other funding into the area. Applications for SIB/SIP 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.

7.2 Community Chest support is given to projects which clearly demonstrate that they will address identified local needs, provide genuine community benefit and which can subsequently provide evidence/measurement of success in this respect.

8.0 Alternative Options

8.1 Each project is required to indicate what alternative options they have considered during the application business process.

9.0 Relevant Consultations

9.1 Financial Implications

The Director of Financial Resources has been consulted on this report and all costs associated with developing SIB, SIP and Community Chest applications.

9.2 Implications for Other Services

Each project is required to indicate what implications there may be for other services in the application business process.

9.3 The Public

Each project is required to indicate what consultation it has undertaken and other documentary evidence it has to support its proposal in during the application business process. Residents have been consulted about the priorities in the Local Area Plans and bids support these identified priorities.

9.4 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, during the application process.

9.5 Public Relations and Publicity

Each project is required to indicate how it will promote funding awarded from Area Committee.

9.6 Councillors

Members have been consulted on all applications for SIB, SIP and Community Chest support.

10.0 List of Appendices

- 10.1 Annex 1 Financial statement
- 10.2 Annex 2 SIB: Application summary

11.0 Background Papers

- 11.1 The following background papers were used:
 - Community Chest Application Forms;
 - Reports to previous Area Committees;
 - Sunderland West Local Area Plan;
 - SIB applications, appraisals and consultation.

