

## Washington Area Committee

4<sup>th</sup> March, 2010

### Report of Chief Executive

### Financial Statements and Funding Request

#### 1.0 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 ongoing review of SIB and SIP governance and procedures (see 4.5 and 4.6).

#### Recommend Approval

##### Community Chest

2.2 Committee are requested to agree option 2 in Section 7, where Citywide applications are considered at the final meeting of each municipal year.

2.3 Annex 1: 16 proposals for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest totalling £14,609.

##### SIB 2009/10

2.4 The Area Committee is requested to agree the use of SIB funding to meet the infrastructure costs of managing events and processions on the highway at an area level, in view of the statutory changes made in the safety management of such events. Due to the lead in times for SIB project governance, known local groups will be contacted to ensure they are able to meet appropriate Committee deadlines.

#### Annex 2:

	2009/10	2010/11
1. Kickz SAFC Foundation	£16,000	
2. River Wear Trail	£26,500	
3. Education Business Connections	£5,772	£5,771
Total: £48,272 (09/10)	Budget: £213,670	Balance, if approved: <b>£165,398</b>
Total: £5,771 (10/11)	Budget: roll over from 2009/10 plus unknown allocation for	
2010/11	Commitment total 2010/11:	<b>£38,271</b>

##### SIP budget 2009/10 – West Ward Budget

4. Albany Family Centre	£7,411	
Total: £7,411	Budget: £47,047	Balance: <b>£39,636</b>

##### SIP Budget 2009/10 – Central and South Ward Budgets

5. Lambton Village Centre	£500 per ward	
Central Total: £500	Budget: £34,947	Balance: <b>£34,447</b>
South Total £500	Budget: £49,492	Balance: <b>£48,992</b>

## **SIP Budget 2009/10 – North Ward Budget**

6. Marlborough Park Residents Association £3,750

Total: £3,750

Budget: £49,492

Balance: **£45,742**

2.6 Note the financial statement for Area Committee funding for 2009/10 in Annex 3.

### **3.0 Background**

3.1 The Council has reduced the amount of Regeneration Frameworks across the City from six to five. This has resulted in a new calculation of SIB funding to be awarded to the Coalfield Area Committee of £241,514 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 £237,142 for the Coalfield. It was agreed by Committee in September 2009 that SIP be split across the four identified wards of the area, totalling £59,285 per ward, with local ward Councillors and service delivers being responsible and accountable for its expenditure against the LAP priorities, with proposed projects being presented to Area Committee for a final decision.

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. This scheme is operated under Section 137 of the Local Government Act.

### **4.0 Current Position SIB**

4.1 Following the February 2010 Committee meeting, a balance of £211,635 remains to be allocated this financial year.

4.2 On June 2009 the Area Committee awarded Donwell Community Centre £6,500. Not all the grant was claimed by the group which has resulted in £2,035 being recouped into 2009/10 budget. The new allocation for the remaining of this financial year is £213,670.

4.3 Since the meeting, three SIB full application have been received seeking approval of £48,272 from the 2009/10 SIB budget and a further £5,771 from the 2010/11 SIB budget.

4.4 Projects recommended for approval from the 2009/10 budget total £48,272. Should Committee approve those recommended for approval the remaining balance for the 2009/10 allocation would be £165,398. In addition there is now a possible commitment of £38,271 from 2010/11, subject to Washington Area Committee approval in the new municipal year.

4.5 As part of the ongoing review of SIB procedures and governance, the SIB application form and guidance has been amended to ensure that funding is allocated on an area basis only. This is to ensure projects are tailored to meet the needs of that particular area. From May 2010, area specific application forms will be available and, therefore, organisations wishing to apply for funds to deliver a project in more than one area of the

City must complete an application for each area. Projects should be evidence based and must ensure they meet the needs of the area to which they are applying.

- 4.6 Additionally the Area Committee is requested to agree the use of SIB funding to meet the infrastructure costs of managing events and processions on the highway at an area level, in view of the statutory changes made in the safety management of such events. Due to the lead in times for SIB project governance, known local groups will be contacted to ensure they are able to meet appropriate Committee deadlines.

## 5. Current position SIP

- 5.1 Following the February 2010 meeting, there remains a balance for Washington West of £47,047, Washington Central of £34,947 with the remaining three wards having a balance of £49,492 per ward. Overall area SIP budget would be £230,470 across Washington to allocate.
- 5.2 Should Committee approve the three projects as detailed in Annex 2, the remaining Ward balances would be:

Washington Central	£34,447
Washington East	£49,492
Washington North	£45,742
Washington South	£48,992
Washington West	£39,636

## 6 Current Position Community Chest

- 6.1 To date approvals for each Ward total:

Washington Central	£6033
Washington East	£4184
Washington North	£9385
Washington South	£6984
Washington West	£5397

- 6.2 The projects listed on Annex 1 total:

Washington Central	£3945
Washington East	£2507
Washington North	£1493
Washington South	£4516
Washington West	£2148

- 6.3 Should the Committee grant the requests listed on Annex 1 the remaining balances, including the unclaimed allocations identifies from previous years, would be:

Washington Central	£242
Washington East	£5976
Washington North	£0000
Washington South	£0000
Washington West	£3933

## **7.0 Community Chest Review**

- 7.1 Citywide applications have become more frequent and are often submitted by groups or organisations who state that their project is open to all residents so therefore it is a Citywide project. Some Councillors have expressed concern that there are too many requests for funding which have no direct benefit to their own community and therefore to reduce time and effort made by Councillors in reviewing Citywide applications it is suggested that we reinforce the message that there is no budget in place for Citywide Community Chest and organisations should seek support from their own ward, or seek advice on alternative funding sources. Often, the time and resources spent on the administrative processes associated with considering and allocating the funding for 25 wards far outweighs the value of the grant.
- 7.2 It is recognised that there needs to be some flexibility in the process, as there may be a small number of projects which are of benefit to the whole of Sunderland, and Councillors may still wish to support some of these projects. Examples may be The Mayor's Fund or Remembrance Parade.

It is therefore suggested that Councillors consider two options:

- Option 1: Applications are ward based only and no Citywide will be considered
- Option 2: Citywide applications (where there is a clear benefit to every ward and the whole of the City) is considered by each Committee at the final meeting of each municipal year.

### **Recommendation**

That Option 2 is selected. This will enable Ward members to establish whether there are funds left in their budget to fund a Citywide project and also will mean the project gets a decision from every ward at the same time. There will need to be a 'phasing in' process during the first year to meet timescales of projects. During year 1 the revised procedure will be communicated to all groups and organisations to ensure that projects are not disadvantaged by the less frequent consideration of Citywide applications.

## **8.0 Reasons for the Decision**

- 8.1 SIB and SIP was 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.
- 8.2 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.

## **9.0 Alternative Options**

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

## **10.0 Relevant Consultations**

### 10.1 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.

### 10.2 Implications for Other Services

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

### 10.3 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.

### 10.4 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 business process.

### 10.5 Public Relations and Publicity

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

### 10.6 Councillors

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

## **11.0 List of Appendices**

Annex 1	Community Chest: Proposed projects for approval
Annex 2	SIB and SIP Proposed projects
Annex 3	Financial statement

## **12.0 Background Papers**

The following background papers were used:

- Community Chest Application Forms
- Projects circulated for the panel meeting scheduled 22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2010
- Reports to previous Area Committees
- Washington Local Area Plan

**13.0 Contact Officer:** Karon Purvis, Area Officer for Washington  
Tel: 0191 561 2449.  
E:mail [karon.purvis@sunderland.gov.uk](mailto:karon.purvis@sunderland.gov.uk)

**ANNEX 1****COMMUNITY CHEST 2009/2010****PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL**

	<b>Recommended Grant subject to final estimates, invoices, up to</b>
<b>WASHINGTON CENTRAL WARD</b>	
<b>Washington Glebe Bowling Club</b> – Contribution towards competition costs, transport etc.,	420
<b>Washington Boxing Club</b> – Purchase of equipment.	1200
<b>Our Lady's Over 55 Club</b> – Contribution towards social activities, trips, theatre visits, refreshments etc.,	760
<b>Wessington Primary School</b> – Contribution towards environmental project.	1000
<b>Pitstop Youth Project</b> – Purchase of new furniture.	565
<b>Total</b>	<b>3945</b>
<b>WASHINGTON EAST WARD</b>	
<b>Fatfield Primary School</b> – Purchase of interactive plasma screens.	2500
<b>Roseberry Court Residents Group</b> – Contribution towards Easter dinner	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>2507</b>
<b>WASHINGTON NORTH WARD</b>	
<b>St. Bede's Ladies Fellowship Club</b> – Contribution towards social activities, lunch etc.,	500
<b>Peacehaven Court Residents Group</b> – Contribution towards Easter dinner.	500
<b>Roseberry Court Residents Group</b> – Contribution towards Easter dinner	493
<b>Total</b>	<b>1493</b>

## **WASHINGTON SOUTH WARD**

**Lambton Primary School** – Contribution towards environmental project. 1000

**St. John Boste R.C. Primary School** – Contribution towards environmental project. 1000

**Oxclose Primary School** – Contribution towards environmental project. 1000

**Rickleton United F.C.** – Contribution towards equipment, tournament costs, transport etc., 1516

**Total** 4516

## **WASHINGTON WEST WARD**

**Springwell Village C.A.** – Contribution towards sewing class, purchase of equipment etc., 448

**Donwell C.A.** – Contribution towards new boiler, heating system, building works etc., 1700

**Total** 2148

**Total of Projects** 14,609

**Application One – Kickz**

Funding Source	<b>SIB</b>
Name of Project	<b>Kickz</b>
Lead Organisation	<b>SAFC Foundation</b>

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	<b>Total SIB Requested</b>
£52,370	£36,370	<b>£16,000</b>
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
One year	April 2010	April 2011

**The Project**

The aim of the project is to engage the hardest to reach young people (aged 12-18) in a range of sporting, educational and community activities, enabling them to challenge and develop themselves, moving from the margins of society to active citizenship and helping them to be able to reach their full potential. In order to do this, the project will provide:

- daytime outreach sessions to build relationships with young people at risk of dropping out or causing trouble; written and practical sessions can lead to a Duke of Edinburgh certificate or other award.
- A drop in centre will run two evenings each week over 48 weeks, offering a range of sporting activities and enabling young people to socialise in a safe environment and discuss their issues with a Guidance Officer, if desired.
- A project night one evening each week for young people who wish to get further involved. Projects can include outdoor activities, health, media, music or heritage projects. Young people are encouraged to help raise their own funds and gain a portfolio of skills.

**The Need**

The project was discussed at the November Area Committee under the Healthy theme, with Committee inviting a proposal to come forward to a future meeting. Wider consultation on identifying the need for the provision has been conducted and identified by the Police, Washington Millennium Centre, local residents and the young people themselves.

**The Outputs for the Project**

Output Code	Description	2010/11	2011/12
L6	Number of young people aged 16-19 years encouraged into further education	15	0
L7	Additional youth sessions	3	0
L8	Young people engaged	75	25
S5	Young people benefiting from diversity project	150	50
S6	Young people engaged in youth activity	150	50
H2	Number of young people involved in sport	150	50
A6	Number of celebratory events held	1	0

**The key milestones for the Project**

Milestones and Key Events	Forecast Dates
100 young people registered as Kickz members in Washington	July 2010
20 young people gain accreditation	July 2010
2,500 individual engagements	July 2010



5 young people progress to apprenticeships/senior members/volunteers	July 2010
200 young people registered as Kickz members in Washington	March 2011
40 young people gain accreditation	March 2011
5,000 individual engagements	March 2011
10 young people progress to apprenticeships/senior members/volunteers	March 2011
5% reduction in incidents of anti social behaviour involving young people in the Concord area at times when sessions are running	March 2011

Recommendation: **Approve**

Subject to:

- Before the project can commence, evidence that relevant staff/volunteers have the appropriate CRB checks and that full insurance is in place.
- Figures provided include numbers of female and male participants.

### Application Two – River Wear Trail

Funding Source	<b>SIB</b>
Name of Project	<b>River Wear Trail</b>
Lead Organisation	<b>Sunderland City Council</b>

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	<b>Total SIB Requested</b>
£72,000	£26,000	<b>£ 46,000 (£26,500 from Washington and £19,500 from Coalfield)</b>
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
4 months	July 2010	September 2011

#### The Project

The proposal is seeking £26,500 from the Washington Area Committee towards a £72,000 project to restore to a high standard the accessibility of the River Wear Trail between Cox Green and Fatfield bridges. The route will become step free enabling the north and south bank circuit to be used by those in wheelchairs and with push chairs.

#### The Need for the Project

The improvement of the riverside was identified in the Tyne & Wear Rights of Way Improvement Plan, which was subject to extensive consultation with residents, councillors, businesses and land owners.

#### The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	2010/1
A1	Number of new or improved community facilities and equipment	1

#### The key milestones for the Project

Milestone and key event	Forecast Dates
Revetment, surfacing, fencing, signing and access controls completed	July 2010
Fatfield Bridge ramping of steps	August 2010
Cox Green ramping of steps	Sept 2010

The project was deferred at the January 2010 meeting, for further information. This information has now been provided and issues have been addressed.

Recommendation: **Approve**

### **Application Three – Education Business Connections**

Funding Source	<b>SIB</b>
Name of Project	<b>Community Leaders of the Future</b>
Lead Organisation	<b>Education Business Connections</b>

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	<b>Total SIB Requested</b>
£75,915	£18,200	<b>£57,715 (£11,543 from Washington Committee)</b>
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
Two years	March 2010	February 2012

#### **The Project**

It is a two-year project which includes a high profile citywide competition open to secondary and special schools with a key theme of volunteering whilst developing both key employability skills, work readiness and entrepreneurship on participating young people. It will culminate in a high profile awards event to mark the European Year of Volunteering in 2011. There will be 4 large scale events during the two years. Schools have agreed to take part in the project.

The project includes a number of core elements all designed through a phased learning programme to raise awareness in targeted young people of the impact they can make in supporting local VCS organisations in their community. There is also accredited training for young people resulting in NCFE awards. In particular the programme will aim to develop young people's work readiness and employability skills, foster a sense of entrepreneurship and an understanding that volunteering makes a real difference to everyday life across the city and that young people can be positive about giving freely of their time and energy as a preparation for adulthood and citizenship.

#### **The Need for the Project**

The project would appear to fill a gap for schools and young people. The applicant states there is a clear demand and an unmet need to deliver more activities. In particular, the application states that schools have requested curriculum enhancing activities around involving business and enterprise activities, friendly competitions between schools, programmes which embed employability skills and which reward pupils' achievements, as well as connecting the schools to local communities. This project would meet all of these requirements, and involve 30 pupils from Washington Schools.

There is evidence in the application around the importance of volunteering and the need to engage young people in this activity as early as possible in terms of developing their citizenship skills, an understanding of their communities as well as learning, life and employability skills.

#### **The Outputs for the Project**

Output Code	Description	Number
A3	Number of community/vol groups supported	1
P3	No of young people in voluntary work	30
S5	No of young people benefiting from youth inclusion/diversionary activities	30

## Recommendation: **Approve**

Subject to:

- Robust monitoring and reporting to ensure that the funding provided by the Washington Area Committee benefits pupils and voluntary groups within the Washington area.

### Application Four – Albany Family Centre

Funding Source	<b>SIP</b>
Name of Project	<b>Albany Family Centre</b>
Lead Organisation	<b>The Bridge Project</b>

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	<b>Total SIB Requested</b>
£7,411	Nil	<b>£7,411</b>
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
Two months	May 2010	June 2010

#### The Project

The project are seeking a one off capital award to enable the Family Centre to renew and upgrade the external and internal parts of the building, including doors, windows, shutters and fascias.

#### The Need for the Project

The Centre have consulted local residents, current users and local Councillors about the project. It was also discussed and agreed at a SIP panel meeting to invite an application.

#### The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	2010/11	2011/12
A1	Number of new or improved community facilities and equipment	1	0
A2	Number of people using new and improved community facilities	120	120

#### The key milestones for the Project

<b>Milestones and Key Events</b>	<b>Forecast Dates</b>
Award of contract	March 2010
Start work	May 31 <sup>st</sup> 2010
Completion of refurbishment	June 4 <sup>th</sup> 2010
Launch event	August 2010

## Recommendation: **Approve**

Subject to:

- Copies of Insurance required and confirmation of CRB checks for all staff and volunteers.

## Application Five – Lambton Village Centre

Funding Source	<b>SIP</b>
Name of Project	<b>Lambton Village Sign Renovation</b>
Lead Organisation	<b>Sunderland City Council</b>

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	<b>Total SIB Requested</b>
£1,000	Nil	<b>£500 each (Split between Central and South wards)</b>
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
1 month	April 2010	April 2010

### The Project

The project is to replace the current village sign for Lambton Village Centre.

### The Need for the Project

Local community and ward Councillors have indicated the need for the replacement of the sign in the village centre. It has also been discussed and agreed at a recent SIP panel meeting to invite an application to deliver the project.

### The Outputs for the Project

Output Code	Description	2010/11	2011/12
A4	<b>Number of events/programmes of work to improve appearance of streets/area</b>	1	0

### The key milestones for the Project

Milestones and Key Events	Forecast Dates
Contractor appointed	March 2010
Work commences	April 2010
Work completed	April 2010

Recommendation: **Approve**

## Application Six – Marlborough Park Residents Associations

Funding Source	<b>SIP</b>
Name of Project	<b>Childrens Play Area</b>
Lead Organisation	<b>Marlborough Park Residents Associations</b>

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	<b>Total SIB Requested</b>
£5,000	£1,250	<b>£3,750</b>
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
2 months	May 2010	July 2010

### The Project

The project will aim to develop and improve an area of spare land currently underused. This will provide safe facilities for the playing of 5 a side football and netball, thus encouraging children,

particularly the under 12's to participate in healthy outdoor activities in an area of medium / high density flat dwellings which currently offer very limited opportunities for this kind of play provision. The provision will be accessible to everyone, not just residents of the complex.

### **The Need for the Project**

Local community and ward Councillors have indicated the need for more play facilities within the area. It has also been discussed and agreed at a recent SIP panel meeting to invite an application to deliver the project.

### **The Outputs for the Project**

Output Code	Description	2010/11	2011/12
A1	Number of improved community facilities	1	
A2	Number of people using new and improved facility (12 months)	300	

The key milestones for the Project

<b>Milestones and Key Events</b>	<b>Forecast Dates</b>
Obtaining competitive tenders for site preparation, turfing, levelling, screening and associated works	May 2010
Ordering of play equipment i.e. goals, nets netball hoop and posts etc	June 2010
Works commence and end	July 2010

Recommendation: **Approve**

Subject to:

- Copies of Health and Safety, Equal Opportunity Policies, CRBs and insurance provided.
- Partnership established with the Millennium Centre to help promote the facility locally.
- Marketing and promote use of access to whole community agreed.