

WASHINGTON AREA COMMITTEE June 2024 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I	
Title of Report: Washington Area Budget Report	
Author(s): Assistant Director Housing and Communities	
Purpose of Report: Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Neighbourhood Investment Plan, with the overall aim to benefit the wider community and to attract other funding into the area. The report provides a financial statement as an updated position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funding, Neighbourhood Investment Plan Capital Programme and Community Chest, and presents proposals for further funding requests.	
Description of Decision: Committee are requested to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Note the financial statements set out in Section 2.1 and 3.2. b) Agree that the Ward Improvement Budget be retained within the Neighbourhood Fund and allocated for Area specific priorities. All decisions will be made by full Area Committee. c) Approve Neighbourhood Fund of £10,000 to Sunderland City Council Highways for Resurfacing works as detailed in Item 4 Annex 1 d) To consider the 19 Neighbourhood Fund applications for Positive Activities for Young People as detailed in Item 4 Annex 1 e) Note the Community Chest approvals supported from 2024/2025 as detailed in Item 4 Annex 2 	
Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework? Yes	
Suggested reason(s) for Decision: The Area Committee has an allocation of £488,242 (including Youth allocation and budgets returned from previous year) for 2024/2025 from the Neighbourhood Fund to deliver key priorities identified in the relevant Area Plan and to attract other funding into the area.	
Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected: The circumstances are such that there are no realistic alternatives that could be considered.	
Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution? No	Relevant Scrutiny Committees:
Is it included in the Forward Plan? No	

REPORT OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES

Washington Area Budget Report

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Area Neighbourhood Investment Plan, with the overall aim to benefit the wider community and to attract other funding into the area. The report provides a financial statement as an update position on progress in relation to allocating Area Committee Neighbourhood Funds, Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme and Community Chest and presents proposals for further funding requests.

2 Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund

2.1 The table below shows the financial position of Area Committee Neighbourhood Fund for 2024/2025:

Project Name	Committee Date	Returned	Aligned	Approved	Remaining
Starting Balance for 2024/2025 (£488,242 including funding for Youth Activity and budgets returned from previous year.)					£488,242
Total Balance					£488,242

Table One: Neighbourhood Fund Statement 2024 / 2025

2.2 Washington Area Committee has an allocation of £488,242 Neighbourhood Funding for capital and revenue projects for 2024/2025.

2.3 The Neighbourhood and Community Board recommend that the Ward Improvement Budget be retained within the Neighbourhood Fund and allocated for Area specific priorities. All decisions will be made by full Area Committee.

2.4 There are **20** applications to the Neighbourhood Fund presented to Area Committee for consideration and approval as below and detailed in **Item 4 Annex 1**:

Project	Applicant	Amount
Resurfacing	1. SCC Highways	£10000
Activities for young people:		
	2 Minerva Arts & Wellbeing	£8500
	3 Minerva Arts & Wellbeing	£8500
	4 Minerva Arts & Wellbeing	£8500
	5 Building Blocks Day Centre	£10000

6	Sunderland Culture	£10000
7	Oxclose District YPP	£7983
8	Oxclose District YPP	£7983
9	Oxclose District YPP	£7983
10	Oxclose District YPP	£7983
11	Oxclose District YPP	£5070
12	Minerva Arts & Wellbeing	£8500
13	Minerva Arts & Wellbeing	£8500
14	Active Families	£5000
15	Active Families	£5000
16	Adventure into Art	£7500
17	Oxclose District YPP	£5021
18	Foundation of Light	£4790
19	Mindful Balance	£9086
20	Durham Wildlife Trust	£7905

3. Community Chest

3.1 Each ward has been allocated a budget of £10,000 each, to support projects which complement the Neighbourhood Investment Plan. The process to allocate Community Chest remains the same with ward Councillors leading on seeking suitable project proposals and making decisions on applications received. Where it becomes difficult to make a majority decision and discussions cannot be resolved at a ward level, the outcome will be escalated to Area Committee for a final decision.

3.2 The table below details of the Community Chest approvals supported April 2024 to March 2025, and the balance remaining.

Ward	2024/2025 Allocation	Returned	Approved	Remaining
Central	£10,000	£0	£975	£9,025
East	£10,000	£0	£1,182	£8,818
North	£10,000	£0	£975	£9,025
South	£10,000	£0	£3,010	£6,990
West	£10,000	£0	£1,475	£8,525
Total	£50,000	£0	£7,617	£42,383

Table Two: Community Chest Funding Statement 2024 / 2025

4. Recommendation

Committee are requested to:

- Note the financial statements set out in Section 2.1 and 3.2.
- Agree that the Ward Improvement Budget be retained within the Neighbourhood Fund and allocated for Area specific priorities. All decisions will be made by full Area Committee.
- Approve Neighbourhood Fund of **£10,000** to Sunderland City Council Highways for Resurfacing works as detailed in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- To consider the 19 Neighbourhood Fund applications for Positive Activities for Young People as detailed in **Item 4 Annex 1**
- Note the Community Chest approvals supported from 2024/2025 as detailed in **Item 4 Annex 2**

Annexes

Annex 1

Neighbourhood Fund applications

Annex 2

Community Chest Approvals 2024/25

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