

**West Area Committee**

**30th June 2010.**

**Report of the Chief Executive**

**Community Action in Sunderland West – Progress Review**

**Financial Statements and Funding Request**

**1. Strategic Initiatives Budget**

1.1 Following the April 2010 Committee meeting, a balance of £628,701 remains to be allocated this financial year

1.2 Projects detailed in Annex 2b and recommended for approval are as follows

1. Silkworth Lake and Grounds	£15,000	<b>Approve</b>
2. Education Business Connections	£11,543	<b>Approve</b>

1.3 Projects recommended for approval from the 2010/11 budget total £26,543. Should Committee approve those proposals the remaining balance for the 2010/11 allocation would be £602,158.

1.4 Also detailed in Annex 2b is one project recommended to defer or reject

3. West Green Team	£40,950	<b>Reject</b>
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**2. Strategic Investment Plan (SIP)**

2.1 The full amount of £233,320 remains to be allocated and needs to be allocated this financial year and spent by March 2011.

**3. Community Chest**

3.1 The table attached details balances remaining to be allocated following the last meeting in April, project proposals received as detailed in Annex 2b, and balance remaining should those proposals be approved (including the unclaimed allocations identified from previous years).

## West Area Committee

### SIB funding applications: Summary Document

#### SIB Full Applications recommended for approval

##### Application No.1

Funding Source	<b>SIB</b>
Name of Project	<b>Silksworth Lake and Grounds' Improvements</b>
Lead Organisation	<b>Sunderland Freshwater Angling Club</b>

Total Cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIB Requested
<b>£15,000</b>	<b>Nil</b>	<b>£15,000</b>
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
4 months	September 2010	December 2010

#### **The Project**

The project will provide improvements to the park grounds of Silksworth Sports Complex by installing a floating island, feeding station and angling platform on the second of the two lakes. The floating island will provide a safe area for nesting birds and ensure a pleasant habitat and environment. The feeding station will complement this and also provide safe access to enable people to feed and observe the birds and their natural habitat. The angling platforms will ensure the safety of the managed angling activities and help to encourage people to use the lake in a safe environment. In addition, the two platforms will assist in preventing the erosion of the lake side by 'managing' people's access to the lake to platforms appropriate to such activity.

In June 2009 an 814 signature petition was presented to the council requesting that an island be installed at this lake as a "sanctuary for wildlife".

In addition, there have been approaches from numerous members of the public and also by wildlife groups to see if there was a solution to the abuse that has occurred to swans at this location.

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

Output Code	Description	Target 2010/11
A1	Improved community facilities	1

Milestones and Key Events	Forecast Dates
Installation of floating island	September
Installation of feeding platform	October
Installation of angling platform	November

#### **Recommendation: Approve**

Subject to agreement with City Services (Parks) regarding the specification for the angling and feeding platform, particularly anti slip surfaces and a cleaning regime. The project is a capital improvement that responds to a petition and will lead to real improvements to the lake area and the habitat. The project fits the LAP priorities under Attractive and Inclusive and is supported by City Services Directorate. There will be minimal maintenance required.

## Application No.2

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

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB requested</b>
£75,915	£18,200	£57,715 (£11,543 from West)
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
16 months	September 2010	December 2011

### **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 four 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 Voluntary and Community Sector organisations in their community. There is also accredited training for young people resulting in Northern Council for Further Education 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 are 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 local 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 West Area Committee benefits pupils and voluntary groups within the area. The project is innovative and ambitious and meets priorities identified in the Learning and Prosperous themes within the Local Area Plan (LAP).

## SIB Applications recommended to Reject

### Application No. 3

<b>Name of Project</b>	Green Team West
<b>Lead Organisation</b>	Groundwork Trust

<b>Total cost of Project</b>	<b>Total Match Funding</b>	<b>Total SIB requested</b>
£100,950	£60,000	£40,950
<b>Project Duration</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
14 months	August 2010	October 2011

#### **The Project**

The **Green Team West** project that has been developed by Groundwork North East in partnership with Sunderland City Council, Gentoo and other partners. The Green Team Programme seeks to establish a bridge to employment for unemployed young people aged 18-24 and other unemployed individuals who will assist in the renewal of the neighbourhoods of the West. A programme of small scale community led environmental neighbourhood improvements will be delivered through a squad of five unemployed people who will be supported, training and mentored by a local supervisor. Groundwork will work closely with local neighbourhood groups to develop a programme of environmental improvement works which will also be informed by consultation with key partners such as Sunderland City Council and Gentoo. These works will be additional to any Council Services and other partner's statutory responsibility.

The Green Team Programme will create an extended period of employment (6 months) for unemployed people by moving them from a culture of benefit dependency into a job opportunity through support e.g. counselling & training, and then onto sustainable employment when they are 'job ready'.

#### **Need for Project**

The project will provide a bridge to employment for young residents who are furthest removed from the labour market and are considered Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET). The project will also target other hard to reach long term unemployed individuals who are on other out-of-work benefits (Income Support, Incapacity Benefits, Employment Support Allowance).

The Sunderland Partnership's Attractive & Inclusive City Delivery Group has discussed how programmes such as employability initiatives can be used to support the strategic aim of ensuring that Sunderland becomes a clean, green city with a strong culture of sustainability that nurtures its natural and built environment. This project has been devised as a direct response of these discussions. Based on May's figures, unemployment in Sunderland West has risen dramatically in the last 12 months. There are some large ward variations, with male unemployment over 12% in Pallion (12.6%).

Groundwork has undertaken extensive consultation about how Green Team West will work collaboratively with the City Council's Local Responsive Service

and other council provision – City Services Street Scene. A referral mechanism has been agreed to make sure that the activities delivered by the Green Team will complement and avoid any duplication.

### Outputs of the Project

Output Code	Description	Number
P1	Number of people going into employment (Full Time Equivalent)	6
P4	Number of new businesses established or current business supported.	1
P5	Number of people on out of work benefits going into employment	10
L1	Number of people receiving job training	10
L6	Number of young people aged 16-19 years old not in employment, education or training encouraged into further education and employment	6
A1	Number of new or improved community facilities and equipment	10
A3	Number of community/voluntary groups supported	1
A4	Number of events/programmes of work to improve appearance of streets/area	4

### Recommendation: Reject for the following reasons:

1. Mainstreaming – Sunderland City Council may not have the capacity to offer opportunities within the Street Scene Service given the internal jobs market being introduced. Core vacancies now have to be held for existing Council staff.
2. There is now limited supervisory capacity from the core service in the Council - Groundwork is likely to have to source a higher proportion of supervision from elsewhere.
3. The project should not duplicate core work undertaken by the Council and other partners, e.g. community payback scheme (already agreed) and should be delivered under the Responsive Local Services approach, with work being directed to locally determined priorities identified by the Area Committee.



**COMMUNITY CHEST 2010/2011 WEST AREA  
PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL**

<b>WARD</b>	<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>ALLOCATION 2010/2011</b>	<b>PROJECT PROPOSALS</b>	<b>BALANCE REMAINING</b>
<b>BARNES</b>	Plains Farm C.A	500			
	Red Machine Allotments	700			
	Grindon C.A. Bowls Club	168			
	<b>Total</b>		<b>10,583</b>	<b>1,368</b>	<b>9,215</b>
<b>PALLION</b>	Grindon C.A. Bowls Club	166			
	<b>Total</b>		<b>17,768</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>17,602</b>
<b>SANDHILL</b>	Gardiner Road Bowls Club	500			
	'Making Dreams Come True' Broadway Junior School	500			
	Grindon Youth F.C.	500			
	Grindon C.A. Bowls Club	166			
	<b>Total</b>		<b>22,297</b>	<b>1,666</b>	<b>20,631</b>
<b>SILKSWORTH</b>	Sunderland South Forum Annual Summer Event	500			
	Silksworth Art Group	755			
	New Silksworth F.C.	500			
	New Silksworth Royal British Legion	500			
	Silksworth Banner	1000			
	Celebrating Diversity, Venerable Bede School	500			
	<b>Total</b>		<b>11,295</b>	<b>3755</b>	<b>7,540</b>
<b>ST. ANNE'S</b>	St. Anne's R.C. Nurture Garden	1000			
	South Hylton Junior F.C	465			
	Riverside Park Lighting Project	1037			
	<b>Total</b>		<b>10,058</b>	<b>2,502</b>	<b>7,556</b>
<b>ST. CHAD'S</b>	Middle Herrington Methodist Church Hall	705			
	East Herrington Townswomen's Guild	300			
	Sunderland South Forum Annual Summer Event	500			
	Herrington Flower Club	750			
	Altringham Tower Friendly Club	500			
	<b>Total</b>		<b>11,896</b>	<b>2,755</b>	<b>9,141</b>
<b>Totals</b>			<b>83,897</b>	<b>12,212</b>	<b>71,685</b>



