

**STRATEGIC INITIATIVES BUDGET :
2009/2010 WARD-BASED COMMUNITY CHEST**

Report of the Chief Executive

1.0 Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to bring forward 23 recommendations relating to the 2009/2010 Community Chest Scheme.
- 1.2 This report also outlines the proposed review of the Community Chest procedures.

2.0 Description of Decision

- 2.1 The Committee is requested to approve all 23 proposals for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest as detailed in Annex I.
- 2.2 The Committee is also requested to agree to the proposed Community Chest review.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 The Community Chest was introduced in the 1994/95 financial year. The overall aim of the Community Chest is to support community and voluntary groups and assist in the establishment and development of these groups.
- 3.2 During the past 15 years a number of minor improvements have been made to Community Chest procedures and processes. It is now proposed to carry out a full review and introduce new financial, management, marketing and monitoring procedures for the financial year 2009/10. The review will include new applications forms, leaflets, a monitoring programme and improved financial controls.

The outcome will support both the effective financial management of the grant in addition to providing improved methods of monitoring and maximising the benefits to the community. A report outlining the success of the Community Chest 2009/10 will be presented to the Area Committee in April 2010.

- 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

4.1 The projects listed on Annex 1 total:

Barnes	£700
Pallion	£100
Sandhill	£2554
Silksworth	£4545
St. Anne's	£550
St. Chad's	£3467

4.2 Should the Committee grant the requests listed on Annex 1 the remaining balances would be:

Barnes	£9300
Pallion	£9900
Sandhill	£7446
Silksworth	£5455
St. Anne's	£9450
St. Chad's	£6533

5.0 Reason for Decision

5.1 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.

5.2 Improved marketing arrangements in addition to financial and performance management of the grant will help to ensure that the funding is spent in this regard, support organisations in accessing the fund and provide evidence to highlight how the grant benefits local communities.

6.0 Alternative Options

6.1 The circumstances are such that there are no realistic alternatives that could be considered.

7.0 Relevant Consultation

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

7.2 The City Treasurer has been consulted on this report, all costs associated with developing Community Chest applications are resourced by the Strategic Initiatives Budget.

7.3 Residents have been consulted about the priorities in the Local Area Plans and Community Chest supports these identified priorities.

8.0 Background Papers

8.1 The following background papers were used:

- Community Chest Application Forms
- Schedule of projects circulated at the panel meeting held on 21st May, 2009.

COMMUNITY CHEST 2009/2010

PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL

	Recommended Grant subject to final estimates, invoices, up to:
BARNES WARD	
Plains Farm Youth & Community Group – Purchase of sports equipment.	500
Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade Steering Group – Contribution towards parade expenses, bands, refreshments, transport etc.,	100
The Mayor's Fund – Contribution towards needy children.	100
Total	700
PALLION WARD	
Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade Steering Group Contribution towards parade expenses, bands, refreshments, transport etc.,	100
Total	100
SANDHILL WARD	
Sunderland Primary Schools F.A. – Contribution towards 7-a-side tournament at Wembley, transport, accommodation etc.,	2000
Eagles Community Foundation – Contribution towards coaching, tournament fees, strips etc.,	554
Total	2554
SILKSWORTH WARD	
Silksworth Independent Methodist Church – Purchase of indoor bowls equipment.	1146
Silksworth Library Coffee Morning Group – Contribution towards equipment, room hire etc.,	500
Silksworth Ladies Bowling Club – Contribution towards hire of green, catering, hospitality etc.,	250

SAFC Foundation – Purchase of football equipment, strips etc.,	1150
Silksworth Community F.C. – Purchase of equipment, strips, shirts, bags, footballs etc.,	999
Silksworth Community Mining Celebration – Contribution towards a weekend of celebrations and events.	500
Total	4545
ST. ANNE’S WARD	
South Hylton Rangers F.C. – Purchase of training equipment.	450
Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade Steering Group Contribution towards parade expenses, bands, refreshments, transport etc.,	100
Total	550
ST. CHAD’S WARD	
Farringdon Community Sports College – Contribution towards transport & tutors.	500
The Music Makers – Purchase of sheet music.	500
EHPS Reach for the Stars – Contribution towards sending pupils to Space Camp.	1000
Holy Rosary Parish Centre – Contribution towards exercise classes and buffet lunch.	450
Friends of Oakfield Court – Contribution towards 25 th Anniversary celebrations, buffet, entertainment etc.,	600
The Mayor’s Fund – Contribution towards needy children.	100
Sunderland Empire Stage Experience – Contribution towards workshops and performance for 5 young people.	175
Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade Steering Group Contribution towards parade expenses, bands, refreshments, transport etc.,	100
Sunderland Carers Centre – Contribution towards irish country dancing classes, tuition fees, room hire etc.,	42
Total	3467
Total of Projects	11,916