6th March 2012. Report of the Chief Executive.

Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB) and Community Chest - Financial Statement and Proposals for further allocation of Resources

1. Why has it come to Committee?

1.1 Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Local Area Plan and work 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 up date position on progress in relation to allocating SIB, and Community Chest.

2.1 FINANCIAL STATEMENT WASHINGTON COMMITTEE FUNDING STREAMS 2011-2012 as at 6th March 2012

SIB: Washington SIB Statement after 2nd February 2011 Area Committee

*£287,261 was allocated for 2011/12, £12,321 has been brought back from 2010/11 allocations giving a total balance of £299.582, plus returned £10.449 = £310.031

total balance of £299,582, plus returned £10,449 = £310,031					
	Committee Date	SIB Budget	Allocated (not yet assessed)	Approvals	Balance
£10,449 -Wash Wheeled Sports Park* Return	02.06.11	Return		£10,449*	£310,031
Available Funding 2011/12*		£310,031			£310,031
Project Name	-	_		-	-
Operation Choice	02.06.11	-		£25,821	£284,210
Sunderland Festival	02.06.11	-		£3,000	£281,210
Christmas Festival	02.06.11	_		£15,000	£266,210
Aircraft Museum	02.06.11	_		£6,000	£260,210
Friends of Old Hall	02.06.11	-		£3,450	£256,760
Education & Skills	02.06.11			£30,000	£226,760
Programme Oxclose Church Hall	28.07.11	-		£6,500	£220,700
Young Carers Integration Pilot	28.07.11	-		£15,000	£205,260
Washington Business Breakfast	28.07.11	-		£1,500	£203,760

Washington					
NEET's Support Project	28.07.11	-		£2,000	£201,760
Houghton Feast (Multi)	28.07.11	-		£3,000	£198,760
Washington Christmas Illuminations	29.09.11			£7 500	C101 260
	29.09.11			£7,500	£191,260
Youth Opportunities	29.09.11			£99,900	£91,360
Activities for young people	29.09.11			£11,000	£80,360
2012 programme	01.12.11			£10,000	£70,360
Wellness Extra Care Scheme	01.12.11			£4,500	£65,860
Concord Bus Station	02.02.12			£2,250	£63,610
Usworth Primary School					
Library	02.02.12			£10,999	£52,611
Funds returned	01.12.11		Return	-£18,390	£71,001
Employment Task Group Activity (Subject to a SIB assessment and	01.12.2011		£10,000		£61,001
appraisal) Heritage and	01.12.2011		£10,000		201,001
Community Events (Subject to a SIB assessment and					
assessment and appraisal)	01.12.2011		£40,000		£21,001
New Balance		£310,031	£50,000	£239,030	£21,001

^{*}Subject to approval of figures in allocated column

Community Chest			
Available Funding 2011/12 includes the 2011/ 2012 allocation of £10,000 per ward, £13,041 unclaimed funding for 2008/2009 and £2,660 unallocated funding from 2010/ 2011.	Community Chest Budget	Approvals	Balance
Central	14,248*	6,968	7,280
East	16,084*	14,333	1,751
North	12,385*	10,394	1,991
South	14,148*	8,658	5,490
West	13,040*	10,802	2,238
Balance	£69,905	£51,155	£18,750

2.2 Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB)

- 2.2.1 Following the February 2012 Area Committee meeting, a balance of £21,001 remains to be allocated this financial year.
- 2.2.2 Since the February meeting £1,116 has been returned to the SIB allocation, due to an underspend on the Concord Illuminations. This results in a balance of £22,117 remaining to be allocated this financial year
- 2.2.3 The following projects as detailed in **Annex 1** are recommended for approval, as follows:

	<u>2011/12</u>	
 St. Andrew's Church Hall 	£ 6,000	Approve
2. Oral History Washington	£ 6,000	Approve
Skate Park Festival	£ 6,250	Approve
4. Washington Trust	£ 3,000	Approve

2.2.4 Projects recommended for approval from the 2011/12 budget as above total £21,250. Should Area Committee approve this proposal, the remaining balance for the 2011/12 allocation would be £867.

2.3 Community Chest

- 2.3.1 The table below details the balances remaining to be allocated following the last meeting February 2012. An exercise to reclaim unspent and unclaimed Community chest has been undertaken. A breakdown of funding returned to each Ward is attached as **Annex 3** of this report.
- 2.3.2 A total of 8 project proposals received are set out in **Annex 2**, together with remaining balances should those proposals be approved.

Ward	Budget	Project	Balance		
	Remaining	Proposals	Remaining		
Washington Central	7,462*	£3,329	£4,133		
Washington East	1,851*	£1,004	£ 847		
Washington North	2,091*	£ 504	£1,587		
Washington South	5,593*	£ 504	£5,089		
Washington West	2,358*	£ 504	£1,849		
Total	£19,350	£5,845	£13,505		
Includes returned funding to Washington Central = £182					
Includes returned funding to Washington East = £100					
Includes returned funding to Washington North = £100					
Includes returned funding to Washington South = £103					
Includes returned funding to Washington West = £115					

3.0 Recommendations

Committee is requested to:

- 1. Note the financial statement set out in Section 2.1 of this report.
- 2. Agree the recommendations set out in **Annex 1** with reference to the SIB applications.
- 3. Approve the 8 proposals for support from 2011/12 Community Chest as detailed in **Annex 2**
- 4. Note the Community chest reclaimed and returned amounts as detailed in **Annex**

SIB Full Applications

SIB Full Application No.1.

Name of Project	St Andrew's Church Hall Improvements		
Lead Organisation	St Andrew's Church		

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIB requested
£11,250	£5,250	£6,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
3 months	April 2012	June 2012

The Project

This project addresses community inclusion and engages young people and the local community. A replacement heating system is required for the building as the current system is over 30 years old and has suffered a number of breakdowns recently leaving the hall without heating. There is a real issue regarding availability of spare parts to repair given its age. Some events in the building have had to be cancelled due to the lack of heating. The new system will be modern reliable and environmentally friendly whilst providing a warm and comfortable environment for the various community groups who use the building. New proposed system will enable the continuation of providing premises/facilities used by local organisations in the community including the Scouts, Beavers, Cubs, U3A, Weight watchers, Women's Institute, Zumba dance Group Charity coffee mornings and The Torch Group (Some visually impaired).

The new installation is critical to the life and usage of the building in so much that if the heating system is not replaced then the various groups mentioned above will be left devoid of suitable accommodation in the immediate area.

Need for Project

Historically the building has been used and still is, to provide warm facilities to various community groups in the area for 34 years and is still much in demand. The current heating system whilst being maintained and repaired subject to availability of parts is now approaching a point where it is no longer reliable and efficient to meet the current demands being made upon it and the building and will soon give up leaving the current users without premises. The organisation has attempted to source funding from other sources but has been unsuccessful. The church council is contributing £5,250 match funding

Outputs of the Project

Output Code	Description	Number
A1	No. of new or improved community facilities and equipment	1

Key Milestones for the Project

Select contractor	March 2012
Installation of new system	June 2012
Testing & commissioning new system	June 2012

Recommendation: Approve. This project meets the Area Committee's Equality, Inclusion and Engagement Priority of the 2011/12 Work Plan.

SIB Full Application No.2

Name of Project	Washington Oral History Project	
Lead Organisation	Usworth Banner Group	

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIB requested
£6,000	£0	£6,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
2 Years	April 2012	March 2014

The Project

The project will be delivered by the Usworth Banner Group and will work in partnership with other groups in Washington who will support the delivery of the project. Volunteers including young people who will be trained to interview residents and record their life stories through various media, including camera's, video cameras and voice recordings. This will include recording their experiences of growing up as a child; work life, especially with former miners and life in general over the years in the villages that now forms Washington. The project will produce media that reflects life in the villages of Washington and how the villages have developed and social history has changed over the decades, highlighting the differences between then and now so that generations to come will have a permanent record of life in Washington. The interviews will be saved onto DVD's so that they can be shared with both young and old and the broader community and they will be a record for use by schools and future generations. The local primary schools will be given a full set of the recordings so that they can be used by teaching staff when pupils are learning about local history or a period in history relevant to the recordings so that it becomes real for them.

Organisations will have access to the library of information, so that interested groups can reflect on what life was like and use the data as a tool to support older people break the barriers of isolation by encouraging them to take part in talks and presentations. The funding will be used to buy in the training and purchase equipment which will enable the volunteers to undertake the project. The group would be willing for the equipment and resources to be used by other Washington groups.

The project will engage young people in the 8 to 14 age group which is a priority group for area committee and the City Council, by working with the Education and Heritage Officer. It will deliver intergenerational work, as the group engage with older residents and this will create a greater understanding between the groups and improve community cohesion, as we develop pride in the people and area through sharing the working.

Need for the Project

Through discussions with the Education and Heritage Officer and various groups, we are aware that the social history records for Washington are limited and no one has undertaken a project of this type, but everyone has identified the need to do it, before the opportunity is lost, especially with the mining heritage for the area.

Washington Heritage Youth Group have been contacted to discuss how the young people can be involved in the project, for some to undertake the training and then with the groups workers undertake some interviews with family and friends. The group have also suggested the photographic history of Washington which will be a record of current life in Washington for future generations.

Options considered include:

- 1. Engage the Oral History Group to deliver the project, this would increase the cost of the project, the equipment would not be available to Washington groups and there would be little or no local ownership. This approach would not include young people and would not achieve either of the priorities as it would become an academic project that would still produced the required end product but the opportunity for local people to deliver a local project that engaged the community would be lost.
- 2. Washington Millennium Centre to host the project and deliver the project on behalf of the banner group. This approach would ensure the equipment was available for use by Washington groups and the opportunity to engage young people could be achieved by the centre however it would not deliver the breadth and depth that the banner group can as we work with all the banner groups in Washington and as a collective we will engage with many ex miners and will bring experiences that other agencies will not be aware of.

Outputs of the Project

Output Code	Description	Number
A1	No. of new or improved community facilities and equipment	1
L5	No. of adults receiving qualifications	12
P3	No. people volunteering	20

Key Milestones for the Project

First course delivered	June 2012
Second course delivered	July 2012
Equipment purchased	August 2012
First interviews undertaken	Sept 2012
DVD & collection produced	March 2014

Recommendation: Approve. This project meets the Area Committee's Equality, Inclusion and Engagement Priority of the 2011/12 Work Plan.

SIB Full Application No.3

Name of Project	Washington Skate Park Festival
Lead Organisation	Oxclose & District Young People's Project

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIB requested
£9,710	£3,500	£6,210
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
2 Years	April 2012	March 2014

The Project

The purpose of the festival is to provide local young people with opportunities to take part in a local festival that celebrates local talent and promotes the local skate park facility.

The idea for a festival stemmed from feedback received following the skate park launch event held in July last year that attracted 500 young people (despite atrocious weather!!)

The event will take place in Princess Anne Park (Central Washington) on Saturday 14th July between 3pm -9pm. The event has been designed to appeal to different target groups. Local

bands will appeal to young people interested in music and activities in the skate park area will appeal to skaters, BMX riders and off road cyclists, and the additional activities provided by the XL Youth Village will help to ensure there is something for everyone. The Police have pledged their support for the event and will have a presence on the day. Chlamydia screening and the C Card scheme will also complement the range of activities on offer. We will use the event to consult with young people about future youth provision and participants will also be encouraged to evaluate their experience of the day. Outcomes will be used to help shape future plans for the provision of youth work in Washington.

The planning and organisation of the event will be undertaken by the Manager of ODYPP who has past experience of organising events on this scale. Representatives from the XL Youth Village and the Police will be involved in the organisation of the event to ensure that due consideration is given to health and safety and safeguarding requirements. The event will be staffed by qualified youth workers who are known to many of the young people that will attend, and are familiar with staffing youth events and activities and dealing with the behaviour of groups of young people. The event will directly contribute to engaging young people in positive activities within their local community as it will be held at a central and accessible location, it will incorporate activities that young people have stated they are interested in, and it will be staffed by local youth workers who are known by the local youth population.

The event will be widely publicised through local press, secondary schools across the area, Connexions, the City of Sunderland's Lets Go website, Facebook, other voluntary organisations that work with young people and via the extensive membership of our organisation.

XL Youth Villages provide activities for young people on Friday and Saturday evenings, however they will be a key partner at the event, extending the range of activities available to young people and contributing to the staffing requirements of the event. By working in partnership we will be able to maximise the availability of resources and expertise to deliver an event that will provide extremely good value for money. Oxclose & District Young People's Project and the Youth Development Group are contributing match funding to the event.

Need for the Project

Last summer ODYPP organised a music festival in Princess Anne Park as part of the launch of the new skate park. The music festival was attended by 500+ young people despite the inclement weather. Feed back from young people following the event was very positive indeed. Young people had enjoyed taking part in an open air music event where local bands were centre stage. Feedback also suggested that the event provided opportunities for young people from different areas of Washington to come together and celebrate the things they had in common. Some young people said that the event had given them a sense of pride in their town. Many young people that attended would have been unable to afford the costs of attending regional music festivals yet the Washington festival provided them with an affordable alternative that was greatly appreciated.

Regular consultation with young people involved in ODYPP through the various youth work programmes has identified that there is overwhelming support for a festival this summer. Young people have suggested that the event should incorporate activities on the skate park alongside the bands/music element to appeal to a wider audience. The 40+ young people involved in the Music Project have identified a need for the festival as they value the opportunity to perform to a large audience at an open air venue - an experience they would otherwise be unlikely to have. Following last years festival there was a rise in the number of young people attending the music sessions - young people were inspired by the event and wanted to get involved in playing instruments/playing in bands.

Feedback from the Police, local schools, local residents, local councillors and the Youth Development Group has also been very positive following last years event. It is acknowledged that the event helped to break down some of the geographical barriers that existed between groups of young people from different areas of the town and provided young people with a positive opportunity to celebrate local talent within their community.

It is expected 700-1000 young people (depending upon weather) will participate in the event and as a consequence will be more aware of the activities/support/opportunities available to them within their local community.

The success of the project will be measured by

- (1) the number of young people that attend the event
- (2) the number of young people that go on to participate in other youth provision during the school holidays
- (3) feedback obtained from young people and other agencies attending the even

The project has investigated 2 other options for delivering this project:

Option 1: Deliver a music only festival in the park. This option would cost £2,300 less, however the festival would be likely to attract far fewer young people. Young people who have expressed an interest in skating/cycling/BMX would be excluded and the opportunity to promote and celebrate the skate park facility would be totally overlooked. The implementation of this option would send out a negative message to young people that were consulted following last years event as it does not reflect the views and opinions gathered. (Young people requested that future events incorporate activities on the skate park to meet the needs of those young people who may not be interested in bands/music.)

Option 2: Deliver an event for young people in-house using one of the existing youth buildings. This option would cost £2,490 less (savings on hire of stage and generator) but would only engage a maximum of 150 young people due to restrictions on the number of people allowed into the building. An indoor event would need to be a music only event and would therefore exclude young people who have other interests. The option would also be much less likely to appeal to young people whose preference is for an open air event. Opportunities to promote other youth work activities and engage new young people would be greatly reduced.

Outputs of the Project

Output Code	Description	Number
A6	No. of community events held	1
L4	No. of additional young people participating in activities	250

Key Milestones for the Project

Planning Group established	April 2012
Equipment, resources and bands booked	April 2012
Implementation of publicity strategy	June 2012
Event delivered	July 2012

Recommendation: Approve. This project meets the Area Committee's Equality, Inclusion and Engagement Priority and the Activities to Engage Young People Priority of the 2011/12 Work Plan.

SIB Full Application No.4

Name of Project	Washington Trust Launch
Lead Organisation	Washington Trust

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIB requested
£3,000	£0	£3,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
3 months	March 2012	June 2012

The Project

The project is to support the establishment of the Washington Trust. The Trust will work with all VCS groups in Washington, supporting them to identify funding streams, work collaboratively and prepare bids or support bids to funders. By setting up the trust and the support structure it will create opportunities for the VCS in Washington who will then deliver services or programmes which will impact on several of the priorities of the Area Committee as the objects of the proposed Trust mirror the priorities of the committee and encompass the broader community needs identified by the ward IMD scores.

The objects of the Trust are "to support the VCS and partner organisations in Washington and adjacent areas to work collaboratively to develop and enhance Community Cohesion, training and employment support, health and wellbeing of individuals and communities and developing community resilience". This will assist in developing a stronger VCS in Washington able to support the most vulnerable in Washington, attract increased resources to the area, increase partnership working and collaboration and contribute to the cohesion of Washington communities.

Need for the Project

Washington Area Committee Work Plan has an outstanding issue of support for the voluntary sector as they have identified a capacity issue, this project will address that priority. We have consulted with our partners at the Bridge Project, Carers Centre, Washington Mind and some of the smaller organisations and they all support the project. Discussions were held with key partners in Washington and the Washington VCS Network at its January meeting, all were supportive of the project and see it as a positive way forward and want to work with the Trust. In addition the Area VCS Network meeting in January agreed with the objects and the formation of the Washington Trust and looked forward to working with it.

The residents of Washington will benefit through the support the Trust will give to the VCS to either sustain services or develop new services that meet resident's needs and area committee priorities. Success will be measured in the first year of operation by achieving 2 successful funding bids.

The project has investigated 2 other options for delivering this project:

Option 1: Encourage the Washington VCS Network to have its own constitution rather than terms of reference. Given the lack of capacity in the sector in Washington this would be difficult to achieve and organisations are not in a position to offer support to facilitate and run a new entity due to constraints being experienced in their own organisations. This approach if taken would fail at some point as there would be no one lead accountable body who could service the needs of the sector.

Option 2: The City Council to provide additional support and time the sector needs to develop more collaborative working and to help identify and facilitate funding opportunities that meet the VCS needs. This option was dismissed as there is the danger the sector would have no ownership of the process and in the longer term it would not be sustainable as the City Council is under financial pressure and is seeking to find new ways to deliver services to residents and organisations and groups.

Outputs of the Project

Output Code	Description	Number
A3	No. of community groups supported	1
P3	No. of people volunteering	4

Key Milestones for the Project

<u> </u>	,	
Trust established and set u	p of office in Washington	May 2012

Recommendation: Approve. This project meets the Area Committee's Equality, Inclusion and Engagement Priority of the 2011/12 Work Plan.

COMMUNITY CHEST 2011/2012 WASHINGTON AREA PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL

WARD	PROJECT	AMOUNT	ALLOCATION 2011/2012	PREVIOUS APPROVALS	BALANCE REMAINING
Central	Columbia Community Association - Replace flooring in the main hall and redecorating costs	£2,000			
	Our ladies over 55's club - River trip with lunch and coach hire	£ 825			
	Wash Mill Centre on behalf of Washington VCS Network -Licence for grant finder	£ 504			
	Totals	£3,329	14,248	6,786	£3,951
East	Barmston Village Primary School - Purchase two leather settees for Community wing	£ 500			
	Wash Mill Centre on behalf of Washington VCS Network - Licence for grant finder	£ 504			
	Totals	£1,004	16,084	14,233	£847
North	Wash Mill Centre on behalf of Washington VCS Network - Licence for grant finder	£ 504			
	Totals	£ 504	12,385	10,294	£1,587
South	Wash Mill Centre on behalf of Washington VCS Network - Licence for grant finder	£ 504			
	Totals	£ 504	14,148	8,555	£5,089
West	Wash Mill Centre on behalf of Washington VCS Network - Licence for grant finder	£ 504			
	Totals	£ 504	13,040	10,687	£1,849
Totals		£5,845	£69,905	£50,555	£13,505

Community Chest: Reclaimed unspent and unclaimed funds

Group	Ward	Amount Reclaimed
Washingtonians	Central	£100
Glebe Residents Association	Central	£12
Washington Glebe Bowling Club	Central	£70
Total		£182
Washingtonians	East	£100
Total		£100
Washingtonians	North	£100
Total		£100
Washingtonians	South	£100
Oxclose Community School	South	£2.31
Washington Video Editing Group	South	1.01
Total		£103.32
Washingtonians	West	£100
Blackfell Primary School	West	£14.58
Total		£114.58

Total returned: £600 (rounded)