

WASHINGTON AREA COMMITTEE
28th September 2021
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:

Washington Area Budget Report

Author(s):

Assistant Director of Community Resilience

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:

- (a) Note the financial statements set out in section 2.1 and 3.1
- (b) Consider the approval of NF funding of **£11,000** to Community Resilience to extend the Clean and Green Local Action (Small Grants) project as set out in **Section 2.3 and Item 3 Annex 1**
- (c) Consider the approval of NF funding of **£10,000** to Community Resilience to extend the Washington Can Do fund (Small Grants) as set out in **Section 2.3 and Item 3 Annex 1**
- (d) Consider the approval of NF funding of **£100,000** and the Project Brief and Call for Projects for the Washington Creative You project as set out in **Section 2.3 and Item 3 Annex 1**
- (e) Consider the approval of NI Capital funding of **£50,000** to Community Resilience to extend the Usworth Park Development Plan as set out in **Section 3.4 and Item 3 Annex 2**
- (f) Consider the alignment of NI Capital funding of **£2,000** for Time to Talk benches as set out in **Section 3.4 and Item 3 Annex 3**
- (g) Note the Community Chest approvals supported from 2021 / 2022, as detailed **Item 3 Annex 4**

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?

Yes

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

The Area Committee has an allocation of £464,444 (inc Youth allocation) for 2021/2022 from the Neighbourhood Fund and £500,000 from the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme to deliver key priorities identified in the relevant Neighbourhood Investment Delivery 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

Item 3 WASHINGTON AREA COMMITTEE

28th September 2021

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

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 2021/2022:

Project Name	Committee Date	Returned	Aligned	Approved	Remaining
Starting Balance for 2021/2022					£464,444
Support for Friends Groups	20.10.16	£4,807			£469,251
Purchase of grounds Equipment	26.09.19	£5,700			£474,951
Area Committee Communications	01.07.21			£10,000	£464,951
Delivering Heritage & Culture	01.07.21			£150,000	£314,951

Table One: Neighbourhood Fund Statement 2021/2022

- 2.2 Area Committee has been allocated £464,444 Neighbourhood Funding for capital and revenue projects.
- 2.3 There are 3 applications to the Neighbourhood Fund presented to Area Committee for consideration detailed at **Item 3 Annex 1**
- i) Extend Clean and Green Local Action (Small Grants) – Community Resilience £ 11,000**
 - ii) Extend Washington Can Do Fund – Community Resilience £ 10,000**
 - iii) Washington Creative You Project £100,000**
- 2.4 The total Neighbourhood Fund budget requested for approval is **£121,000**. If approved, the remaining balance will be **£193,951**

3. Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme 2020 / 2023

- 3.1 The table below shows the financial position of Washington Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme for 2020 / 2023.

Project Name	Committee Date	Returned	Aligned	Approved	Remaining
Starting Balance for 2020 / 2023					£500,000
Festive Lighting	16.07.20			£10,000	£490,000
Usworth Park Development Plan	17.12.20			£9,000	£481,000
Washington Tree Management Project	17.12.20			£28,800	£452,200
Safety Measures	17.12.20			£62,000	£390,200
Bowes Railway Museum	18.03.21			£60,000	£330,200
Invest in Parks	18.03.21		£100,000		£230,200
Invest in Play	18.03.21		£80,000		£150,200
Safety Measures (Phase 2)	01.07.21		58,000		£92,200

Table Two: Neighbourhood Investment Capital Funding Statement 2020 / 2023

- 3.2 Washington Area Committee has been allocated £500,000 for capital developments which complement the Neighbourhood Investment Plan. Members will be responsible for allocating the funding through a majority decision at Area Committee.
- 3.3. The Capital Programme can be allocated in one year, or across more than one, depending on what proposals come forward throughout the year(s). The Area Committee have up to three years to allocate the full amount.
- 3.4 There is 1 application to the Neighbourhood Investment Capital Funding presented to Area Committee for consideration detailed at **Item 3 Annex 2**
- i) Extension to delivering the Usworth Park Development Plan £50,000**
- 3.5 The total Neighbourhood Investment Capital Fund budget requested for approval is **£50,000** (previously aligned). If approved, the remaining balance will be **£92,200**.
- 3.6 There is 1 proposal to align Neighbourhood Investment Capital Fund. At the July meeting of the Neighbourhood and Communities Board it was agreed to recommend aligning £2,000 to facilitate the roll out of Time to Talk Benches across Washington. Further detail is included at **Item 3 Annex 3**
- i) Time to Talk benches – Community Resilience £2,000**
- 3.7 The total Neighbourhood Investment Capital Fund budget requested to align is **£2,000**. If approved, the remaining balance will be **£90,200**.
- 4. Community Chest**
- 4.1 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 has become 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.
- 4.2 The table below details the Community Chest awards starting balances for 2021/2022. **Annex 4** shows the approvals supported, June to September.

Ward	2021/2022 Allocation	Returned	Approved	Remaining
Central	£10,000	£0	£1,450	£8,550
East	£10,000	£0	£1,230	£8,770
North	£10,000	£0	£1,394	£8,606
South	£10,000	£0	£1,012	£8,988
West	£10,000	£0	£2,000	£8,000
Total	£50,000	£0	£7,086	£42,914

Table Three: Community Chest Funding Statement 2021/2022

5. Recommendations:

- 5.1 Note the financial statements set out in Tables One, Two and Three.
- 5.2 Consider the approval of NF funding of **£11,000** to Community Resilience to extend the Clean and Green Local Action (Small Grants) project as set out in **Section 2.3** and **Item 3 Annex 1**
- 5.3 Consider the approval of NF funding of **£10,000** to Community Resilience to extend the Washington Can Do fund (Small Grants) as set out in **Section 2.3** and **Item 3 Annex 1**
- 5.4 Consider the approval of NF funding of **£100,000** and the Project Brief and Call for Projects for the Washington Creative You project as set out in **Section 2.3** and **Item 3 Annex 1**
- 5.5 Consider the approval of NI Capital funding of **£50,000 to Community Resilience to extend the Usworth Park Development Plan** as set out in **Section 3.4** and **Item 3 Annex 2**
- 5.6 Consider the alignment of NI Capital funding of **£2,000** as set out in **Section 3.4** and **Item 3 Annex 3**
- 5.7 Note the Community Chest approvals supported from 2021/2022, as detailed **Item 3 Annex 4**

Annex 1: Neighbourhood Fund Approval Proposals

Annex 2: Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme Approval Proposals

Annex 3: Neighbourhood Investment Capital Programme Alignment Proposals

Annex 4: Community Chest Grant Approvals

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