

## **Coalfield Area Committee**

**9 September 2009**

### **Report of Chief Executive**

### **Financial Statements and Funding Request**

#### **1 Purpose Of The Report**

- 1.1 This report outlines current expenditure from the Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB), Strategic Investment Plan (SIP) and Community Chest and applications for funding from these budgets in order to support new initiatives, which will benefit the area and the delivery of the Local Area Plans.

#### **2.0 Description of Decision (Recommendation)**

- 2.1 The Committee is requested to approve 15 for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest as detailed in Annex I.
- 2.2 Note the approved SIB budget for 2009/10 in Annex 2.
- 2.3 Note the new emergency protocols for accessing SIB and SIP funding.

#### **3.0 Background**

- 3.1 The Council has reduced the amount of Regeneration Frameworks across the City from six to five. This has resulted in a new calculation of SIB funding to be awarded to the Coalfield Area Committee of £241,514 to be allocated up until March 2010. All allocations of funding should be matched against the criteria outlined in delivering the key priorities of the area, identified within the Local Area Plan(LAP).
- 3.2 SIP was approved at Cabinet in March 2008. Included within the plan was an additional one-off allocation of £1.426m to Area Committees. The amount allocated to each Area Committee was the same as SIB allocation for 2008-09. This equates to £237,142 for the Coalfield. At a meeting in July 2009 the Committee discussed how to split the funds across the four wards of Copt Hill, Hetton, Houghton and Shiney Row. A separate report is presented to Area Committee for a final decision on how funds will be split. This funding is available until March 2011.
- 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 SIB**

- 4.1 Following the July 2009 Committee meeting, a balance of £19,093 remained to be allocated from 2008/09 years budget which will be rolled forward to 2009/10.
- 4.2 A total of £5,000 was approved (subject to budget confirmation) from the 2009/10 for year 2 funding for Eco Schools.

- 4.3 A total of £7,704 has been returned to budget from a number of projects and will be added to the 2009/10 budget.
- 4.4 The recently approved Coalfield Area SIB budget allocation for 2009/10 is £241,514. With the additions of 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3 this will bring the total budget to £263,311 for 2009/10 financial year.
- 4.5 Emergency protocols for accessing SIB or SIP funding can only be implemented when a clear emergency, defined as a genuinely unforeseeable issue, is demonstrated. The emergency process can only be initiated where there is a need to approve funding in advance of the next planned Area Committee meeting. An example could be that adverse weather conditions have caused a leaking roof to a community venue that has no other means of financing the repair, creating further damage and preventing the use of the facility. The ArO will consult with the Chair and Vice Chair immediately to determine whether an application is appropriate.
- 4.6 In addition to being a genuine emergency, the application should contribute to priorities identified in the relevant Local Area Plan (LAP). An application form must be completed and all relevant information must be provided. The ArO will provide guidance and support to the applicant.
- 4.7 The application will then be objectively assessed against agreed criteria, as a matter of urgency. Consultation with relevant partners/directorates will take place. A report will be produced for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Area Committee who will make a recommendation whether to approve the funding application.
- 4.8 All elected members of the relevant Area Committee will be consulted by e-mail to confirm they are in agreement with the proposal. If the Application is to be agreed, under the Council's 'Scheme of Delegation', The Deputy Chief Executive will then action the decision in accordance with the Council's constitution. The project applicant will be informed of the decision immediately. Area Committee will be updated at the next meeting. Any Terms and Conditions of offer will be discussed and agreed prior to commencement of project (all usual SIB terms and conditions apply). The emergency process should normally take no more than 7-10 days from submission of application

## **5. Current position SIP**

- 5.1 The full allocation of £237,142 remains to be allocated and fully expended by March 2011.

## **6 Current Position Community Chest**

- 6.1 To date approvals for each Ward total:

Copt Hill	£5340
Hetton	£6425
Houghton	£6429
Shiney Row	£4550

- 6.2 The projects listed on Annex 1 total:

Copt Hill	£5072
Hetton	£4516
Houghton	£3493
Shiney Row	£600

- 6.3 Should the Committee grant the requests listed on Annex 1 the remaining balances, including the unclaimed allocations identifies from previous years, would be:

Copt Hill	£1819
Hetton	£1546
Houghton	£6046
Shiney Row	£7350

## **7.0 Reasons for the Decision**

- 7.1 SIB and SIP was established to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Local Area Plan, and to attract other funding into the area. Applications for SIB/SIP funding should demonstrate the potential benefits to local communities the proposed project would bring, and subsequently be able to provide evidence and statistics that can illustrate these benefits.
- 7.2 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.

## **8.0 Alternative Options**

- 8.1 Each project is required to indicate what alternative options they have considered during the application business process.

## **9.0 Relevant Consultations**

### **9.1 Financial Implications**

The Director of Financial Resources has been consulted on this report and all costs associated with developing SIB, SIP and Community Chest applications.

### **9.2 Implications for Other Services**

Each project is required to indicate what implications there may be for other services in the application business process.

### **9.3 The Public**

Each project is required to indicate what consultation it has undertaken and other documentary evidence it has to support its proposal in during the application business process. Residents have been consulted about the priorities in the Local Area Plans and bids support these identified priorities.

### **9.4 The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 and the Councils Race Equality Scheme.**

Each project is required to indicate whether it has an equal opportunities policy, or what measures it employs to address equal opportunity issues, during the application business process.

### **9.5 Public Relations and Publicity**

Each project is required to indicate how it will promote funding awarded from Area Committee.

## 9.6 Councillors

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

## 10.0 List of Appendices

10.1 Annex 1      Community Chest: Proposed projects for approval

10.2 Annex 2      Financial Statement

## 11.0 Background Papers

11.1 The following background papers were used:

- Community Chest Application Forms
- Schedule of projects circulated at the panel meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2009.
- Reports to previous Area Committees
- Coalfield Local Area Plan

## ANNEX 1

### COMMUNITY CHEST 2009/2010

#### PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL

	<b>Recommended Grant subject to final estimates, invoices, up to:</b>
<b>COPT HILL WARD</b>	
<b>Hetton Workingmen's Bowls Club</b> – Contribution towards maintenance of green and mobility access.	647
<b>Houghton Racecourse Community Association</b> – Contribution towards transport costs.	500
<b>Hetton Town Health &amp; Boxing Club</b> – Contribution towards roof and floor repairs.	2000
<b>Houghton Town F.C.</b> – Contribution towards pitch fees etc.,	533
<b>Houghton Methodist Church</b> – Purchase of sound equipment.	1292
<b>Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade Steering Group</b> – Contribution towards parade expenses, bands, refreshments, transport etc.,	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>5072</b>
<b>HETTON WARD</b>	
<b>Moorsley Care of the Aged</b> – Contribution towards Christmas party, entertainment, refreshments etc.,	1000
<b>Hetton Ladies Group</b> - Contribution towards Christmas party, entertainment, refreshments etc.,	700
<b>Hetton Town Health &amp; Boxing Club</b> – Contribution towards roof and floor repairs.	2000
<b>Nidderdale Community Centre</b> – Contribution towards Christmas outing.	816
<b>Total</b>	<b>4516</b>

## **HOUGHTON WARD**

<b>Houghton Methodist Church</b> – Purchase of sound equipment.	1293
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<b>Houghton Pensioners Association</b> – Contribution towards day trips, refreshments etc.,	700
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<b>Dubmire Primary School</b> – Contribution towards new carpet, heating, shed and bird watch station.	1500
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<b>Total</b>	<b>3493</b>
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## **SHINEY ROW WARD**

<b>Penshaw Catholic Club</b> – Contribution towards pitch fees etc.,	500
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<b>Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade Steering Group</b> – Contribution towards parade expenses, bands, refreshments, transport etc.,	100
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<b>Total</b>	<b>600</b>
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<b>Total of Projects</b>	<b>13,681</b>
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