Item 8

EAST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE 7 APRIL 2014 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY SHEET – PART I

Title of Report:

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

Author(s):

Chief Executive

Purpose of Report:

This report requests Area Committee consideration of proposals for the allocation Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB) and note allocations awarded Community Chest grant.

Description of Decision:

The Area Committee is requested to note and approve the following:-

- (a) Note the financial statement set out in 2.1 and 3.1.
- (b) Approve one funding requests totalling £10,000 and agree to align £90,000 from 2013 / 2014 allocation. (Annex 1)
- (c) Approve one funding request of £17,334 from 2014 / 2015 allocation.
- (d) Note the 15 approved Community Chest applications and returned funding from 2013/2014. (Annex 2)

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?

Yes

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

The Area Committee has been allocated Strategic Initiatives Budget to promote action on key priorities identified in the relevant Local Area Work 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	

EAST SUNDERLAND AREA COMMITTEE

Item 8

7 APRIL 2014

II)

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB), Community Chest Financial Statement and proposals for further allocation of resources

1 Purpose of Report

Area Committee has delegated budgets to allocate to specific strategic priorities identified in the Local Area 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 and presents proposals for further funding requests.

2 Strategic Initiatives Budget (SIB)

- 2.1 Following on from January 2014 Area Committee it was agreed to re-present two funding proposals (Annex 1) for SIB for consideration from 2013 / 2014 allocation, these are:
 - I) Reducing NEETS in the East

Little Bit Extra II

£90,000 (Align) £10,000 (Approve)

2.2 The table below shows the financial position of SIB for 2014/2015:

	Committee Date	Allocated (not yet assessed)	Approvals	Balance
Total SIB for 2014/2015 is	£307,282			
				£307,282
Project Name				
No projects approved to date within this financial year				£
Balance				£

^{2.3} Following a recent Place Area Board there is a further request to approve £17,334 SIB 2014 / 2015 to develop vehicle passing points in Sunderland Cemetery. If approved it would leave a balance of £289,948 SIB 2014 / 2015.

3 Community Chest

3.1 The table below details the starting balances for 2014/2015. Annex 2 shows the approvals between January to March 2014.

Ward	Start Balance for 2014/2015
Doxford	£19,631.20
Hendon	£10,471.61
Millfield	£15,572.87
Ryhope	£12,335.63
St Michaels	£10,317.10
Total	£68,328.41

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 Note the financial statements set out in sections 2.1 and 3.1.
- 4.2 Approve three funding requests totalling £117,334 with further detail to be presented on Reducing NEETs in the East at a future meeting, as set out in section 2 and Annex 1.
- 4.3 Note the 15 Community Chest approvals and returned funding from 2013/2014 Community Chest as set out in Annex 2.

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Reducing NEETs in the East

Background

A financial report was withdrawn from East Sunderland Area Committee on the 20 January 2014. It was agreed to revisit the report at future meeting of the East People Area Board.

Following a discussion at the East People Area Board on the 18 February 2014 the Board are recommending to Area Committee that £90,000 SIB 2013 / 2014 is aligned to "Reduce NEETs in the East", with a defined project proposal being presented in June 2014 for further consideration. The future project proposal will focus on:-

- 1. Delivering Work Experience for 14 16 year olds
- 2. Delivering a Work Pairing scheme for 16 19 year olds
- 3. Delivering a Grant Top Up Scheme for 16 19 year olds

Statistically Overview

Data from the Annual Activity survey informs us that Thornhill School in the East has both the highest number and % of NEET young people.

The table below indicates the latest statistics on young people who are NEET living in the East, as at December 2013. It is worth noting that this figure alters on a weekly basis, but does provide Committee with a general position statement.

Ward	Total
Doxford	13
Hendon	55
Millfield	36
Ryhope	33
St Michaels	21
Total	158

NEET Actively Seeking	90
NEET Not Available (Teenage parents,	36
illness, pregnancy)	
Unknown	32
Total	158

Male 83

Female 75

Option 1: Work Experience, Age Target: 14-16

Research has been undertaken and identified that there is a need to work in schools with Year 10 and 11 pupils who are at risk of becoming NEET. It is proposed to deliver a pilot in one of the secondary schools in the East, as it is felt that if the work was rolled out across all secondary schools the work load would be too heavy and unrealistic to make any tangible outputs.

The proposed school to work within is Thornhill based on the highest number of both potential and actual NEET young people.

Proposed Pilot

Based on a pilot scheme, the project would be delivered from September 2014 to July 2015. An employee would be appointed to work on a one to one basis with the identified NEETs, many of whom will be vulnerable and have significant complex issues. As members will recall, Sunderland Council have a statutory duty to assist the most vulnerable young people and those at risk of disengaging from Education. Therefore there will be no duplication with the schools statutory function to provide career advice and guidance to young people. The pilot will complement the existing work of the Connexions Hub and ESF project.

The worker will engage all recognised potential NEETs and NEETs from the school (subject to the school being supportive of the project). The worker will unpick and understand the young person's interests and hobbies, and replicate this thinking with local small business or local VCS groups. Identifying commonalities and making positive connections between a young person and a trader/VCS group.

Outputs

- 70 Increased awareness of progression routes/choices:-
 - Education: 6th Form, College, University
 - o Training: Apprenticeship Schemes
 - Employment: Qualifications required. Volunteering opportunities available to gain works experience.
 - Reduced the number of NEET young people leaving school.
- 35 (50%) work experience / volunteering opportunities delivered up to a period of three months 14- 16 year olds
- 35 local VCS groups and small businesses receiving hands on support whilst pupil is on placement.
- Work closely with and have clear links to current initiatives and services.

Budget

Breakdown of costs	Total
14 – 16 allowance (i.e. bus pass) @ £15 per week, over a 1 month	£2,100
period = $\pounds 60$ per pupil x (X) = 35	
Part time worker @ £12 per hour (based on a Senior Youth Workers	£9,360
fee in the VCS) x 20 hours p.w. = £240 per week x (Term Time Only)	
Running Costs	£1,000
Total	£12,460

Option 2: Work Pairing: Age Target 16-19

Deliver a Work Pairing model which was developed in Scotland by Working Rite. Briefly this is a model that offers 16-18 year olds a period of work experience and mentoring with a small business / local VCS group which typically lasts for six months. Some core elements are:

- A local co-ordinator matching young people with business.
- A strong mentoring relationship between a young person and an experienced adult.
- Time in the classroom initially is kept to a minimum to re-motivate young people who are focussed on employment.

Proposed Pilot

Based on a pilot scheme, SIB will be used to pump prime a project which would be delivered from July 2014 to July 2015. A worker would be appointed to work on a one to one basis with the identified NEETs across the East area, working closely with the Connexion Hub Personal Advisors, Youth Providers and any other services which work with NEETs.

The worker would will engage will all recognised 'actively seeking employment' NEETs who reside in the East (90) and who are work ready to help bridge the gap between the job market. This will allow the Connexions Hub with the opportunity to focus on the 'vulnerable' young people who have complex issues. Similar to the school pilot, the worker will unpick and understand the young person's interests and hobbies, and replicate this thinking with local small business or local VCS groups. Identifying commonalities and making positive connections between a young person and a trader/VCS group.

Outputs

- 90 Increased awareness of progression routes/choices:-
 - Education: 6th Form, College, University
 - Training: Apprenticeship Schemes
 - Employment: Qualifications required. Volunteering opportunities available to gain works experience.
 - Enterprise: Setting up their own business post 18 years and requirements needed to establish and sustain a business.
- 45 (50% of the overall figure) work experience / volunteering opportunities delivered up to a period of six months 16- 19 year olds
- 50 (55%) of potential NEETs reduced
- 45 local VCS groups and small businesses receiving hands on support whilst young people placement is on-going.

Budget

Breakdown of costs	Total
16 – 19 allowance (i.e. bus pass) @ £40 per week, over a 6 month	£43,200
period = £960 per young people x 45	
Part time worker @ £12 per hour (based on a Senior Youth Workers fee	£12,480
in the VCS) x 20 hours p.w. = \pounds 240 per week x 52	
Running Costs	£1,000
Total	£56,680

Option 3: Grant top up scheme: Age Target: 16-19

To reduce the confusion for businesses taken on apprenticeships, for instance, if a young person is appointed the business incentive is \pounds 1,500, however if a long term unemployed adult is appointed the business incentive is \pounds 2,500.

Businesses prefer the latter option, which is reducing the number of businesses willing to enrol a young apprentice. The Project will provide East based businesses / VCS Groups with a financial incentive to employ an unemployed young person from the East as an apprentice for a minimum of one year.

This scheme will support option 2, as it will provide a progression route for young people who have completed the work experience to move on into employment. It can also be used to target young people who have not participate in option 2.

The pilot will complement the existing apprenticeship scheme funded by the government and both the 21 primary and secondary contractors who provide a wide range of apprenticeships schemes across the East area.

Outputs

- 20 apprenticeship schemes delivered, with 20 young people moved into EET
- 20 employers take up the 'top up' grant

Budget

Breakdown of costs	Total
20 x £1,000 to up grants, NEETs moved into EETs	£20,000

Budget: £90,000

Proposed Timescale

Action	Deadline
SIB aligned (subject to Area Committee)	April 2014
Call for Projects	April / May 2014
Lead Agents invited to People Board	May 2014
Area Committee	June / July 2014
Project Delivered	July 2014 – July 2015
Evaluation	August 2015

Recommendation from the East People Area Board

(a) Agree to align £90,000 SIB 2013 / 2014 to reduce the number of NEETs in the East, with a further project proposal being presented at a future meeting for consideration.

SIB Executive Summaries

Item 8, Annex 1

Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIB request to approve
£10,000	£0	£10,000
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date
12	May 2014	April 2015

The Project

To support the Area Committee priority 'Transformation of Adult Social Care', Members from the East People Area Board are proposing that Committee delivers a capacity building scheme to community groups.

The process for accessing the grant will be:-

- Group identified a need i.e. new cooker
- Group approach either local People Board Cllr or Area Community Officer to discuss project.
- If project delivers an adult social care service, an application form is completed.
- The People Board Cllr is consulted on funding request.

PRO JECT TITLE: Little Bit Extra: Canacity Building Scheme

- If eligible for support, funding request is approved and standard SIB offer letter, including terms and conditions are applied.
- Project delivered, monitored and evaluated. Report provided to Area Committee, as part of standard monitoring arrangements.

Recommendation from East People Area Board

- (a) Approve £10,000 SIB 2013 / 2014 budget to deliver a pilot scheme to enable the capacity building of community groups who deliver services relating to adult social care,
- (b) Split the £10,000 evenly across the five wards, totally £2,000 per ward, and
- (c) Review and evaluate pilot after a six month period.

PROJECT TITLE: Passing Points			
Total cost of Project	Total Match Funding	Total SIB request to approve	
£17,334	£0	£17,334	
Project Duration	Start Date	End Date	
1 month	May 2014	May 2014	

The Project

Complaints have been received from local residents who visit Sunderland Cemetery in Grangetown. As nuisance drivers have been driving their vehicles over grass verges, and in some cases graves. This has caused major distress to those families who have been affected.

At a recent Place Board meeting the issue was discussed and a project proposal was put forward to improve vehicle accessibility and reduce damage caused by vehicles to grass verges in and around Sunderland Cemetery.

The Place Directorate are seeking a one off capital fund to establish parking areas, passing places and install two signs, along with one way road markings around the perimeter route.

Recommendation from East Place Area Board

(a) Approve £17,334 SIB 2014 / 2015 budget to deliver the project.

Community Chest: Financial Statement 2013-14 January to March 2014

Doxford Ward Budget	£14,079		
Project	Approval Date	Returned	Approvals
The Box Youth Project- volunteering	06.03.14		£1,640.00
Returned Funding		£450.00	
Remaining balance		£450.00	£9,631.20

Hendon Ward Budget	£9,521		
Project	Approval Date	Returned	Approvals
Back on the Map	06.03.14		£2,000.00
Hendon Community Allotments	06.03.14		£1,700.00
Returned Funding		£355.61	
Remaining balance		£355.61	£471.61

Millfield Ward Budget	£19,080		
Project	Approval Date	Returned	Approvals
Returned Funding		£66.60	
Remaining balance		£66.60	£5,572.87

Ryhope Ward Budget	£11,555		
Project	Approval Date	Returned	Approvals
Ryhope CA	09.01.14		£3,000.00
Ryhope CA	06.02.14		£254.97
Ryhope Seaview Angling Club	06.02.14		£250.00
Ryhope Cricket Club Football Team	06.02.14		£250.00
Ryhope Cricket Club	06.02.14		£250.00
Bluewatch Youth Centre	06.02.14		£250.00
Ryhope Colliery Welfare Junior FC	06.03.04		£1,500.00
Ryhope over 60's	06.03.04		£400.00
Returned Funding		£480.00	
Remaining balance		£480.00	£2,335.63

St Michaels Ward Budget	£10,687	·	
Project	Approval Date	Returned	Approvals
Grangetown CA	06.02.14		£781.00
Sunderland Floral Art Club	06.02.14		£700.00
Bishopwearmouth Probus Club	06.03.14		£425.00
Sunderland Men's Probus Club	06.03.14		£300.00
Returned Funding		£303.10	
Remaining balance		£303.10	£317.10