

Sunderland West Area Committee

10th 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 all 20 proposals 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 number of areas across the City from six to five. This has resulted in a new calculation of SIB funding to be awarded to the Sunderland West Area Committee of £331,887 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 £233,230. 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 29 June 2009 Committee meeting, a balance of £528 remained to be allocated from 2008/09 years budget which will be rolled forward to 2009/10.
- 4.2 Since the meeting, £219 has been returned to budget, which will be allocated for 2009/10 budget.
- 4.3 The recently approved West Area SIB budget allocation for 2009/10 is £331,887. With the additions contained within 4.1 and 4.2 this will bring the total budget to £332,634 for 2009/10 financial year.

5.0 Current position SIP

5.1 To date, there have been no proposals relating to the expenditure of SIP.

6.0 Current Position Community Chest

6.1 To date approvals for each Ward total:

Barnes	£3200
Pallion	£100
Sandhill	£2554
Silksworth	£5045
St. Anne's	£2550
St. Chad's	£3217

6.2 The projects listed on Annex 1 total:

Barnes	£3111
Pallion	£400
Sandhill	£2018
Silksworth	£1500
St. Anne's	£0000
St. Chad's	£750

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:

Barnes	£3889
Pallion	£16841
Sandhill	£16718
Silksworth	£5305
St. Anne's	£12170
St. Chad's	£7406

7.0 Emergency protocol for accessing SIB and SIP funding

7.1 Emergency protocols for accessing SIB or SIP funding can only be accessed when a clear emergency is defined as a genuinely unforeseeable issue. 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.

7.2 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.

7.3 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.

- 7.4 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.

8.0 Reasons for the Decision

- 8.1 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.
- 8.2 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.

9.0 Alternative Options

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

10.0 Relevant Consultations

10.1 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.

10.2 Implications for Other Services

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

10.3 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.

10.4 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 process.

10.5 Public Relations and Publicity

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

10.6 Councillors

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

11.0 List of Appendices

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| 11.1 | Annex 1 | Community Chest: Proposed projects for approval |
| | Annex 2 | Financial Statement |

12.0 Background Papers

12.1 The following background papers were used:

- Community Chest Application Forms
- Schedule of projects circulated at the panel meeting held on 25th August, 2009.
- Reports to previous Area Committees
- Sunderland West Local Area Plan

COMMUNITY CHEST 2009/2010

PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL

**Recommended
Grant subject to
final estimates,
invoices, up to:**

BARNES WARD

Barnes Ladies Bowling Club – Contribution towards replacement of equipment that was destroyed in recent fire. 426

Plains Farm & Humbledon Residents Association – Contribution towards purchase and installation of Neighbourhood Watch signs. 561

Service Ladies Bowling Club – Purchase of equipment for the clubhouse. 324

Ewesley Road Methodist Church Luncheon Club – Contribution towards bus hire. 1000

The Mayor's Fund – Contribution towards needy children. 100

Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade – Contribution towards parade expenses, bands, refreshments, transport etc., 100

Sunderland Floral Art Club – Contribution towards room hire, demonstrations, workshops etc., 50

Girlguiding Durham North – Contribution towards celebration on 100 years of guiding. 100

Rugby League Masters Tour of Australia – Contribution towards tour expenses, transport, accommodation etc., 250

Sunderland Polish Community Association – Contribution towards room hire for drop-in centre, 100

M.S. Society – Contribution towards trips and physiotherapy sessions. 100

Total 3111

PALLION WARD

Millfield 'N' Pallion Panthers Under 11's F.C. –Purchase of training equipment. 400

Total 400

SANDHILL WARD

Grindon Broadway Social Club – Contribution towards security measures.	1000
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1st Thorney Close Brownie Pack – Purchase of uniforms, equipment etc.,	1018
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Total	2018
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SILKSWORTH WARD

Plains Farm & Humbledon Residents Association – Contribution towards children and residents Christmas party.	750
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Tunstall Hills Protection Group – Contribution towards printing of cards and digital photographs.	750
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Total	1500
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ST. CHAD'S WARD

Practical Papercraft –Contribution towards transport, entrance fees and workshops.	500
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Sunderland Headlight – Contribution towards purchase of desktop packages.	50
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Sunderland Polish Community Association – Contribution towards drop-in centre, room hire etc.,	100
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M.S. Society – Contribution towards trips and physiotherapy sessions etc.,	100
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Total	750
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Total of Projects	7779
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