

# **Sunderland North Area Committee**

**7<sup>th</sup> 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 26 proposals for support from the 2009/10 Community Chest as detailed in Annex 1.
- 2.2 Note the approved SIB budget for 2009/10 in Annex 2.
- 2.3 Approve 1 proposal for support from the 2009/10 SIB budget as detailed in Annex 3.
- 2.4 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 Sunderland North Area Committee of £288,548 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 £266,540 for the North. At a meeting in July 2009 the Committee discussed how to split the funds across the five wards of Fulwell, St Peter's, Southwick, Redhill and Castle. 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 29 June 2009 Committee meeting, a balance of £22,120 remained to be allocated from 2008/09 years budget which will be rolled forward to 2009/10.
- 4.2 A total of £6,592 has been returned to budget from a number of projects and will be added to the 2009/10 budget.

- 4.3 The recently approved North Area SIB budget allocation for 2009/10 is £288,548. With the additions of 4.1 and 4.2 this will bring the total budget to £317,260 for 2009/10 financial year.
- 4.4 The project in Annex 3 requests a total of £12,110. Should Committee grant this request the remaining balance would be £305,150.
- 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 £266,540 remains to be allocated and fully expended by March 2011.

## **6 Current Position Community Chest**

- 6.1 To date approvals for each Ward total:

Castle	£8790
Fulwell	£3585
Redhill	£0000
Southwick	£4035
St. Peter's	£2785

- 6.2 The projects listed on Annex 1 total:

Castle	£0000
Fulwell	£4378

Redhill	£1475
Southwick	£1793
St. Peter's	£756

- 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:

Castle	£2710
Fulwell	£6864
Redhill	£18,357
Southwick	£10,110
St. Peter's	£9382

## **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

10.3 Annex 3      SIB: Proposed project for approval

## 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 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2009.
- Reports to previous Area Committees
- Sunderland North Local Area Plan

**COMMUNITY CHEST 2009/2010**  
**PROJECTS PROPOSED FOR APPROVAL**

	<i><b>Recommended Grant subject to final estimates, invoices, up to £:</b></i>
<b>FULWELL WARD</b>	
<b>Wearside Photo Imaging Club</b> – Purchase of digital projector and screen.	500
<b>Peter Stracy House Residents Group</b> – Contribution towards Christmas lunch and transport.	478
<b>Bumble Bees Toddler Group</b> – Contribution towards purchase of safety mats.	800
<b>British Gymnastics Association</b> – Contribution towards European Championship, equipment, travel, accommodation etc.,	600
<b>Haversham Park Area</b> – Contribution towards drainage project.	1500
<b>Sunderland Headlight</b> – Contribution towards purchase of computer equipment.	50
<b>Bidders for Bede</b> – Contribution towards new notice board and production of calendar.	100
<b>Girlguiding Durham North</b> – Contribution towards celebration of 100 years of guiding.	250
<b>Pipkin Rabbit Rescue</b> – Contribution towards care of abandoned pets.	100
<b>Total</b>	<b>4378</b>
<b>REDHILL WARD</b>	
<b>Rosyth Square</b> – Contribution towards ‘dropped kerb’works.	300
<b>Redhouse Under 11’s F.C.</b> – Contribution towards hire costs, training facilities etc.,	500
<b>The Mayor’s Fund</b> – Contribution towards needy children.	100
<b>Sunderland Remembrance Day Parade</b> – Contribution towards parade expenses, bands, refreshments, transport etc.,	100

<b>Sunderland Carers Centre</b> – Contribution towards irish country dancing classes, room hire, tuition fees etc.,	42
<b>Sunderland Headlight</b> – Contribution towards purchase of computer equipment.	32
<b>Music for All</b> – Purchase of musical equipment, promotions etc.,	100
<b>Bidders for Bede</b> – Contribution towards new notice board and production of calendar.	88
<b>Sunderland Floral Art Club</b> – Contribution towards rent, demonstrations, workshops etc.,	26
<b>Girlguiding Durham North</b> – Contribution towards celebration of 100 years of guiding.	100
<b>Rugby League Masters Tour of Australia</b> – Contribution towards travel costs, accommodation etc.,	25
<b>Sunderland Polish Community Association</b> – Contribution towards room hire etc.,	62
<b>Total</b>	<b>1475</b>
<b>SOUTHWICK WARD</b>	
<b>St. Andrew's Methodist Church</b> – Purchase of gardening equipment, plants etc., for community garden.	793
<b>Primrose Allotment Society</b> – Contribution towards renewal of security gates.	1000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1793</b>
<b>ST. PETER'S WARD</b>	
<b>Pipkin Rabbit Rescue</b> – Contribution towards care of abandoned pets.	500
<b>Sunderland Floral Art Club</b> – Contribution towards rent, demonstrations, workshops etc.,	26
<b>Girlguiding Durham North</b> – Contribution towards celebration of 100 years of guiding.	230
<b>Total</b>	<b>756</b>
<b>Total of Projects</b>	<b>8402</b>