

**WASHINGTON AREA COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 2016
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):

Head of Area Arrangements, Scrutiny and Member Support.

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 updated position on progress in relation to allocating SIB, and Community Chest and presents proposals for further funding requests.

Description of Decision:

The Area Committee is requested to:-

- (a) Note the financial statement set out in the report
- (b) Consider and approve **£15,000** from the 2016/17 SIB budget for the Skills and Enterprise Project
- (c) Consider and approve the Project Brief and approve **£100,000** from the 2016/17 SIB budget to the Washington Clean and Green Projects
- (d) Consider and approve **£2000** SIB funding (previously aligned at June Area Committee) to be utilised as part of the GO Washington Small Grants Scheme
- (e) Consider and approve the Project Brief and approve **£28,563** SIB (previously aligned) to Healthy Communities Healthy Spaces Project
- (f) Consider and approve the return of **£25,000** SIB, previously aligned to the Volunteers Equipment Bank
- (g) Consider and approve the Project Brief and approve **£60,000** from the 2016/17 SIB budget for the Washington Events Programme 2017/18
- (h) Note the approvals of Community Chest detailed within.

Is the decision consistent with the Budget/Policy Framework?

Yes

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

Alternative options to be considered and recommended to be rejected:

Is this a “Key Decision” as defined in the Constitution? No

Is it included in the Forward Plan?

Relevant Scrutiny Committees:

20th October 2016

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF AREA ARRANGEMENTS, SCRUTINY AND MEMBER SUPPORT SERVICE - Strategic Initiative Budget (SIB), Community Chest – Financial Statement and proposals for further allocation of resources

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 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 update 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 The table below shows the financial position of SIB for 2016/2017:

	Committee Date	Aligned	Approved	Balance
Total SIB available at the beginning of municipal year 2016/2017 is £299,476. This includes new allocation of £287,261 plus unallocated funds £12,214. A further £195,000 is aligned from 2015/16 budget but not approved.				
Project Name				
Opening balance 2016/17				£299,476
Time to Care (June 2016) (previously aligned)			50,000	£299,476
RETURN Washington Way			30,563	£330,039
RETURN Industrial Estates			35,000	£365,039
GO Washington		2,000		£363,039
Health & Green spaces		28,563		£334,476
Balance				£334,476

2.2 Area Committee is requested to note that in addition to the balance above, funds totalling £140,563 are aligned to priorities identified in both People and Place Work Plans but have yet to be approved. Funds have been aligned to allow evidence to be gathered with regards of need for Financial Inclusion, Volunteers Equipment Bank, Skills and Enterprise, and Health and Green Spaces, and Heritage and culture.

2.3 Members are asked to note the available balance as detailed in the table above and in paragraphs 2.2.

3. People based priorities

3.1 Following a Call for Projects for the Skills and Enterprise Project, 2 applications were received. **Annex 1** provides the executive summary of the applications and the officer recommendation, based on SIB consultation and assessments procedures.

Within that context, Members are asked to consider the information and comments as presented in **Annex 1**, and agree and approve the award of SIB funding (previously aligned) of **£15,000** to the Washington Skills and Enterprise application as proposed by Sunderland North Community Business Centre.

Should Area Committee agree the above grant, a balance of **£334,476** remains available (SIB 2016/17) although a further £125,563 remains aligned to Area Committee priorities.

4. Place based priorities

4.1 Washington Clean and Green: Following the July Place Board, officers were requested to discuss with partners options to deliver a collaborative and co-ordinated approach to neighbourhood management and environmental improvements, responding to local concerns across the area. Proposals should enhance local neighbourhoods, encourage community partnerships and volunteering, and improve the use of green and open spaces.

Partners were invited to meetings in August and were supportive of working in partnership to deliver a co-ordinated programme to address Area Committee requirements. Detailed information was presented to the Board in September together with proposed Project Briefs for a Call For Projects. That information is presented as follows

- Proposed Project Brief and request for approval of funds as detailed in **Annex 2 as 2a** for the Washington Clean and Green Project
- Proposed Project Brief and request for approval of funds as detailed in **Annex 2 as 2b** for the Washington Healthy Communities Healthy Spaces Project
- Proposals to approve £10,000 to Sunderland City Council (Place Management) via an internal application for funding to support Friend's Groups in Washington. This will be in line with SIB processes and protocols for internal application for SIB. Expected outcomes and outputs are detailed in **Annex 2 as 2c**
- Proposals to approve £5,000 to Sunderland City Council (Scrutiny and Area Arrangements) via an internal application for funding to co-ordinate a detailed education campaign, awareness raising, communications and PR which will support all proposals for the Washington Clean and Green programmes. Expected outcomes and outputs are detailed in **Annex 2 as 2d**
- Request Area Committee to agree the utilisation of the remainder of the GO Washington Small Grants Scheme (£9,500) to encourage grass roots organisations and the local community to play an active role in the Washington Clean and Green programme.

Members are requested to agree the Project Briefs for the Washington Clean and Green Programme as presented as Annex 2a and 2b, agree 2 internal SIB applications as detailed in Annex 2c and 2d, and agree that GO Washington Small Grants Scheme be utilised to encourage grass roots organisations to play an active role. Both the internal applications and the GO Washington small grants scheme can be implemented immediately. The two Calls for Projects will be required to follow the SIB protocols and procedures with applications submitted November and December Area Committee approving and agreeing the successful applications.

Members are therefore requested to approve the Project Brief and SIB funding of **£100,000** to deliver proposals as detailed in **Annex 2a, 2c and 2d**. Members are also requested to approve aligned SIB funds of **£28,563** (previously aligned to health and green spaces projects) as detailed in **Annex 2b**.

Should the Area Committee agree the above grant, a balance of **£234,476** remains available (SIB 2016/17) although a further £97,000 remains aligned to Area Committee priorities.

4.2 Members are also requested to formally approve **£2,000 SIB** funding (previously aligned at June Area Committee) to be utilised as part of the GO Washington Small Grants Scheme for planned PR activities and events and re-launch of the Washington Way Map and leaflet.

4.3 Members are also requested to approve the return of aligned funds of £25,000, previously considered to deliver a Volunteers Equipment Bank. The proposed project outcomes for a Volunteers Equipment Bank are now included in proposals for the Washington Clean and Green Programme.

Should Area Committee agree the return to budget as detailed above, a balance of **£259,476** remains available with a further £70,000 remaining aligned to Area Committee priorities.

- 4.4 Members are also requested to note the award of £30,000 SIB (previously aligned) to the Washington Trust for the Washington Heritage and Culture Project as agreed at the June 2016 Area Committee meeting. A further £40,000 remains aligned to Area Committee priorities.
- 4.5 **Washington Events 2017/18:** Following the July Place Board, Area Committee is requested to approve the Project Brief for Washington Events Programme 2017/18 as presented in **Annex 3** and SIB funding of **£60,000** to allow a Call for Projects to be released and applications considered at the next Area Committee in December.

Should Area Committee agree the above grant, a balance of **£199,476** remains available (SIB 2016/17) although a further £40,000 remains aligned to Area Committee priorities.

5. Community Chest

The table below details the Community Chest Ward starting balances for 2016/2017. **Annex 4** shows the approvals supported between June to September 2016.

Ward	Starting Balance 2016/2017	Project Approvals to date	Grant Returned	Balance
Washington Central	£16,963	£5,360	£0	£11,603
Washington East	£14,178	£1,721	£0	£12,457
Washington North	£12,881	£4,285	£0	£8,596
Washington South	£19,773	£303	£0	£19,470
Washington West	£16,664	£0	£0	£16,664
Total	£80,459	£11,669	£0	£68,790

6. **Recommendations:** Members are requested to:
- 6.1 Note the financial statement set out in the report.
- 6.2 Consider and approve **£15,000** from the 2016/17 SIB budget for the Skills and Enterprise as detailed in **Annex 1**
- 6.3 Consider and approve the Project Brief and approve **£100,000** from the 2016/17 SIB budget to the Washington Clean and Green Project as detailed in **Annex 2a, 2c and 2d**
- 6.4 Consider and approve **£2000** SIB funding (previously aligned at June Area Committee) to be utilised as part of the GO Washington Small Grants Scheme as detailed in **paragraph 4.2**
- 6.5 Consider and approve the Project Brief and approve **£28,563** SIB (previously aligned) to Healthy Communities Healthy Spaces Project as detailed in **Annex 2b**
- 6.6 Consider and approve the return of **£25,000** SIB, previously aligned to the Volunteers Equipment Bank as detailed in **paragraph 4.3**
- 6.7 Note the award of £30,000 to the Washington Trust for the Washington Heritage and Culture Project
- 6.8 Consider and approve the Project Brief and approve **£60,000** from the 2016/17 SIB budget for the Washington Events Programme 2017/18 as detailed in **Annex 3**
- 6.9 Note the community chest approvals as detailed in **Annex 4**

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Annex 1: Skills and Enterprise Executive Summary.

Annex 2: Washington Clean and Green Programme

2a: Washington Clean and Green

2b: Washington Healthy Communities Healthy Spaces

2c: Support for Friends Groups

2d: Education and Awareness

Annex 3: Washington Events 2017/18

Annex 4: Washington Community Chest awards – for information only.