



SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL South Community Assembly Report

Report of: South Community Assembly Manager

Date: 4th October 2012

Subject: South Assembly Discretionary Budget

Author of Report: Martin Hughes
South Community Assembly Manager

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Summary:

The 2012/13 Discretionary Budget for the South Community Assembly is £216,805. The majority of this was allocated to services and projects by the Assembly in March 2012. £17,805 remained unallocated to act as a contingency.

Following the introduction of the Streets Ahead contract, the budget allocated to additional lengthspeople is underspent. As a result, £15,470 needs to be reallocated. In addition, the amount set aside for Activities for Children and Young People is also underspent by £837 and also needs to be reallocated.

As a result £34,112 needs to be allocated to projects or services that tackle one or more of the priorities identified in the South Community Plan. This report identifies options and provides recommendations for this allocation.

All allocations will need to be spent by any recipients by 31st March 2013.

Reasons for Recommendations:

The allocation of the remaining 2012/13 South Community Assembly Discretionary Budget will ensure activity takes place to address some of the priorities as identified in the South Community Assembly Plan, namely to;

- Improve Parks and Open Spaces

- Improve the Streetscene
- Increase activities for Children and Young People
- Reduce Crime and Anti-social behaviour
- Promote initiatives and projects that improve community cohesion in targeted areas
- Improve the health and wellbeing of older people
- Tackle Health Inequalities in targeted neighbourhoods
- Provide Increased Opportunity for people to access learning, skills and employment
- Contribute to the development of the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector

Recommendations:

That the South Community Assembly:

- (1) Considers the information contained within this report and allocates the remaining £34,112 of the 2012/13 Discretionary Budget to the projects identified in Section 4, namely
 - Chancet Wood playground – £3,000
 - Youth Shelter on Batemoor Open Space - £8,000
 - Bring Out Your Rubbish Days and Community Skips - £5,612
 - Fuel Poverty and Affordable Warmth (South Yorkshire Energy centre / Heeley City Farm) - £7,500
 - Youth Service to Disengaged South Asian Girls (Roshni) - £5,000
 - Adult Learning Bursaries (South Adult Learning Forum) - £5,000
- (2) Delegates authority to the Assembly Manager, in consultation with the Chair of the Assembly, to -
 - Agree targets, outputs and outcomes for all funded activity with the identified service deliverer and ensure best value for money
 - Vary the amount of these allocations by not more than ten per cent in each case, funding permitting;
 - Reallocate any further underspend to projects that will tackle one or more priorities within the South Community Plan
- (3) Authorises the Director of Community Services, in consultation with the Director of Legal Services, to agree the terms on which all funding referred to in this report is made available and to enter into such funding agreements with recipients of the funding and any other related agreements or arrangements, and on such terms, that she considers appropriate.

Background Papers: South Community Plan 2011/13
South Community Assembly Discretionary Budget report – 29th March 2012

Category of Report: OPEN

Statutory and Council Policy Checklist

Financial Implications
YES Cleared by: Liz Orme
Legal Implications
YES Cleared by: Andrew Bullock
Equality of Opportunity Implications
YES (South Community Plan EIA) Cleared by: Phil Reid
Tackling Health Inequalities Implications
YES
Human rights Implications
NO
Environmental and Sustainability implications
YES
Economic impact
NO
Community safety implications
YES
Human resources implications
NO
Property implications
NO
Area(s) affected
South Community Assembly area of Sheffield
Relevant Scrutiny Committee if decision called in
Safer and Stronger Communities
Is the item a matter which is reserved for approval by the City Council?
NO
Press release
NO

1. Summary

The 2012/13 Discretionary Budget for the South Community Assembly is £216,805. The majority of this was allocated to services and projects by the Assembly in March 2012. £17,805 remained unallocated to act as a contingency.

Following the introduction of the Streets Ahead contract, the budget allocated to additional lengthspeople is underspent. As a result, £15,470 needs to be reallocated. In addition, the amount set aside for Activities for Children and Young People is also underspent by £837 and also needs to be reallocated.

As a result £34,112 needs to be allocated to projects or services that tackle one or more of the priorities identified in the South Community Plan. This report identifies options and provides recommendations for this allocation.

All allocations will need to be spent by any recipients by 31st March 2013.

2. What does this mean for people within the Central Community Assembly Area?

The allocation of the remaining 2012/13 South Community Assembly Discretionary Budget will ensure activity takes place to address some of the priorities as identified in the South Community Assembly Plan, namely to;

- Improve Parks and Open Spaces
- Improve the Streetscene
- Increase activities for Children and Young People
- Reduce Crime and Anti-social behaviour
- Promote initiatives and projects that improve community cohesion in targeted areas
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- Contribute to the development of the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector

3. Outcomes and Sustainability

The funding identified in this report will contribute to the delivery of the priorities in the South Community Assembly Plan, thus benefiting residents in the South Community Assembly Area.

The projects and activity within this report contribute to all five of the key ambitions as indicated in the Sheffield City Strategy 2010-2020 (Sheffield 2020 – Where People Shape the Future) –

- **Distinctive**; using the immense sense of pride local people have in the city and South of Sheffield to bring local projects forward for funding.

- **Successful**; working with partners at a local level with joint employment and community projects and strategically through our formal partnerships.
- **Inclusive**; support projects that enable all sections of our community to benefit and join in new activities.
- **Vibrant**; support the community and voluntary sector in working to achieve the priorities for the area.
- **Sustainable**; ensure that future generations can enjoy the open spaces in our area and that the Assembly plays a key role in protecting our environment.

The funding also supports the City Council’s priorities, values and outcomes as set out in the Corporate Plan ‘Standing Up For Sheffield’. In particular:

Priorities

- Supporting and protecting communities

Values

- Spend public money wisely
- Long term view
- Enable individuals and communities

Outcomes

- Better Health and Wellbeing
- Safe and Secure Communities
- An Environmentally Responsible City

4. Full Proposal

The South Community Assembly Discretionary Budget for 2012/13 is £216,805. The budget has been calculated on an aggregated ward basis, using a £1 per head of population and an additional amount using the Indices of Multiple Deprivation.

Ward	ID Allocation	Pop Allocation	Total Allocation	%
Beauchief & Greenhill	£43,685	£18,872	£62,557	29%
Gleadless Valley	£55,624	£20,645	£76,269	35%
Graves Park	£19,746	£17,457	£37,203	17%
Nether Edge	£21,545	£19,231	£40,776	19%
Total	£140,600	£76,205	£216,805	100

To date the budget has been allocated as follows –

Priority	Project / Activity	Provider	Amount
Improving Parks and Open Spaces	Improvements to Barbers Field - improvements to steps and access routes	Parks and Countryside Service, SCC	£5,000

Improving the Streetscene	<p>Lengthspeople - targeting 9 neighbourhoods up to 30 September 2012, after which new Streets Ahead contract should ensure standards are maintained -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Batemoor • Meadowhead • Lowedges • Greenhill • Chesterfield Road • Fraser estate • Newfield Green • Abbeydale • Sharrow Vale 	Streetforce / Amey	£12,470
	<p>Neighbourhood Environmental Action Team (NEAT) – delivered by Public Realm Service and Lifelong Learning, Skills and Communities Service. Will form part of a formalised training and environmental / horticultural apprenticeship programme for young people previously Not in Education, Employment or Training. Community Assembly contribution will initially go towards the salary of the NEAT supervisor. There will be 2 days a week of NEAT team activity in the area</p>	Parks and Public Realm Service (SCC)	£26,000
Increase activities for Children and Young People	<p>Additional activities for Children and Young People – grants targeted at activity in -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abbeydale • Heeley • Gleadless Valley • Woodseats • Lowedges • Batemoor & Jordanthorpe 	<p>Gleadless Valley Community Forum</p> <p>Heeley City Farm</p> <p>Double Six Youth Club</p> <p>Kickz</p> <p>Activity Sheffield</p>	£39,163
Improving Local and District Shopping Centres	<p>Floral Features - in District and Local Centres across the area –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nether Edge • Broadfield Road • Heeley Green • Chesterfield Road • Newfield Green • Herdings • Woodseats • Meadowhead • Greenhill • Jordanthorpe • Lowedges 	Public Realm Service (SCC)	£10,000
Promoting initiatives and projects that improve community cohesion in targeted areas	<p>Community Pride budget – to continue successful Weeks of Action programme, any targeted community cohesion work and promoting volunteering</p>	Managed by Community Assembly Team	£5,000

Improve the Health and Wellbeing of Older People	Additional activities / services for Older People – grants focused on tackling social isolation	Various – dependent on successful applications Grant process to be managed by South CA Team	£20,000
Contribute to the development of the Voluntary, Community and Faith sector	Small Grants pot for Graves Park and Nether Edge wards – to provide an opportunity for smaller community groups to obtain funding. Groups in the Beauchief & Greenhill and Gleadless Valley wards are able to access Community First Neighbourhood Grants.	Managed by Community Assembly Team	£10,000
	Community Engagement and supporting Service Delivery - Supporting local Community Forums in Gleadless Valley and Lowedges, Batemoor & Jordanthorpe to lead on community engagement, cohesion or development work in targeted neighbourhoods or communities of interest. Also to work in conjunction with Public Sector partners to deliver services around children and young people, older people, community building management, adult learning, employment initiatives and health.	Gleadless Valley Forum Lowedges, Batemoor & Jordanthorpe Forum	£21,000 £34,000
Unallocated	Made up of £17,805 'contingency pot', £15,470 underspend on additional lengthspeople service and £837 underspend on activities for Children and Young People		£34,112
Total			£216,805

The Assembly has also allocated funding via the Highways Budget, Kids Can Do Fund and Section 106.

It is recommended that the remaining £34,112 discretionary budget is allocated as follows –

- a) **Improvements to Chancet Wood Playground - £3,000**
Over the last 6 months the South Community Assembly has been able to recommend the allocation of approximately £9,000 of Section 106 (Planning gain monies) to improvements to Chancet wood Playground. A further £3,000 contribution along with another £4,000 from Parks Playground Team will provide a budget of approximately £16,000. With that funding the following could be achieved:
- New surfacing under current swings

- Roundabout
 - Basket Swing
 - See-saw
 - Springer
- b) Installation of a Youth Shelter on Batemoor Open Space - £8,000
A request for a new youth shelter from New Batemoor TARA and local residents has been supported by SY Police and Sheffield Homes. Residents have been lobbying councillors and Community Assembly staff for a number of years for this equipment.
- c) Bring Out Your Rubbish Days and Community Skips - £5,612
Councillors reluctantly decided not to fund these additional services in March 2012 due to budget constraints. There is now an opportunity to fund 4 bring Out Your Rubbish Days (1 per ward) and approximately 12 community skips (3 per ward). Allocation of these services will be linked into community clean-ups and the deployment of the NEAT team.
- d) Fuel Poverty and Affordable Warmth (South Yorkshire Energy Centre / Heeley City Farm) - £7,500
The South Yorkshire Energy Centre (SYEC) have submitted a proposal to the Assembly around Fuel Poverty and Affordable Warmth. SYEC is the energy efficiency and climate change arm of Heeley City Farm and is the Sheffield city region's only community-based organisation specialising in fuel poverty and affordable warmth advice and support. Current provision includes -
- Family Fuel Busters: energy efficiency education for school children linking with affordable warmth advice and information for parents and carers including home visits
 - Older, Wiser, Warmer: volunteer development programme to support and train older people (over 65s) to become 'energy champions' within their communities.
 - Warm Home, Healthy People: partnership between South Yorkshire Energy Centre, Debt Support Unit and other statutory and VCF partners.
- The funding provided will go towards staffing and running costs in order to -
- Extend opening hours of the South Yorkshire Energy Centre
 - Extend affordable warmth home visit support to more households in South Community Assembly area – currently receive regular referrals from Sheffield City Council's Free Insulation team but service can't keep up with the demand.
 - Extend the Older, Wiser, Warmer scheme into other neighbourhoods, such as Gleadless valley.
- e) Youth Service to Disengaged South Asian Girls (Roshni) - £5,000
Roshni have submitted a proposal to the Assembly to deliver a youth service to disengaged South Asian Girls (aged 11-25 years old) in Abbeydale. This proposal has been supported by SY Police, Sheffield Futures and NHS Sheffield. Roshni was set in 1992 to meet the health

and social care needs of vulnerable South Asian women and girls of all ages. The project will -

- Coordinate and deliver a range of recreational and self development activities.
- Engage South Asian girls in a youth forum to raise health and social issues such as drug and alcohol abuse; teenage pregnancies, sexual exploitation, forced marriages and self harm.
- Provide one to one support to South Asian Girls around health and social issues.

The funding will go towards the recruitment of a part time youth / mentoring worker that will provide one to one support and group activities and running costs.

f) Adult Learning Bursaries (South Adult Learning Forum) - £5,000

The Assembly provided funding for an Adult learning Bursary in 2011/12. This was very successful and helped learners cope with an increase in learning fees. By continuing this fund it will support those -

- taking the first steps back into learning
- learners on a pathway to employment
- older learners
- accessing ESOL classes that have not been residents in the UK for over 3 years

The funding will primarily be available for learners in Abbeydale, Heeley and Lowedges, Batemoor & Jordanthorpe (as Gleadless Valley learners will be able to access bursaries from another funding source). The project will be administered by Heeley Development Trust on behalf of all the learning providers across the South Community Assembly area that make up the South Adult Learning Forum. This proposal is supported by officers within Lifelong Learning, Skills and Communities Service.

5. Financial Implications

The 2012/13 Discretionary Budget for the South Community Assembly is £216,805. This report proposes how the Assembly should allocate £34,122 of this budget to tackle a range of priorities from within the South Community Plan. This will be monitored in accordance with Sheffield City Council financial procedures.

It is proposed that delegations be given to the relevant officers by the Assembly to ensure that the grants can be distributed and managed in the manner that is proposed.

6. Legal Implications

In implementing these proposals reliance can be placed on the new 'general power of competence' (the 'GPC') conferred on the Council by Section 1(1) of the Localism Act 2011.

(Section 1(1) came into force on 18th February 2012 and provides that, “A local authority has power to do anything that individuals generally may do.” This is clearly a very broad power, but it must be noted that it is subject to existing or future statutory limitations.)

The procurement of any goods, works or services must be undertaken in accordance with all relevant provisions of Sheffield City Council’s Constitution including the Council’s Contracts Standing Orders and all applicable procurement rules.

In exercising its discretion, the Assembly needs to be mindful of the Public Sector Equality Duty contained in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010, that is the duty to have due regard to the need to:-

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

This includes having due regard to the need to:-

- (a) remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic; and
- (b) take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it.

The proposed grant to Roshni would be permitted under Section 158 of the Equality Act 2010, as it represents positive action to meet needs of persons who share a protected characteristic which are different from the needs of persons who do not share that protected characteristic.

7. Equality of Opportunity Implications

The South Community Assembly Discretionary budget has been allocated to help address a range of needs in the area, as dictated by the South Community Assembly Plan (which is supported by an Equality Impact Assessment).

The specific recommendations in this report include allocations that will address the needs of children and young people, older people, young Asian women and those that are currently experiencing financial hardship.

8. Human Resource Implications

There are no direct Human Resource implications for the Council.

9. Environmental and Sustainability Implications

Funding provided for improvements to Playgrounds / Open Space and funding allocated to Bring Out Your Rubbish Days / Community Skips will have a positive impact on the local environment

10. Mitigation of Risk

The risks relating to this proposal have been considered by the South Community Assembly Team. These risks will be regularly reviewed and monitored.

Projects funded may not lead to noticeable improvement in the priority issue. The Assembly Team (and the Accountable Bodies Team which administers funding) will monitor the impact of activity throughout the coming year, to assess whether projects have been effective.

The Accountable Bodies Team will administer the distribution of funding and ensure agreed targets and outcomes are being met. They will do this through the receipt of monitoring forms from providers and by visiting projects / activity on the ground.

The Assembly Manager will ensure payments are made as per the project proposal form and are released on time as per Council rules. The projects need to be aware that all funding must be spent by 31st March 2013 and no carry forward or extension is likely.

11. Alternative Options

As a result of the ongoing community consultation and Councillors local intelligence and surgeries, a number of priorities / activities were identified for possible inclusion in the budget. Consideration was given to –

- Further improvements to other parks (eg. Graves Park, Barbers Field)
- Development of allotment / community food growing sites
- Further funding for local food growing projects
- Tree planting initiatives
- Contribution to refurbishment (security shutters) of 191 Blackstock Road (which will house a Social Prescribing services and other community based services)
- Development of a Community Health Trainer service
- An Exercise Intervention project at the Sloan Practice.

One or more of the following factors have meant that these alternative options have not been put forward as recommendations –

- Unable to be delivered in the time frame (ie. by March 2013)
- Have previously received funding from the South Community Assembly
- Could potentially be resourced from other funding
- Do not provide value for money

12. Reasons for Recommendations

The allocation of the remaining 2012/13 South Community Assembly Discretionary Budget will ensure activity takes place to address some of the priorities as identified in the South Community Assembly Plan, namely to;

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13. Recommendations

That the South Community Assembly:

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 - Chancet Wood playground – £3,000
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Martin Hughes
South Community Assembly Manager