



**Author/Lead Officer of Report:** Dave Luck  
North LAC Community Services Manager  
**Tel:** 07795637875

**Report of:** Community Services Manager  
**Report to:** North Local Area Committee  
**Date of Decision:** 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023  
**Subject:** North LAC Budget 2022-23

Has appropriate consultation been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) been undertaken?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
If YES, what EIA reference number has it been given? 916; 962				
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If YES, give details as to whether the exemption applies to the full report / part of the report and/or appendices and complete below:-				
<i>“The (<b>report/appendix</b>) is not for publication because it contains exempt information under Paragraph (<b>insert relevant paragraph number</b>) of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).”</i>				

**Purpose of Report:**

Each Local Area Committee has a £100,000 budget to address local priorities. This report

- Sets out details of the spend in respect of this £100,000 that has been authorised by the Community Services Manager, in consultation with the LAC Chair and in accordance with the delegation granted in September 2021.
- Proposes new expenditure in line with the North LAC plan

**Recommendations:**

- That the expenditure against the £100,000 budget to address local priorities in the North LAC in 2022/3, as detailed in the report, be noted.
- Approves the award of a grant of £20,000 to The Christian Centre, Stocksbridge towards the development of a new community hub in Stocksbridge with these funds enabling the development of a new kitchen space

**Background Papers:**

The North Community Plan is published at:

<https://www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/your-city-council/community-plans/north-local-area-committee.html>

<b>Lead Officer to complete:-</b>	
1	I have consulted the relevant departments in respect of any relevant implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist, and comments have been incorporated / additional forms completed / EIA completed, where required.
	Finance: Kayleigh Inman
	Legal: Andrea Simpson
	Equalities: Adele Robinson
<i>Legal, financial/commercial and equalities implications must be included within the report and the name of the officer consulted must be included above.</i>	
2	<b>Head of Service who approved submission:</b> Carl Mullooly
3	<b>LAC Chair consulted:</b> Cllr Alan Hooper
4	I confirm that all necessary approval has been obtained in respect of the implications indicated on the Statutory and Council Policy Checklist and that the report has been approved for submission to the Decision Maker by the Head of Service indicated at 2. In addition, any additional forms have been completed and signed off as required at 1.
	<b>Lead Officer Name:</b> Dave Luck
	<b>Job Title:</b> North LAC Community Services Manager
<b>Date:</b> 23 February 2023	

## 1. PROPOSAL

1.1 Local Area Committees (LACs) were established by Full Council in May 2021. Their Terms of Reference are set out in Part 3 of the Council's Constitution and include:

- To agree a Community Plan setting priorities for the area of the committee, monitor delivery of that plan and keep it under review; and
- To make decisions relating to funding as delegated from time to time by the Council to fit with the priorities set out in the Community Plan and following engagement with the community.

Each LAC was allocated an initial budget of £100,000 under an executive decision by the Leader of the Council on 17th August 2021. This money is to be spent in line with the Community Plan. As the Community Plan was not finalised until late in the 2021/22 financial year very little of this budget has been spent across the LACs and it has been carried forward to the current financial year.

To enable decisions to be taken quickly and to respond to emerging issues, at the meeting of the North LAC on September 30th 2021, a decision was made to authorise the Community Services Manager to make decisions on expenditure from any budgets allocated to the Local Area Committee provided that:

- The decision is taken in consultation with the Local Area Committee Chair
- Spending is in line with any specific purposes of the allocated budget
- The decision may not approve expenditure of more than £5,000
- A report detailing the delegated spending decisions taken by the Community Services Manager is presented to the next Local Area Committee meeting.

Under this delegation the following spending decision(s) have been taken:

Category	Item	Cost	Date chair consulted
Community support	• St Pauls Food Bank meals	£770	12/01/23
	• EPPIC theatre decoration costs	£1776	12/01/23
	• Christ Church Stannington costs for fuel during gas crisis	£140	21/01/23

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design costs for community information guide</li> </ul>	£560	08/02/23
Highways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wharncliffe speed survey</li> <li>Storth Lane no access signs</li> </ul>	£200 £1884	08/02/23 12/01/23
Parks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fox Glen installation costs</li> </ul>	£178	08/02/23
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contribution to LAC council tax letter insert</li> </ul>	£714	07/02/23

## 1.2 Further expenditure

The items listed in 1.1 total **£6222**

There are three variations to previously agreed projects totalling **£90**

- Tint man – previously stated cost £665, actual cost £816
- Stephen Lane sign – previously stated cost £465, actual cost £326
- Priory Road bollards – previously stated cost £1400, actual cost £1478

When added to previously agreed expenditure this equals a total spend of **£78,295**

This is made up of the sum above plus:

- Decisions made at the July 7<sup>th</sup> 2022 meeting totalling **£36,302**
- Expenditure noted at the October 5<sup>th</sup> 2022 meeting totalling **£9909**
- Expenditure noted at the January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting totalling **£25,772**

The following proposal is also recommended to address the Committees priority of supporting the priority of vibrant community life with an emphasis on those in greatest need.

It is proposed to provide a grant of to the Christian Centre, Stocksbridge £20,000 towards the development of a new community hub in Stocksbridge. This hub would involve re-modelling The Christian Centre, a Church of England/ Methodist building to enable wider community use. The proposed funds would enable the first phase of the project to take

place.

The revised layout would create a more multi-purpose building, which would still enable the activities of the worshipping community whilst enabling increased community provision. Specifically, this would include moving the long-established Food Bank to the building as part of a more holistic 'Food Matters' offer encompassing elements such as a community shop, café and redistribution of surplus food.

There is a need to reconfigure the space to enable wider community use throughout the week whilst supporting continued use by the lunch club, the open youth work two nights a week, and other church and community activities as well as a place of worship. The existing worship space will become multi-purpose meeting space providing space for all these activities to re-locate. This will leave the existing church hall to be re-configured as the food bank/community café/ community shop/CAB advice service for food bank clients/TARA point of access/Community Fridge scheme for meet and eat groups etc. These facilities will be open six days a week.

The LAC is being asked to support the development of a new kitchen alongside the new multi-use space, so that the lunch club can continue in the multi-use space, with updated compliant equipment.

Local consultation has supported this approach. Food Matters held two weeks of consultation at the Library and the Leisure Centre, and in the local paper and at the Cedar Road site. 203 people completed the written submission. 96% were wholly in favour of the scheme. (The others were not against but had some comments to make). 46 respondents offered to volunteer for the project in one way or another.

The following permissions are now in place to enable the project to commence

- SCC planning permission
- Formal permission from the Christian Centre Church Council

This would take total spend so far to **£98,295** leaving a total of £1705 to be allocated

## **2.**

### **HOW DOES THIS DECISION CONTRIBUTE?**

- 2.1 Local Area Committees directly support the Communities and Neighbourhoods and Our Council commitments in the 'Our Sheffield: One Year Plan' but to be effective they need to have the capability to respond quickly to emerging local issues.

## **3. HAS THERE BEEN ANY CONSULTATION?**

- 3.1 The Community Plan has been developed through community

consultation that has comprised of an online survey through the Council's Citizenspace platform; a paper-based survey for those less digitally enabled; engagement activity with representative organisations and in-person meetings.

Partner organisations and Council departments that have been identified as offering potential solutions to some of the issues identified have also been consulted, to establish whether suggestions can be realistically implemented.

## **4. RISK ANALYSIS AND IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION**

### **4.1 Equality of Opportunity Implications**

#### **4.1.1 Decisions need to consider the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duty contained in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.**

This is the duty to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act;
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

The Equality Act 2010 identifies the following groups as a protected characteristic: age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion or belief; sex and sexual orientation.

The overall impact of this decision is likely to be positive and not disproportionate from an equality, diversity and inclusion perspective. In developing a Community Plan, local communities have been given the opportunity for a greater say in local decision making for services which impact their daily lives.

The devolution of responsibilities will improve inclusion for local people and the work of the Sheffield Equality Partnership will support and enhance the approach from a citywide and underserved communities' perspective.

However, in order to ensure this approach takes into account people who share protected characteristics under the Public Sector Duties the Local Area Committee Community Plan will be supported by appropriate equality monitoring of budget.

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA 916) was previously carried out in respect of the establishment of Local Area Committees.

#### 4.2 Financial and Commercial Implications

- 4.2.1 This report concerns expenditure of the LAC's approved budget of £100,000. This budget must not be exceeded.

Procurement of supplies and/or services and the award of grant aid will be carried out in line with the Council's Contracts Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.

#### 4.3 Legal Implications

- 4.3.1 The LAC must operate in accordance with its Terms of Reference, approved as part of the Council's updated Constitution, reflecting the committee system of governance, by Full Council at its Annual Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022. In accordance with the provisions of section 101 of the Local Government Act 1972 the Constitution provides that a Committee may delegate to a Council Officer.

### **5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 None. This is in line with the previous decision of September 30<sup>th</sup> 2021 regarding expenditure below £5000 and the North Community Plan agreed on March 9<sup>th</sup> 2022.

### **6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 6.1 The North LAC is asked to note the use of funding as per the previous decision of September 30<sup>th</sup> 2021 and agree further expenditure to address the identified local priorities

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