

Report of the Interim Strategic Director of Environment and Sport to the meeting of Bradford East Area Committee to be held on 17th September 2014.

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Subject:

Allocation of funding:

- Youth Opportunities Funding;
- Area Action Planning Funding.

Composition of the Grants Advisory Group.

Summary statement:

This Report asks Members to consider the options for the allocation of Youth Opportunities Funding and Area Action Planning Funding. The report also outlines the make-up of the Grants Advisory Group.

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Portfolio:

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Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Corporate



1. SUMMARY

This Report asks Members to consider the options for the allocation of Youth Opportunities Funding and Area Action Planning Funding. The report also outlines the make-up of the Grants Advisory Group.

2. BACKGROUND

The following reports were presented to the Bradford East Area Committee on 26th June 2014:

- Youth Service Report (covering Youth Opportunities Funding) – Document A
- Area Action Planning Funding – Document H
- Community Chest Budget – Document F

In terms of the allocation of funding associated with the first two above reports, Bradford East Area Committee resolved:

Youth Service Report

‘That £20,000 from the £35,000 available for activities be allocated by the Grants Advisory Group as follows: £10,000 for a Young People’s Community Chest and £10,000 for Youth Opportunities Fund.’

Area Action Planning Funding

‘That the Bradford East Area Committee decides to allocate its £60,000 Area Action Planning Funding on a needs-basis to projects and/or activities that support priorities in the Bradford East Ward Plans for each Ward, this funding to be allocated by the Grants Advisory Group.’

Community Chest

With regard to the Community Chest Budget, the Area Co-ordinator is responsible for making decisions under delegated powers. These decisions are made following guidance from the Grants Advisory Group. The Chair and Deputy Chair and the Opposition Spokesperson have made up the Grants Advisory Group in Bradford East for several years.

Allocation of funding

The resolution of the last Area Committee refers to the Grants Advisory Group ‘allocating’ the Youth Opportunities Funding and the Area Action Planning Funding. The Grants Advisory Group cannot allocate funding and this Report therefore asks Members to consider the options in terms of the allocation of these two funding streams. The options are detailed in section 9 of this Report.



3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Area Action Planning Funding

As indicated in the section relating to Area Action Planning Funding above, Members resolved at the Bradford East Area Committee on 26th June 2014 to allocate the Area Action Planning Funding on a needs-basis to projects and/or activities that support priorities in the Bradford East Ward Plans. However, the Report presented to the Area Committee also included the option to allocate this Funding on a Ward-basis - £10,000 to each of the six Wards.

It should be noted that any of the approaches outlined in the options in section 9 will require a robust process which follows the Council's procurement and commissioning/grant-giving protocols.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

£20,000 Youth Opportunities Funding and £60,000 Area Action Planning Funding is available to the Bradford East Area Committee for 2014/15. This is revenue funding and should be spent by 31st March 2015.

Staffing: Support will be provided from within existing resources of Neighbourhood and Customer Services, other Council Services and partners.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

There are no significant risks arising out of the proposed recommendations in this Report.

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

This work relates directly to the Local Government Act 2000 and to the Duty of Well-being placed upon the Council to promote and improve the well-being of the District.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

It is anticipated that support will be made available to schemes that promote fairness and inclusion, whilst supporting the Area Committee's commitment to equal opportunities for all.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

The resources made available to Bradford East Area Committee, outlined in this Report, will be used to support priorities within the Bradford East Ward Plans.



7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

Greenhouse gas emissions and other environmental impacts are a consideration.

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

Community safety issues are recognised as a key contributor to the quality of life in neighbourhoods. It is anticipated that activity generated through these resources will have a positive impact on community safety issues in Bradford East.

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

There are no direct implications arising from the Human Rights Act.

7.6 TRADE UNION

There are no direct Trade Union implications arising from this Report.

7.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

It is anticipated that the funding referred to in this Report will be used to support projects in all Wards in the Bradford East Area.

7.8 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS

The funding outlined in this Report will contribute to addressing priorities in all the Wards in the Bradford East Area.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None.

9. OPTIONS

9.1 That the Bradford East Area Committee asks the Grants Advisory Group to consider applications for Youth Opportunities Funding and Area Action Planning Funding and make recommendations to the Area Committee.

This approach is more transparent and accountable as Members, through the Area Committee, are at the heart of the decision-making process. In addition, it should be noted that there is the opportunity for the decisions of the Area Committee to be 'called-in'.

9.2 That the Bradford East Area Committee sets up a sub-committee of the Area Committee to allocate this funding. The sub-committee would need to reflect the political balance of the Area Committee; the membership of the sub-committee could be 3 or 5 (1 Labour, 1 Liberal Democrat and 1 Bradford Independent or 2 Labour, 2 Liberal Democrat and 1 Bradford Independent). Such a sub-committee would operate in the same way as an Area Committee.



9.3 That the Bradford East Area Committee delegates decisions about the allocation of this funding to the Area Co-ordinator in consultation with the Grants Advisory Group. The decisions of the Area Co-ordinator should be reported to the Area Committee at its next available meeting.

Unlike option 1, the decisions will be made by one person, the Area Co-ordinator, and this is clearly not as transparent and accountable.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Bradford East Area Committee establishes a Grants Advisory Group made up of the Chair, Deputy Chair and Opposition Spokesperson.

That the Bradford East Area Committee asks the Grants Advisory Group to consider applications for Youth Opportunities Funding and Area Action Planning Funding and make recommendations to the Area Committee.

11. APPENDICES

None.

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Reports to the Bradford East Area Committee, 26th June 2014:

Youth Service Report – Document A

Area Action Planning Funding – Document H

Community Chest Funding – Document F

