

North Dudley Area Committee –20th June 2012

Report of the Area Liaison Officer

Delegated Capital Budget

Purpose of Report

1. To note the granting of a capital allocation and to consider any further applications for a capital allocation from the North Dudley Area Committee's delegated capital budget.
2. To confirm that subject to (3) below, the Lead Officer, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee and the Opposition spokesperson(s), be authorised to determine urgent applications for capital funding.
3. To confirm that, in the period between the Annual Council Meeting and the election of a Chairman at the first meeting of the Area Committee in a municipal year, the Lead Officer, in consultation with the Leaders of all political groups represented on the Council, be authorised to determine urgent applications for capital funding.

Background

4. The Area Committee has an unallocated capital budget of £100,649. Spending proposals are invited from members of the Area Committee, the public, representative organisations and Council departments, and each proposal is assessed against strict criteria as set out in the Appendix A. That criteria is currently being updated to take account of the Council's decision that requests of a revenue nature can also now be invited.
5. Arising from the decision of Council the Area Committee has been granted a revenue budget of £40,000 for the financial year 2012/13 .
6. A copy of applications referred to in this report are available to Members on request.

Applications Approved

7. Woodsetton Charitable Trust (Upper Gornal & Woodsetton)

During February, 2012 an application in the sum of £4,050 was received from the above to install fencing. This was considered and agreed by me , following

consultation with Ward Members, under delegated authority in the 202011/12 financial year, due to the timing.

8. Coseley Athletic Bowling Club (Coseley East)

During April,2012 an application in the sum of £600 was received from the above for the purchase of a pedestrian operated power sprayer. This was considered and agreed by me, following consultation with Ward Members, under delegated powers in the 2012/13 financial year, due to the timing.

9. Tipton Road Minibus (Sedgley)

An application for a £7,000 contribution towards a minibus for Tipton Road Children's Home was approved at March, 2011 meeting. An extension of 6 months was granted in October by this Committee due to the lengthy procedure involved in the application to sunshine coaches. A further 6 months extension is being requested as the procedure has still not been completed.

10. Upper Gornal Funday Committee (Upper Gornal & Woodsetton)

During April,2012 an application in the sum of £329.97 was received from the above for the purchase of 3 new gazebo's. This was considered and agreed by me, following consultation with Ward Members, under delegated powers in the 2012/13 financial year, due to the timing.

Finance

11. The grants referred to in this report can be funded within the overall allocations for the Area Committee.

The following shows allocations approved to date, and the budget remaining.	Coseley East Ward	Upper Gornal and Woodsetton Ward	Gornal Ward	Sedgley Ward	Total
Undistributed balance brought forward	<u>36,591</u>	<u>35,944</u>	<u>17,765</u>	<u>10,949</u>	<u>101,249</u>
Awarded 2012/13 via delegated Powers:					
Coseley Athletic Bowling Club	-600				-600
Gornal Funday		-330			-330
Undistributed balance	<u>35,991</u>	<u>35,614</u>	<u>17,765</u>	<u>10,949</u>	<u>100,319</u>

Grants awarded but unpaid					26,688
Grants paid 12-13					9,994
Total					137,000
Authorised capital budget					137,000
Considered this meeting:					
Grants					

12. There is an undistributed balance of £100,319 capital and £40,000 revenue available for allocation.

Law

13. Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000, enables the Council to do anything which it considers is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well being of the Borough or any part of it.

Equality Impact

14. This report takes account of the Council's Policies on equality and diversity.

Recommendation

15. That the information set out in paragraphs 7 and 8 be noted and that the request for a further extension of time as set out in paragraph 9 of the report be considered.



.....
NORTH DUDLEY AREA LIAISON OFFICER

Contact Officer: Karen Taylor, Democratic Services
Director of Corporate Resources - Ext. 8116
Email: Karen.taylor@dudley.gov.uk

CRITERIA FOR CAPITAL BIDS/ALLOCATIONS

1.0 Criteria

- 1.1 The allocation or grant may be spent on “capital” and/or “revenue” schemes:

Capital: one-off expenditure on buying, constructing or improving land, buildings, equipment or vehicles;

Revenue: expenditure on running costs of projects or activities, including staff costs and the purchase of consumables and services from third parties. Priority will be given to one-off, time-limited, or start-up spend, rather than ongoing running costs. The latter should normally be funded by the organisation itself.

- 1.2 Schemes should contribute to the Community Strategy and should not conflict with Council policy.
- 1.3 Schemes should be for the general benefit of the wider community, not just for the benefit of individuals or specific groups and should make a difference in the local area.
- 1.4 Schemes should not result in any on-going revenue costs that the organisation cannot fund from its own resources – e.g. running costs and repair and maintenance of new/improved buildings and equipment.
- 1.5 All expenditure must be in accordance with Council Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, be subject to the Council’s legal powers and demonstrate good value for money.
- 1.6 Members will only consider supporting applications up to a maximum of £5,000 unless there are very exceptional circumstances. Organisations will be encouraged to match fund or seek further funding through other means. Priority will be given to schemes that might generate such funding.
- 1.7 Applications will not be considered from organisations who have previously applied for funding to Area Committees within the previous three years unless there are very exceptional circumstances.
- 1.8 Once an application has been approved, it will be on the condition that the commitment is spent within nine month; otherwise the allocation will be returned back into the available budget and a re-application would be required.
- 1.9 In appropriate circumstances, it may be required that certain items of equipment funded by these allocations are to be made available for use by other organisations.

2.0 Who can apply?

- 2.1 All allocations will be made to properly constituted organisations, not to individuals.
- 2.2 The organisation must be based within or work within any or all of the wards that make up the area of the North Dudley Area Committee, so that the beneficiaries are the citizens of those wards. However, where an organisation provides a service to the local community that extends beyond the defined North Dudley Area Committee

wards, it may apply to other Area Committees for allocations. This must be made clear on the application form.

- 2.3 The aims and objectives of the organisation should be to primarily help or benefit in some measurable way, the citizens of Dudley and particularly those within the North Dudley area.

3.0 Application Formalities

- 3.1 All completed application forms must be accompanied by:

- A copy of your organisation's constitution showing the length of time it has been in existence and containing the names of properly appointed officers including a named Treasurer. (*This helps provide evidence that the organisation is properly run and has some experience of development*).
- An audited copy of your accounts relating to the most recent financial year showing income/expenditure and end of year balance. In addition, a copy of your organisation's latest bank statement as at the date of your application is required whether you have audited accounts or not. (*This helps provide evidence of competent financial management*).

Note: If the accounts have not been professionally audited, then the Treasurer of the organisation must sign them as accurate. Another officer must then independently examine them and certify them with their signature.

- Appropriate quote(s) from a reputable supplier(s) for the items that the application request is based upon.

Note: In order to comply with the Council's Standing Orders and to ensure value for money, the following must be provided:

Items to the value up to £500 – one written quote required

Items of value between £501 and £5,000 – three written quotes required

- 3.2 Any allocation award will be inclusive of any chargeable VAT.
- 3.3 Failure to complete the application form in full may result in the application being either deferred or refused.
- 3.4 Formal approval will be sent to the organisation's principal contact following the decision made by members at Area Committee that will set out the procurement arrangements. Under no circumstances must any financial agreements be entered into without the approval of the Council.