

**North Dudley Area Committee – 12th October 2011**

**Report of the Area Liaison Officer**

**Delegated Capital Budget**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To consider applications for a capital allocation from the North Dudley Area Committee's delegated capital budget.

**Background**

2. The Area Committee has an unallocated capital budget of £127,015. 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.
3. A copy of applications referred to in this report are available to Members on request.

**Applications**

4. Gornal Business Watch (Gornal)

An application in the sum of £5,000 was received from the above to purchase Christmas Lights. The purchase of the lights would enable the organisation to hang Christmas Lights in Zoar Street and by The Darby and Joan Club. The capital grant can be used for the purchase of lights only. The installation and decommissioning of the lights will have to be met from funds provided by the Gornal Business watch.

5. Roseville Methodist Church (Coseley East)

An application in the sum of £2,500 has been received from the above organisation to be used as a 10% Grant application to Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust towards the provision of disabled toilets and access for the Church Hall. The details of the work included replacing the floor, erecting a screen between the church and the hall and replacing the old heating system. Members of the working Group considered that the granting of this application would provide good value for money, if the grant from Ibstock Cory Environmental Trust was successful.

6. St Peters Church Upper Gornal (Upper Gornal and Woodsetton)

An application in the sum of £5,170 was received from the above organisation to install a replacement boiler for the parish hall, this was the lowest quotation they had received.

As the church has reasonable balances the Working Group considered that a recommendation to match fund £2,600 towards the project be reasonable.

7. Tipton Road Minibus (Sedgley)

An application for £7,000 contribution towards a minibus for Tipton Road was approved at the March 2011 meeting. An extension of time is now being requested due to the lengthy procedure involved with the application to Sunshine Coaches. The working group considered a six month extension to be acceptable.

Finance

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

9. The following shows allocations approved to date, and the budget remaining. The grants considered this meeting are Gornal Business Watch, Roseville Methodist Church and St Peters Church Upper Gornal.

	Coseley East Ward	Upper Gornal and Woodsetton Ward	Gornal Ward	Sedgley Ward	Total
<b>Undistributed balance brought forward</b>	<b><u>28,297</u></b>	<b><u>36,586</u></b>	<b><u>15,040</u></b>	<b><u>6,276</u></b>	<b><u>86,199</u></b>
New allocation for 11/12	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	40,000
Awarded 11/12:					
June 11				-2,184	-2,184
Return Woodsetton Trust		3,000			3,000
<b>Undistributed balance</b>	<b><u>38,297</u></b>	<b><u>49,586</u></b>	<b><u>25,040</u></b>	<b><u>14,092</u></b>	<b><u>127,015</u></b>
Grants awarded but unpaid					<b>22,354</b>
Grants paid 11-12					<b>12,631</b>
<b>Total</b>					<b>162,000</b>

<b>Authorised capital budget</b>					<b>162,000</b>
<b>Considered this meeting:</b>					
<b>Grants</b>	<b>(2,500)</b>	<b>(2,600)</b>	<b>(5,000)</b>		<b>(10,100)</b>

10. There is an undistributed balance of £127,015 available for allocation.  
Applications within this report, if approved, would reduce that balance by £10,100.

### **Law**

11. 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**

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

### **Recommendation**

13. That the applications set out in paragraphs 4, 5, 6 and 7 of this report be considered by this Committee.



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NORTH DUDLEY AREA LIAISON OFFICER Contact Officer: Philip Tart

**CRITERIA FOR CAPITAL BIDS/ALLOCATIONS**

Spending proposals are invited from members of the Area Committee, the public, representative organisations and Council departments, and each proposal is assessed against the following criteria: -

- a) The allocation is to be spent on “capital” schemes as defined by legislation, i.e. “one-off” type expenditure on acquisition, construction, enhancement of land, roads, buildings, equipment or vehicles, which may also include the making of grants or loans for capital expenditure by others;
- b) Schemes should contribute to the Community Plan and should not conflict with existing Council policy;
- c) Schemes should be for the general benefit of the wider community, i.e. not just for the benefit of individuals or specific groups, and should make a difference in the local area;
- d) Schemes should not result in any ongoing revenue cost to the Council;
- e) Consideration should be given to schemes which might generate external funding (i.e. using the allocation as match-funding); and
- f) Spending must be in accordance with the Council’s Standing Orders and Financial Regulations, and demonstrate Best Value.
- g) Approved allocations must normally be claimed within six months.
- h) Approved allocations will be limited to a maximum of £5,000 unless exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated