
North Dudley Area Committee – 30th January 2008

Report of the Area Liaison Officer

Delegated Capital Budget

Purpose of Report

1. To consider requests for funding from the Delegated Capital Budget.
2. To confirm that subject to (3) below, the Lead Officer, in consultation with the Chair 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 Chair 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 criteria against which allocations from the delegated capital budget should be considered are set out in the Appendix. A copy of the applications referred to in this report is available to Members on request. The following applications have been received.

5. 2132 (Sedgley) Squadron Air Training Corps

An application in the sum of £431.67, was received from the above to purchase a new “standard” (banner) and the necessary accessories.

The funding is to be allocated from the remaining Upper Gornal & Woodsetton capital monies.

In the absence of the North Dudley Working Group meeting, the application was e-mailed to working group members to raise any comments or issues with regards to the application. As no objections have been raised to the application, it is recommended that Area Committee approve the funding.

6. Gornal Business Watch

An application in the sum of £5,500 was received from the above, towards the purchase of a fully functional CCTV camera that will have the capability of being remotely monitored via the CCTV control room at Sedgley Police Station. The aim of the system is to reduce anti-social behaviour in the vicinity.

This funding would be allocated from the remaining Gornal capital funding.

The Gornal Ward members have expressed their support for the application and since no opposition has been raised to the application, it is recommended that the Area Committee approve the request for funding.

Finance

7. The grants referred to in this report can be funded within the overall allocations for the Area Committee.
8. The balance available for allocation in 2007/08 is £116,139 including the allocation for 2007/08 of £40,000.
9. The following table indicates the allocations approved to-date, and the budget remaining.

	Coseley East Ward	Upper Gornal and Woodsetton Ward	Gornal Ward	Sedgley Ward	Total
Balance available from 2006/07	<u>£14,704</u>	<u>£29,751</u>	<u>£25,876</u>	<u>£5,808</u>	<u>£76,139</u>
New allocation for 2007/08	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£40,000
Allocations Paid in 2007/08	£1,117	£2,328	£19,593	£6,981	£30,019
Balance unallocated	<u>£23,587</u>	<u>£37,423</u>	<u>£16,283</u>	<u>£8,827</u>	<u>£86,120</u>

10. An approved capital budget of £116,139 is available for 2007/08, including the allocation for the financial year of £40,000. Allocations totalling £30,019 have been approved in this financial year, leaving a balance of £86,120 to be allocated. The recommendations in the report would reduce this balance by £5,932 (2132 (Sedgley) Squadron Air Training Corps £432 and Gornal Business Watch £5,500) to £80,188 if approved.

Law


11. The Committee may incur capital expenditure in respect of the various statutory functions of the Council.
12. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 empowers the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive to, or incidental to the discharge of its functions.

Equality Impact

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

Recommendation

14. It is recommended that the proposals set out at paragraphs 4 to 5 be approved.



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NORTH DUDLEY AREA LIAISON OFFICER Contact Officer: John Freeman

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.