

North Dudley Area Committee – 24th June 2009

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. At the meeting of the North Dudley Area Committee on 8th April 2009, Minute No. 83 (1 and 2) authorised that:
 - a. the Area Liaison Officer, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee and the Opposition spokesperson(s), be authorised to determine urgent applications for capital funding.
 - b. 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.
3. 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.

Applications

4. **Sedgley Community Church (Sedgley Youth)**

An application in the sum of between £5,000 and £7,000 (requesting as much possible) was received from the above to purchase a 12/16 seater minibus (second hand).

The group provide a safe, life enhancing venue for the youth of Sedgley (11 – 18 years old), arranging positive activities including drama, music, football and cricket. The purchase of the minibus will allow better access to the most deprived areas of Sedgley and provide vital transportation, enabling its members to travel to other youth groups and participate in football and cricket matches.

The Lead Officer (under approved delegated powers), in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee and the Opposition spokesperson(s), has deferred the application to allow Ward Councillors to investigate further.

5. Coseley Volleyball Club

An application in the sum of £601.03 was received from the above to purchase various sports equipment including volleyballs and an outdoor volleyball net system.

The Club aims to develop the game of volleyball in Coseley and the surrounding areas, providing coaching to both men and women. It offers a friendly, welcoming atmosphere with a view to encouraging health and well being through team sports generally.

As some of the purchases identified were of a revenue nature, the Lead Officer (under approved delegated powers), in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee and the Opposition spokesperson(s), approved the application in the sum of £308.42.

6. TFKA Coseley Netball Club

A revised application (see minutes of meeting 28th January 2009) in the sum of £648.48 was received from the above to purchase training equipment and uniforms for the club.

The group aims to increase participation in sport and improve education through sport and physical exercise.

As some of the purchases identified were of a revenue nature, we consider that the genuine capital element would be for the reduced amount of £483.01

Finance

7. The grants referred to in this report can be funded within the overall allocations for the Area Committee.
8. A review of the capital allocations has revealed occasions where:
 - a. An allocation has been awarded, but has not been reflected in the reported 'undistributed' balance.
 - b. An allocation has been awarded, but has not been claimed within the required timescale and / or actual payment has been less than the approved grant amount.

We should now adjust for the above discrepancies.

9. The following table indicates the revised allocations approved to date, and the budget remaining.

	Coseley East Ward	Upper Gornal and Woodsetton Ward	Gornal Ward	Sedgley Ward	Total
Undistributed balance available for 09/10	<u>25,419</u>	<u>31,897</u>	<u>16,665</u>	<u>8,659</u>	<u>82,640</u>
Adjustments:					
Previous allocations that were not deducted from 'undistributed' figure				(6,520)	(6,520)
Unclaimed awards added back for redistribution	18	1,878	4,140	9,649	15,685
New allocation for 09/10	Not yet determined				
Revised Undistributed balance 09/10	<u>25,437</u>	<u>33,775</u>	<u>20,805</u>	<u>11,788</u>	<u>91,805</u>
Awarded 09/10:					
April 09	(8,322)	(1,285)	(7,988)	(1,552)	(19,147)
Undistributed balance	<u>17,115</u>	<u>32,490</u>	<u>12,817</u>	<u>10,236</u>	<u>72,658</u>
Grants awarded but unpaid					<u>39,342</u>
Total					112,000
Authorised capital budget					112,000
Grants for consideration at this meeting	791.43				791.43

10. An approved capital budget of £112,000 is available for 2009/10; this is the brought forward capital budget (slippage) and does not include any additional allowance for the current year that has yet to be determined.

The revised undistributed balance brought forward into 2009/10 was £91,805 of which £19,147 has already been awarded this year. The leaves a balance of £72,658 yet to be allocated.

The recommendations in this report would reduce the balance by £791.43 if approved.

Law

10. 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

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

Recommendation

12. It is recommended that the proposals set out at paragraphs 4 and 5 be ratified.

13. It is recommended that the application presented at paragraph 6 from TFKA Coseley Netball Club be considered by the Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Tart', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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NORTH DUDLEY AREA LIAISON OFFICER Contact Officer: Philip Tart

Appendix A

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.