

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council

North Dudley Area Committee – 2 November 2004

Report of the North Dudley Area Liaison Officer

Capital Allocations

Purpose

1. The purposes of the report are:
 - to inform the Committee of the financial position relating to capital allocations by the North Dudley Area Committee.
 - to advise the Area Committee of applications considered by the Working Group.
 - to seek the Area Committee's agreement to the recommendations made by the Working Group at their meeting on 5 October 2004.
 - to summarise the progress made to date in respect of the approved capital allocations.

Background

2. The Capital Allocations Working Group considers applications for funding according to criteria agreed by the Area Committee. In summary, applications are required to be made by *bona fide* community groups; that applications be for capital or one-off expenditure; that appropriate safeguards are put in place to ensure that the funding is properly used.
3. The Capital Allocations Working Group considers representations made by Ward Councillors on applications, which may be accepted, accepted but at a reduced amount, referred back for further discussions with the applicant, or refused.
4. From time to time advertisements will be placed in the local press advertising the availability of the funding and the criteria for allocation.
5. The balance available for allocation in 2004/05 is £131,395, made up of £91,395 brought forward from 2003/04, and £40,000 for 2004/05.

6. 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 unallocated at year end 2003/04 and brought forward	£22,849	£22,849	£22,848	£22,849	£91,395
Committee Allocation 2004/05	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000	£40,000
Total available for 2004/05	£32,849	£32,849	£32,848	£32,849	£131,395
Allocations agreed in 2004/05 - up to and including meeting on 16 th September 2004	£0	£0	£2,500	£11,633	£14,133
Balance unallocated	£32,849	£32,849	£30,348	£21,216	£117,262

Recommendations of the Working Group meeting 5 October 2004

7. St James The Great Parochial Church Council (Gornal Wood)
An application has been received for £1,633 for an indoor bowls mat and accessories for the St James the Great Bowls Club.
- Following consideration by the Working Group it was recommended that a decision be deferred for further consideration in order that the Ward Councillor can:
- contact the applicant again and advise regarding the submission of a business plan to support the application;
 - ascertain where the equipment would be stored.
8. St Andrews Singers, St Andrews Church (Sedgley)
An application has been received for £1,191.98 for the provision of an electric piano; to be used by the St Andrews Singers to provide leisure activity for people of all ages; to educate and inform, by developing the musical skills of the group and achieve music of a high quality.
- Following consideration by the Working Group the application was recommended for approval in the sum of £600.
9. Sedgley And District Community Association (Sedgley)
An application has been received for a contribution of £30,000 to support the

proposed extension of the building used by the Association at Ladies Walk, Sedley; the total cost of the capital works is estimated at £300,000.

Following consideration by the Working Group it was recommended that this application be refused but that Sedgley Ward Councillors discuss with the Association the amount of funding required. The Liaison Officer was to ascertain the up to date position with Mrs C Peek, the Assistant Director for Community Education and Development

10. Dudley Gymnastics Club (All Wards)

An application has been received for £10,000 for the purchase and replacement of equipment for the training of gymnastics students due to the loss of equipment from damage caused by a roof collapse at Dudley Leisure Centre.

Following consideration by the Working Group it was recommended that the application be deferred allowing further information to be ascertained as follows:

- Mr D Lowndes and Councillor Stanley to ascertain information regarding an insurance claim in relation to the equipment at the Dudley Leisure Centre;
- Confirmation of where the equipment would be stored and where the club intended to meet.

11. Turls Hill And Swanbrook Valley Tenants And Residents Association

An application has been received for £1,114 for the reproduction of videos for circulation.

Following consideration by the Working Group it was recommended that the application be refused as it did not fall within the criteria laid down for the granting of capital funding.

12. Royal British Legion (Sedgley)

An application has been received for a contribution of £450 towards the cost of a memorial plaque to be installed within Sedgley Parish Church (All Saints), at a total cost of £1,078.

Following consideration by the Working Group the application was recommended for approval in the sum of £450.

13. Sedgley Junior Angling Club (Sedgley)

An application has been received for £3,727.28 for the purchase of fishing tackle, trophies, digital camera, printer, two way radio set, hire of specialised amenity for the disabled, bait and prizes.

Following consideration by the Working Group the application was deferred again awaiting confirmation of the following:

- What sort of equipment would be required as a minimum;
- To ascertain where the equipment would be stored;

- For the Liaison Officer to discuss the matter with Mr Round (the applicant).

14. Wallbrook Primary School

The Working Group were awaiting a formal written application from the Head Teacher at Wallbrook Primary School; having previously spoken with the Lead Officer regarding a possible application.

Following consideration by the Working Group the application was deferred awaiting a formal submission from the Headteacher.

15. Beacon Hill Tenants and Residents Association (Sedgley)

An application has been received for £1,535 for the purchase of gardening tools.

Following consideration by the Working Group the application was deferred again awaiting confirmation that the Association wished to proceed with the application.

Proposals

16. It is recommended that the Committee endorse the proposals above.

Finance

17. An approved Capital budget of £131,395 is available for 2004/05. Allocations totalling £14,133 have been approved in this financial year, leaving a balance of £117,262 to be allocated.

Law

18. The Council's budgeting process is governed by the Local Government Act 1972, the Local Government Planning and Land Act 1980, the Local Government Finance Act 1988 and the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.

Equal Opportunities

19. These proposals take into account the Council's equal opportunity policies.

Recommendation

20. That the proposals set out in paragraph 16 of this report be approved.



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NORTH DUDLEY AREA LIAISON OFFICER

Contact Officer: John Freeman