

CABINET MEMBER FOR NEIGHBOURHOODS

Venue: Town Hall, Moorgate
Street, Rotherham.

Date: Monday, 2 February 2009

Time: 10.00 a.m.

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chair is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.
3. Petition - Longfellow Drive, Herringthorpe (Page 1)
4. Devolved Budgets for Area Assemblies – Progress Report (Pages 2 - 12)
5. Exclusion of the Press and Public
The following item is likely to be considered in the absence of the press and public as being exempt under Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any person (including the Council)).
6. 2010 Rotherham Ltd – Proposals for Leasehold Arrangements (Pages 13 - 29)

(The Chairman authorised consideration of the following item to enable the matter to be processed.)

7. 2010 - Management Structure
(Exempt under Paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Act (information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individuals)/information relating to the financial or business affairs of any person (including the Council)).

To: **Cabinet Member
Neighbourhoods**

2nd February, 2009

PETITIONS

1. Fencing on Longfellow Drive, Herringthorpe

A petition has been received, containing 25 signatures, regarding the fencing that had been erected around the new bungalows at Longfellow Drive.

A copy of the petition has been supplied to Ward Members.

L. E. SOUTH,
Democratic Services Manager.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO CABINET MEMBER

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods
2.	Date:	2nd February, 2008
3.	Title:	Devolved Budgets for Area Assemblies – Progress Report
4.	Directorate:	Neighbourhoods and Adult Services

5. Summary

This report provides an update on the process for the development of project proposals to be funded through either LABGI or identified budgets within Neighbourhood and Adult Services. Such proposals will enable the delivery of local initiatives which meet community priorities as identified in the Area Plans of the Area Assemblies.

Appendix 1 of the report contains detailed proposals from the Area Assembly Coordinating Groups for projects identified to be funded within the 08/09 financial year for Rother Valley West and Rotherham North.

6. Recommendations

That the Cabinet Member

- i. Approves the projects to be funded from identified NAS budgets; and**
- ii. Recommends the LABGI project proposals to the Cabinet for ratification.**

7. Proposals and Details

The 2007 Scrutiny Review of Area Assemblies included a recommendation that, 'Area Assemblies should receive increased and wider devolved budgets by May 2009 in line with the emphasis on devolved budgets and locality working in the 2006 White Paper 'Strong and Prosperous' Communities'

In Nov 2008 Cabinet approved new Delegated Powers, Terms of Reference for Area Assemblies and Co-ordinating Groups, and a procedure for the implementation of devolved budgets.

Devolving budgets to Area Assemblies will enable RMBC to comply with the provisions of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, in providing citizen engagement through participatory budgets and involving local people in making decisions on spending priorities. This means engaging residents and community groups representative of all parts of the community to discuss spending priorities, make spending proposals and vote on them, as well as giving local people a role in the scrutiny and monitoring of the process.

The new powers will enable Area Assemblies to address issues of local importance and priority and help to build capacity and experience in managing resources and projects, paving the way for greater devolution of mainstream budgets to Assemblies from 2010/11 onwards. The initiative would, therefore, be sustainable in the longer term.

Delivery Criteria

Following the approval by Cabinet of LAGBI funding in July 2008 and the commitment of NAS to match fund the proposal, a delivery criteria (Appendix 2) for the fair and transparent commissioning of projects has been developed, ensuring that any local projects funded and delivered are based on priorities identified by communities, partners and agencies and

- Contribute to Corporate objectives - Through priorities identified in the Annual Area Planning Consultation exercise projects will clearly link to the wider priorities and objectives of the Rotherham Partnerships Community Strategy, the Local Area Agreement and the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy, particularly linking in to the Safe and Proud themes
- Meet external funding requirements
- Deliver against commitments held with the local area master-plans

Process for 2008/09

The financial year for 2008/09 is now into the final quarter and to enable money to be spent within the current financial year, it was suggested that spending proposals be submitted to the Co-ordinating Group for each Area Assembly and that the Co-ordinating Groups should then submit to Cabinet for ratification those spending proposals which they wish to promote. The Cabinet shall advise the Area Assembly

Co-ordinating Group once it has formally ratified the submitted proposals. Should Cabinet refuse to ratify a proposal, then the reasons for this shall be notified to the Co-ordinating Group by the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods.

All the coordinating groups have now met and a table of the suggestions for projects from Rother Valley West and Rotherham North is attached at Appendix 1.

Spending proposals for the 2008/09 financial year projects have been aligned to the priorities already identified by local communities in the 07/08 Area Plan consultation process.

Most of the expenditure from Areas has been from the NAS General Fund and the HIP budget which cannot be carried over to 2009/10. The table below illustrates the cumulative position of area assembly devolved budgets. (previous decisions have been shaded)

	LAGBI Allocated to spend in 2008/09	NAS Allocated to spend in 2008/09	HMR Allocated to spend in 2008/09	HIP Allocated to spend in 2008/09
Devolved Budget allocation for 08/09	35k	10k	25k	7k
Area Assembly				
Rother Valley South	0	10k	0	7k
Wentworth Valley	0	10k	0	7k
Wentworth North	30.5k	10k	0	7k
Wentworth South	35k	10k	5k	7k
Rotherham South	10k	10k	5.5k	7k
Rother Valley West	32k	10k	23k	7k
Rotherham North	21.5k	10k	20k	7k

This means that some Areas have carried forward HMR and LABGI Funding to next year, 09/10 which will be used to develop Participatory Budgeting in line with the 2006 White Paper Strong and Prosperous Communities and the 2008 White Paper Communities in Control.

The 08/09 Area Plan consultation process which started in October and finishes in Dec 2008 has already enabled a wider and more robust consultation process to take place. This has ensured that the good practice contained in the CCI Framework has been observed ensuring that the consultation has included hard to reach groups and

local voluntary and community groups, as well as individuals to identify priorities across all seven areas. Events have been held at different times of the day and in various locations, often linking into events organised by partners.

Details from each Area Assembly identifying the outcome of all the consultation, numbers surveyed, age, gender and ethnicity and the priorities identified has been submitted to Co-ordinating Groups throughout January to enable the further development of the participatory budgeting process in 2009.

Project proposals to be considered as part of the participatory budgeting process can either be submitted directly to the coordinating group or through the Area Assembly supporting a variety of innovative events which will engage and involve the community, such as community conferencing where communities can discuss and debate community priorities identified through the Area Plan consultation and project sponsors can propose projects which can then be debated and voted on by the community.

Benefits of Participatory Budgeting

Developing participatory budgets enables local people to be engaged in the prioritising of needs of their neighbourhoods, propose and debate new services and projects and set budgets in a democratic and transparent way. The process will benefit citizens, councillors and local government officers by working together as well as including those not traditionally engaged in policy decisions.

The consultation for the 09/10 Area Plan currently in progress has already highlighted high numbers of people who wish to be involved and engaged in different forums in their areas, either through the AA or other methods. The consultation also identifies lower numbers of people who feel they can influence decision making (LAA Indicator NI4)

8. Finance

Proposed funding sources for the period 2008/11 include

Local Area Business Growth Initiative (LABGI) awarded over two years 2008/09 and 2009/10. Each Area Assembly to be allocated £100,000 to be spent approximately £35,000 in 2008/09 and £65,000 in 2009/10.

Neighbourhoods and Adult Services (NAS) The Neighbourhoods and Adult Services Directorate have agreed match funding for 35k per area in 2008/09, 65k per area in 2009/10 and 25k per area in 2010/11, primarily from the NAS general fund, Neighbourhood Pathfinder and Regional Housing and Housing Investment programmes to fund a 3-year devolved budget.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

Risks that the ongoing sustainability of funding Area Assemblies devolved budgets will be unstable after LABGI and HMR funding ceases in 2010. This may result in a lack of confidence from the community and partners.

There are additional risks around the delivery of projects which will need to be managed. Systems for monitoring progress will be put in place as part of the governance arrangements to mitigate risks of non delivery.

There is a risk that Area Assemblies will be unable to spend the allocated sums within the current and next financial years, unless the areas of activity upon which the money can be spent and the relevant criteria are established at an early date. Work to address these issues has taken place at a Participatory Budgeting Workshop for Area and Vice Chairs in January and will continue at the Area Chairs meeting in February.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The development of devolved budgets for Area Assemblies has clear linkages with the key Corporate Strategic Themes and contributes towards the aims of Strategic Objective 1 of the NAS Service Plan 2008-11

To **provide integrated local services** so that;

- People can exercise choice, retain their independence, be offered protection and have equality of access.
- Communities are active and shape local services to meet their characteristics and needs.
- Neighborhoods are safe, free from crime and places to be proud of.

The development of devolved budgets for Area Assemblies is a key driver in meeting element three of the Outcomes Framework - **Making a Positive Contribution** by engaging residents and community groups in discussing and identifying community/area/spending priorities and participating in the proposals for the development of projects.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The Community Empowerment White Paper: Communities in Control: Real People, Real Power: July 08

Local Government White Paper: Strong and Prosperous Communities 2006

Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007

Contact Name: Jan Leyland, Neighbourhood Partnership Team Manager Ext 4509

Rotherham North		NAS - HIP Funding					
Project and Project Sponsor	Ward	Cost	Match Funding	Strategic Link	Link to Area Plan	Timescale	Impact
Tarmac walkways at Millmoor Juniors football training academy (run by volunteers)		£ 4,000.00		Safe	Community Priority 2 - improve standards of roads/pavements and cleaner streets	TBC	Cleaner, safer, more welcoming environment for people accessing facilities at Millmoor Juniors
Enhanced lighting for War Memorial at Greensborough		£ 3,000.00		Proud	Community Priority 2 - improve standards of roads/pavements and cleaner streets	TBC	Increased pride in neighbourhood. A focal point for people to celebrate their history and people's contributions to the democratic process, e.g. Armistice Day Ceremony
Total NAS HIP Funding Allocated		£ 7,000.00					
Total NAS HIP Funding Available		£7,000.00					
Unallocated		£ -					
Rotherham North		NAS- General Fund					
Project and Project Sponsor	Ward	Cost	Match Funding	Strategic Link	Link to Area Plan	Timescale	Impact
Drive Project - Road safety awareness - including risks and consequences of driving under the influence of drugs and alcohol.		£ 10,000.00		Alive / Safe / Learning	Community Priority 1 - Increased activity for C&YP. Community Priority 3 - Reduce the level and fear of crime and increase community safety	Complete September 2009	This money would bring the project to pupils from Winterhill and Wingfield Schools promoting road safety and leading to safer drivers in the future.
Total NAS Revenue Funding Allocated		£ 10,000.00					
Total NAS Revenue Funding Available		£ 10,000.00					
Unallocated		£ -					

Rotherham North		NAS- HMR/Regional Funding					
Project and Project Sponsor	Ward	Cost	Match Funding	Strategic Link	Link to Area Plan	Timescale	Impact
Solar panel lighting for South Street MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area)		£ 20,000.00		Alive / Safe	Community Priority 1 - Increased activity for C&YP. Community Priority 3 - reduce the level and fear of crime and increase community safety.	Complete September 09	South Street MUGA has been reported as a hotspot for anti-social behaviour due to the lack of lighting. Lighting the MUGA would increase legitimate use of the area (particularly in winter) and stop it attracting antisocial behaviour. Meadowbank is also currently a NAG hotspot.
Total NAS - HMR Funding Allocated		£ 20,000.00					
Total NAS - HMR Funding Available		£ 25,000.00					
Unallocated		£ 5,000.00					
Rotherham North		LAGBI Funding					
Project and Project Sponsor	Ward	Cost	Match Funding	Strategic Link	Link to Area Plan	Timescale	Impact
Community Sports Coach -		£ 12,000.00	12000 - Sport England	Achieving / Alive / Safe / Proud	Community Priority 1 - Increased Activity for C&YP	Coach could be in post by March 09 depending on when money is approved	Rotherham North is currently the only area without a community sports coach. The coach will provide positive diversionary activities for children and young people out of school hours. This fits in with the tackling obesity agenda.
Develop a Young People's Area Assembly following consultation outcome		£ 5,000.00		Achieving / Alive / Safe / Proud	Community Priority 1 - Increased activity for C&YP. Community Priority 5 - Increased Community Activity.	To commence March 2009	YP involved in the democratic and decision making process

Unique Project - Targeted work with young people at risk of offending or those who have already offended. Referrals through SNT, YOT etc. Project deals with issues of self image, self esteem, aspirations etc.		£ 4,000.00				Complete September 09	The project has a 100% success rate i.e. no-one who has attended the course has reoffended. This project has only been run with young women but we plan to pilot this work with young men as well which would be a first nationally
Enhanced lighting for War Memorial at Greensborough		£500.00		Proud	Community Priority 2 - improve standards of roads/pavements and cleaner streets	TBC	Increased pride in neighbourhood. A focal point for people to celebrate their history and people's contributions to the democratic process, e.g. Armistice Day Ceremony
		£ 21,500.00					
		£ 35,000.00					
		£ 13,500.00					

Rother Valley West		NAS - HIP Funding					
Project and Project Sponsor	Ward	Cost	Match Funding	Strategic Link	Link to Area Plan	Timescale	Impact
Fencing around St George's Steps NAG (Streetpride)	Brinsworth & Catcliffe	£ 3,000.00		Safe	Community Priority 3 Level of Crime	08/09	Reduce youth nuisance and antisocial behaviour in NAG hotspot area
Fencing to Wall at Pike Road NAG (2010)	Brinsworth & Catcliffe	£ 2,500.00		Safe	Community Priority 3 Level of Crime	08/09	Reduce youth nuisance and antisocial behaviour in NAG hotspot area
Fencing to rear of Walpole Grove NAG (2010)	Holderness	£ 1,500.00		Safe	Community Priority 3 Level of Crime	08/09	Reduce youth nuisance and antisocial behaviour in NAG hotspot area
Total NAS HIP Funding Allocated		£ 7,000.00					
Total NAS HIP Funding Available		£ 7,000.00					
Unallocated		£ -					
Rother Valley West		NAS - Revenue Funding					
Project and Project Sponsor	Ward	Cost	Match Funding	Strategic Link	Link to Area Plan	Timescale	Impact
Youth Shelter Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Council	Holderness	£ 10,000.00		Alive Safe	Community Priority 1 - Activities for Teenagers. Community Priority 2 - Level of Crime	08/09	Young people engaged in positive activity. Reduction in anti-social behaviour by young people in NAG hotspot area. The area already has a temporary youth shelter. This has been successful in attracting young people away from a local row of shops where high level anti-social behaviour was taking place. Statistics for the area show a reduction in anti-social behaviour by young people. The shelter is supported by detached youth work by both YPS and Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Council and will also be supported by the Responsive Youth Work Project (if funding is secured).
Total NAS Revenue Funding Allocated		£ 10,000.00					
Total NAS Revenue Funding Available		£ 10,000.00					
Unallocated		£ -					

Rother Valley West		NAS - HMR/Regional Housing Board					
Project and Project Sponsor	Ward	Cost	Match Funding	Strategic Link	Link to Area Plan	Timescale	Impact
Smart Water NAG Smart Water - 168 Properties on John Street, Peter Street and Charles Street Thurcroft. NAG	Rother Vale	£ 2,000.00		Safe	Community Priority 2 - level of crime	08/09	Reduce level of crime. Reduce fear of crime. Increase in detection/prosecution rates. Consultation has taken place in NAG hotspot Area by home visits and one to one interviews. Residents particularly interested in crime prevention initiatives particularly smart water
Total NAS - HMR Funding Allocated		£ 2,000.00					
Total NAS - HMR Funding Available		£ 25,000.00					
Unallocated		£ 23,000.00					
Rother Valley West		LABGI Funding £35,000					
Project and Project Sponsor	Ward	Cost	Match Funding	Strategic Link	Link to Area Plan	Timescale	Impact
Multi-use Games Area Brinsworth Playing Fields Brinsworth Parish Council	Brinsworth & Catcliffe	£ 19,000.00	£ 19,000.00	Safe Alive	Community Priority 1 - Activities for teenagers. Community Priority 2 - Level of Crime	08/09	Young people engaged in positive activity. Reduction in anti-social behaviour in NAG hotspot area. Need for facility highlighted in recently completed Brinsworth Parish Plan. Projected support by NAG and SY Police. Consultation undertaken with young people Match funding already secured from Parish Council. Once provision is installed will be supported by detached youth workers from YPS and from Responsive Youth Work Project. Floodlights will enable year round activity to take place.
Treeton Cyber Café Project To provide Broadband connection and equipment YPS Treeton Parish Council	Rother Vale	£ 9,000.00		Learning	Community Priority 1 - Activities for Teenagers. Community Priority 8 - Community Activities	08/09	Young People engaged in positive activity. To support homework clubs and other learning opportunities for young people. Will allow the facility to be used for community learning activities including family learning and supporting people back into work by working in partnership with local learning providers. If funding is secured, provision of creche facilities will be investigated to allow parents with young children to take advantage of the project. Activities will be available to all communities within Rother Valley West.

Responsive Youth Work Project 2 x detached youth workers - 3 sessions per week	Rother Valley West	£2,000		Alive Learning	Community Priority 1 - Activities for Teenagers Community Priority 2 - Level of Crime	08/09	Young people engaged in positive activity. Young People being seen in a positive light. Reduction in Young People engaged in anti- social behaviour. Detached youth workers despatch to local need identified through NAG, Co-ordinating Group and Parish Councils. To compliment existing detached projects taking place in the area including Aston-cum- Aughton Parish Council's detached youth work project. To utilise mobile provision in the form of two vehicles secured for the area through successful Quids-In bid by young people. This would enable the vehicles to be used every evening of the week with no 'down-time'. Will allow provision to be provided in rural areas including Ulley and Orgreave that don't currently have any Youth Provision at all. Builds on the success of the Responsive Youth Work Project funded through NRF.
Total LABGI Funding	Allocated	£	30,000.00				
Total LABGI Funding	Available	£	35,000.00				
Unallocated		£	5,000.00				

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted