

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL –REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Safe and Attractive Neighbourhoods
2.	Date:	21st March 2011
3.	Title:	Area Assemblies – Devolved Budget Projects
4.	Directorate:	Neighbourhoods and Adult Services

5. Summary

This report is to seek approval for project proposals from the Area Assembly Devolved Budget for 2010/ 2011. Funding for projects out of this budget was agreed by Cabinet Member dated 29th November. This report is to agree the allocation of some unallocated funds and under spend from projects for Wentworth Valley, Wentworth South and Wentworth North

These projects will enable the delivery of local initiatives which meet community priorities as identified in the Community Strategy and the Area Assembly Area Plans.

6. Recommendations

That the Cabinet Member

- 1) Approves the projects to be funded from identified NAS budgets**

7. Proposals and Details

The 2010/11 devolved budget for Area Assemblies is funded through NAS mainstream funding of £30k per Area Assembly. This is allocated in 2 separate pots of £10 k and £20k with slightly different criteria for spend.

The £20k can be spent on either goods, or services. However where possible it is preferable that the money is spent on services – It must be spent within RMBC (but does not include 2010). It can be spent on capital or revenue projects.

The £10k can be spent on any Area Plan and Community Strategy priorities as last year also taking into account:

- Areas of public concern
- Corporate Themes
- NAG priorities
- LAP (Local Ambition Programme) priorities
- How fits with existing HMR programme(s)

The 10k can be spent in house/with partners or the Vol/Com sector. The Area Assembly Devolved Budgets for 2010/11 does not need to have a participatory element (e.g. public vote). All project proposals for 2010/11 are submitted to the Area Assembly by Elected Members, or through statutory and vol/com sector partners or either the NAG or Coordinating Group. The Co-ordinating Group agrees which projects they wish to see delivered in their area and make recommendations It is the decision of each Area Assembly Co-ordinating Group as to how they split or allocate the monies across Wards.

Attached is a list of projects which have been approved at Area Assembly Coordinating Groups and which are now seeking the approval of the Cabinet Member.

A further report will be provided on all Devolved Budget projects from 2010/ 2011 upon their completion after March 2011 when all monitoring arrangements have been complete and outcomes and impacts can be assessed fully.

8. Finance

Proposed funding sources for the period 2010/11 include Neighbourhoods and Adult Services (NAS) funding of £30k.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

There is a risk that a reduction in funding to the Area Assemblies' devolved budgets after previous LAGBI and HMR funding ceased in 2010 will result in reduced impact on the local community. 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. Improved systems for monitoring finance and progress are in place as part of the governance arrangements to mitigate risks of non delivery.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

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: Sarah Curren

Interim Neighbourhood Partnership Manager. Ext 34743