

Peterborough North Area Committee	Agenda Item: 5
4 October 2012	PUBLIC REPORT

CAPITAL BUDGET ALLOCATION 2012/13

RECOMMENDATIONS
FROM: Julie Rivett, Neighbourhood Manager (North and West)
<p>That this Area Committee:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Considers the proposals for allocation of the capital budget of £25,000 for 2012/13; 2. Approves the proposals which will receive an allocation of the budget; 3. Agrees to a reduction in the individual allocations should the approved proposals exceed the £25,000 budget, to be determined by the Neighbourhood Manager; and 4. Agrees that the Neighbourhood Manager will be responsible for determining the final detail of the project in consultation with ward councillors and other relevant parties.

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report sets out proposals for allocating the capital budget of £25,000 for 2012/13 for the Peterborough North Area Committee.

2. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY, COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN AND DELEGATIONS

- 2.1 Area Committees should contribute across the full range of Sustainable Community Strategy priorities, which are:
 - Creating opportunities – tackling inequalities (Safer / Stronger)
 - Creating strong and supportive communities (Safer / Stronger)
 - Creating the country's environment capital (Greener / Cleaner)
 - Delivering substantial and sustainable growth (Safer / Stronger)
- 2.2 The proposed projects represent interventions that directly support priorities within the Community Action Plan a) improving parks and opens spaces b) improving local community facilities
- 2.3 This report is for the committee to consider under its delegated executive function 3.13.5, 'to determine the investment of identified and delegated funding to support local priorities contained within the Community Action Plan'.

3. CAPITAL BUDGET ALLOCATION 2012/13

- 3.1 Members from the Peterborough North Area Committee decided that they would split the £25,000 between two wards within the Committee Area during this financial year to allow for something more substantial to happen with the available funds and thus have a more major impact into the area of benefit. The wards benefitting from the funding this year will be Werrington South and Paston. Next year the Area Committee funding will be assigned for projects in the Walton and Werrington North Wards.

The following projects have been proposed by Members. Approval for each will be subject to the projects being costed within budget.

3.2 **The combined estimated cost of the proposed capital projects is as follows:**

3.3 **Werrington South Ward Additional Equipment for Welbourne Play Area – Proposed by Cllr Julia Davidson, Cllr Darren Fower and Cllr Paula Thacker - £12,500**

3.4 Welbourne Play area has recently had some basic improvement works which were funded by Peterborough City Council. These improvement works were done to ensure the park remained safe to those who use it. However members of the public and elected Members wished to see additional equipment bought to the park which would:

- Improve the facility which is open for all to use;
- Provide a facility which would be suitable for all ages; and
- Meet with a community action plan objective of improving open space facilities.

3.5 With this in mind the Councillors propose the installation of a new piece of play equipment but also to install an outdoor gym. This would benefit a wider section of the community and extend the use of the current facility. This would also give the opportunity for adults to use the outdoor gym equipment whilst attending the park with their children.

3.6 The individual pieces of gym equipment will be chosen (within the scope of the budget) after an open consultation event for local residents to be arranged if the budget is agreed.

3.7 **Paston Ward Additional Equipment for Honeyhill Play Area – Proposed by Cllr Sue Day and Cllr John Knowles - £12,500**

3.8 Honeyhill play area will be a completely new play area after the old area was removed to make way for a new area of housing. It is proposed that an outdoor gym will form part of the new site which will be accessible to both adults and young people. The site is close to the Chadburn Centre which sees a considerable amount of 'through' pedestrian traffic. It is also close to the Honeyhill community garden and Children's Centre.

3.9 It is acknowledged that the Paston ward is one of the most affected by poverty in the city with over 30% of children within the ward living in poverty. There is less likely to be any disposable income for leisure and sporting activities. An outdoor gym would contribute to the free facilities within the area and would also give the opportunity for adults to use the outdoor gym equipment with their children

3.10 The individual pieces of gym equipment will be chosen (within the scope of the budget) after an open consultation event for local residents to be arranged if the budget is agreed.

4. CONSULTATION

4.1 The final spend recommendations have been discussed with all elected members, the local community first panel and the young peoples forum together with relevant service areas that will take on the project management to implement once spends have been fully approved. There will also be further consultation events to choose the specific equipment (within the scope of the budget).

5. REASONS

5.1 The budget assigned to Area Committees was assigned specifically to spend on projects which address priorities from the communities for each Area Committee area. To enable the £25K to be spent within this financial year Members were asked to bring forward capital spend projects which helped to meet some of these emerging priorities. This active Member involvement ensures the money is spent on the most appropriate projects to benefit

communities.

6. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 6.1 Not to spend the money. This would lead to proposed local projects not receiving funding resulting in no benefit to the local area.

7. IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The proposed projects represent interventions that directly support priorities within the Community Action Plan a) improving parks and opens spaces b) improving facilities for young people).
- 7.2 All proposed projects relate to capital expenditure but may have revenue implications for on-going maintenance. In all cases where this applies, agreement has been made with the respective service area to absorb these costs.

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 If the proposals set out are agreed, the Neighbourhood Manager will be responsible for ensuring the project is delivered and spend is allocated in a timely manner and in accordance with the Council's Financial Regulations. A regular monitoring report will be provided for Members to be able to scrutinise progress and measure the impact of the investment.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985
N/A

10. APPENDICES

N/A

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