

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CARLISLE

Meeting date: 14 September 2020

From: Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services

AREA PLANNING REPORT

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 *This report provides local committee with recommendations and matters to note relating to:*

- *Budget commitments*
- *Grant allocations from the recommendations of its Strategic Grants Panel*
- *Other relevant matters relating to Area Planning.*

2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

2.1 *The items covered by this report support the council to achieve the outcomes stated in the Council Plan 2018-2022:*

- *People in Cumbria are healthy and safe*
- *Places in Cumbria are well-connected and thriving*
- *The economy in Cumbria is growing and benefits everyone*

2.2 *The items covered by this report support Carlisle Local Committee to achieve its agreed priorities of:*

- *Developing our economy and infrastructure*
- *Improving health and wellbeing*
- *Improving outcomes for children and young people*
- *Developing thriving communities*

2.3 *Improved locality working is one of the ways the council is delivering on its priorities. The county council vision, included in the Council Plan 2018-2022, sets out that it will be 'A Council that works with residents, businesses, communities and other organisations to deliver the best services possible within the available resources.' The approach and work of the Local Committee directly contributes to this vision.*

2.4 *Locally devolved funding is available for Carlisle Local Committee to allocate within the area to support positive outcomes, targeted and mainstream, designed to improve outcomes for the communities of Carlisle. This funding can be targeted to initiate new activity or to enhance/complement existing provision according to locally determined need.*

2.5 *A separate Equality Impact Assessment is not required for this report since equality issues are dealt with at a project level for each of the applications to funding within the course of the year.*

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 *That the Committee notes the commitments made and the remaining balances within delegated budgets and notes the grants detailed in Appendix 1*

3.2 *That the Committee notes grants made from Area Plan Budget detailed in appendix 2 and summarised below*

- *£2600 to Journey to Justice Community Interest Organisation towards the Voices 4 Change project*
- *£2000 to Carlisle Sub Aqua Club towards the cost of equipment*

3.3 *That the Committee notes a grant of £1,000 made from its 0-19 Grant Funding to Gillford Park Football Club towards purchasing a storage container*

3.4 *That the Committee agrees a strategic grant of £10,000 to Carlisle and North Lakeland Hospice at Home as described in paragraphs 4.7 and 4.8 below.*

4.0 BACKGROUND

Community Budget

4.1 A summary of spending against Local Committee discretionary/ budgets is provided at Appendix 1. Further details can be provided to councillors on request. Monitoring reports will be provided to local committee members at each committee meeting, to summarise the most up to date position with regard to the Communities Budget, taking account of decisions taken by the Local Committee. Further information concerning spending against the spending from the discretionary grants budget lines is available from the Carlisle Community Development Team and reported to the grants panel as required.

Local Committee Strategic Grants Panel

4.2 Attached at Appendix 2 is a summary of the general provision grant applications considered by the Strategic Grants Panel at its meeting on 6th August 2020 and its recommendations. Further information can be made available to any councillor on request.

Area Planning and Communities

Carlisle Local Resilience Group and Covid 19 Recovery

- 4.3 The Emergency helpline established at the outset of the pandemic, primarily to help with urgent food and medicine needs for those required to shield has been stood down as of 31st August 2020. This means that the Carlisle Hub has also stood down. In the event of a future wave of infections or changes to national/local arrangements, these arrangements can be stood up again relatively easily and quickly.
- 4.4 Although the pandemic is still a live situation, recovery is now being actively considered alongside response as the economy and the country begins to unlock.
- 4.5 The agreed recovery themes and the locality groups taking them forward are listed below
- **Health and Wellbeing - *Carlisle Healthy City Forum reporting through Cumbria Public Health Alliance to Cumbria Health and Wellbeing Board***
 - **Children and Families - *Carlisle Children and Families Partnership reporting to Cumbria Children's Trust Board***
 - **Community Resilience - *Community Groups reporting currently to Carlisle Local Resilience Group whilst in development***
 - **Financial Hardship - *Carlisle Welfare Group reporting currently to Carlisle Local Resilience Group whilst in development***
- 4.6 Each recovery group is now reporting through the Carlisle Local Resilience Group with further links to the Strategic Recovery Coordination Group and each theme group is developing a specific action plan

Strategic Grant to Carlisle and North Lakeland Hospice at Home

- 4.7 During an informal meeting of Local Committee on 7th August 2020, members raised the issue of charities struggling through the pandemic especially through the lack of mass participation events, charity fundraisers and local collections. Of particular concern was Hospice at Home Carlisle and North Lakeland which is struggling to provide its vital services.
- 4.8 Following discussion members agreed to ask for a recommendation Local Committee to allocate a strategic grant of £10,000. This would be matched from Carlisle City Council and could be used as the springboard for a local awareness raising campaign on the plight of charities at this time.

DEFRA Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant for Food and Essential Supplies

- 4.9 Cumbria County Council has been awarded a DEFRA Local Authority Emergency Assistance Grant for Food and Essential Supplies, which translates to an amount of £77k for the Carlisle area. The main points in relation to this grant are described below:
- 4.10 Grants from this fund will be awarded to groups/organisations/individuals who are involved in community based projects and initiatives that will benefit the local area in terms of providing food and / or essential services in response to Covid 19.

- 4.11 Groups/ organisations/ individuals applying for the grant funding will need to evidence the wider benefits receiving the funding will have on the community.
- 4.12 Groups/organisations/individuals will be asked to evidence how they can deliver against each of the priorities identified by the relevant Local Community Resilience Group.
- 4.13 The funding must be used in accordance with the DEFRA grant guidance. To meet the objectives and principles of the funding the County Council should:
- use discretion on how to identify and support those most in need
 - use the funding from July onwards to meet immediate need and help those who are struggling to afford food and essentials due to COVID-19
 - use the funding for existing schemes and other support which deliver the same outcomes and where the need is greatest
 - work together with other local authorities to provide support and ensure the funding meets its objectives
- 4.14 The Area Manager is authorised to award single Community Grants of up to £5,000 per applicant in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Local Committee.
- 4.15 Any proposal to award a grant in excess of £5000, or to award more than £5000 to one organisation will require the approval of the Executive Director - Corporate, Customer and Community Services.
- 4.16 Members will be kept up to date regarding applications going forward.

Town Deal Funding and Town Deal Board

- 4.17 Discussions are ongoing concerning the Town Deal and the Board has continued to meet along with the Joint Member Advisory Group which contains 3 members nominated from Local Committee. The Board will consider a long list of options at its meeting on 2nd September.
- 4.18 Due to the significance of this fund, it is proposed to hold a special meeting of Carlisle Local Committee in late September to discuss the proposals and any implications for Cumbria County Council in advance of the final submission by the end of October 2020.

5.0 OPTIONS

- 5.1 Members may review and evaluate the recommendations 3.6. Members may wish to comment on other aspects contained within the report.

6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Details of the Local Committee's commitments and unallocated resources are included in Appendix 1 to this report.

- 6.2 Should the recommendations in this report be agreed, £14,600 will be committed from the Area Plan Projects budget, leaving £26,382 available for future allocation. £1,000 will be allocated from the 0-19 Services budget, leaving £60,843 available for future allocation.
- 6.3 Under the terms of the grant of £74,400 allocated from DEFRA to the Carlisle locality, this should be spent within a 12 week period from receipt at the end of July, as explained in paragraph 4.13.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Recommendations 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3 are items for members to note. There are, therefore, no direct legal implications.
- 7.2 In relation to the recommendation at 3.4, under Part 2D paragraph 5.1.2 (d) of the Constitution, Local Committee has the function to approve applications for grants from the Local Committee's budgets for amounts exceeding £ 5,000, in line with the Local Committee's adopted policy.

8.0 CONCLUSION

- 8.1 This report provides Local Committee with an update on its budget position, its grant allocations and other related Area Planning issues.

Dawn Roberts
Executive Director - Corporate, Customer and Community Services

10 August 2020

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Summary Financial Statement
Appendix 2: Summary of the General Provision Grants

Electoral Divisions: All

Executive Decision

	No
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Key Decision

	No
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If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?

		N/A
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Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?

	No
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If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?

		N/A
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Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny?
 If so, give details below.

	No
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Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?

		N/A
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Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?

		N/A
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N.B. If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.

PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS

No previous relevant decisions.

CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers.

REPORT AUTHOR

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