

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR EDEN

Meeting date: March 10 2020

From: Executive Director – Corporate, Community and Customer Services

AREA PLANNING IN EDEN

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 *The Eden Area Planning Report brings together information from across the community teams including community development and services as well as public health. This report provides Local Committee with an update on the work of each area identified activity against priorities, highlights current issues and provides an overview of the budget position.*

2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

2.1 *Improved locality working is one of the ways the Council is delivering on its priorities. The County Council vision, included in the Council Plan, sets out that it will be ‘... an effective and efficient organisation that delivers the best possible services for the people of Cumbria within its available resources, protects the most vulnerable, and works with others in the community to shape services and help find solutions for the future.’ The approach and work of the Local Committee directly contributes to achieving this vision.*

2.2 *The Eden Area Plan sets out the three targeted priorities for the area, which are access to services, developing strong and resilient communities, and supporting a better quality of jobs in the area; and details how the Council is delivering its services in support of them.*

2.3 *The locally devolved funding is available for Local Committees to allocate within the area to support positive outcomes for the communities of Eden. This funding can be targeted to initiate new activity or to enhance/complement existing provision according to locally determined need.*

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 Members note the budget allocations for 2019-20 and the commitments and expenditure recorded to date.**
- 3.2 Members note the provisional unallocated resources in the 2019/20 Communities Revenue Budget of £66,990 as at 28 February 2020.**
- 3.3 Members note an allocation of £2,000 from the Area Planning budget to enable the employment of the Appleby Emergency Response Group Project Manager for a further year as described in paragraphs 4.9 and 4.10.**
- 3.4 Members note 0-19 funding allocations of £5,000 to Shap Community Action group and £1,200 to Kirkby Stephen Cricket Club as described in paragraph 4.16.**
- 3.5 Members agree an allocation of £4,000 each for universal service delivery in Penrith, Kirkby Stephen, Alston and Appleby from the 11-19 universal service budget as described in paragraph 4.17.**
- 3.6 Members agree to vire £2,615 from General Provision to 0-19 to enable an £2,885 allocation to the North Pennines AONB Partnership to support the Fellfoot Forward project as described in 4.18.**

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Eden Local Committee Communities Budget allocation is based upon the 2019/20 Budget agreed by Council on 14 February 2019. The Local Committee is able to vire funding between budget lines during the course of the financial year, subject to any restrictions set by Cabinet and/or Council regulating the use of such funds. The Committee is not able to vire money from capital budgets to revenue budgets.
- 4.2 The figures carried forward from the out-turn budget for 2018/19 have been included. Of the roll-forward amount of £96,579 from 2018/19, a large proportion is for earmarked projects.
- 4.3 The report updates Members on the Local Committee's Communities Budgets for the 2019-20 financial year which are summarised in Appendix A of the report.
- 4.4 Of the total Communities Revenue Budget allocated to the Local Committee, £108,972 was allocated to discretionary revenue budgets.
- 4.5 Appendix B through to Appendix H provide detail against individual budget lines, including original allocation, brought forward balances, commitments and expenditure to 29 Feb 2020.

Area Planning

- 4.6 A key part of the Community Team's role over the past few weeks has been supporting Eden residents as they coped with two named weather systems and a water shortage that impacted a large proportion of the district and was subsequently declared a major incident.
- 4.7 During and immediately following Storm Ciara, the team maintained contact with community groups and parish councils to monitor the initial and ongoing impacts. The two towns particularly impacted were Appleby and Shap. Community Officers were in attendance at both towns immediately following the floods to make contact with flooded householders and businesses, ascertain the extent of support required from agencies and offering immediate advice.
- 4.8 The force of the flooding during Storm Ciara caused severe damage to a water pipe near Shap which resulted in water pressure issues and outages that impacted a significant number of properties for a prolonged period of time due to the environmental factors impacting the fix. The Community Team joined a Multi-Agency Intelligence Cell informing the response to the event and worked closely with United Utilities to ensure that bottled water supplies were provided where needed until the situation was resolved.
- 4.9 During the storms, and throughout the prolonged period of heavy rain of the following days and weeks, the Appleby Emergency Response Group (AERG) provided a vital service warning and informing as well as co-ordinating volunteers and supporting the response efforts of agencies. The group is managed by a part-time project manager – a post originally made possible via a Cumbria Community Foundation grant secured following Storm Desmond in 2017.
- 4.10 As a town that is prone to the impacts of flooding, it is considered that the AERG is vital to the economic and social wellbeing of the town and is pivotal to the emerging area planning priorities. Members are therefore asked to note a funding allocation of £2,000 which has been offered to support the AERG project manager post for a further year. This follows a successful bid to the town council and a pending bid to the district council.
- 4.11 The Kirkby Stephen Area Planning group had its second meeting on 20 January where Terms of Reference and group membership were agreed. The next action for the group is to carry out a mapping exercise of each partner organisation's priorities for the Kirkby Stephen area, to identify gaps or need for provisions and opportunities for collaborative work.
- 4.12 The Penrith Members' Working Group met on the 25 February and heard updates on a series of projects underway within the town.
- 4.13 Following the first stakeholder workshop for the Penrith Parking and Movement Study which took place on 7 January – comments taken on board were incorporated into the first draft of the baseline study which was reviewed by the project development group on 21 January. The second stakeholder workshop will take place on 18 March with the study due for completion on 3 July 2020.

- 4.14 On 7 February, the Community team alongside Action for Communities in Cumbria (ACT) and Cumbria Council of Voluntary Service (CVS) hosted an event targeting creative ideas and solutions to reduce loneliness in Penrith. The session was completely open and was attended by people representing a range of the town's groups and organisations as well as local residents who had an idea or simply wanted to help. The morning session was used to come up with themes and the rest of the day to flesh them out and suggest what needed to happen to turn them into action. Discussion topics included issues such as transport, the impact of the digital world, knowing what's out there as well as issues impacting specific groups such as single parents, young people and those with mental health conditions. The big emphasis of the day though was all about making things happen.
- 4.15 By the end of the day the community had come up with a series of suggestions, projects, activities and actions with attendees volunteering to help take ideas forward. The event was all about working together and by lunchtime, everybody in the room expressed that they had already had between 5 and 10 useful conversations.
- 4.16 The Children and Young People Working Group (CYPWG) met on 3 February where the following year's priorities were discussed alongside activity relating to the 0-19 and 11-19 funding streams. The group considered 2 funding applications – one from the Shap Community Action Group to support a project to refurbish Shap Memorial Park and one from Kirkby Stephen Cricket Club to purchase equipment. There are more detail from both applications in appendix I and J.
- 4.17 The CYPWG is happy to support the continued allocation of £4,000 for 11-19 universal youth services in Alston, Appleby, Kirkby Stephen and Penrith, and, following the report to Committee in January, Members are asked to support the recommendation to enable this.
- 4.18 Following the CYPWG an application was received from the North Pennines AONB Partnership for a youth project on heritage conservation. There is more information on this in Appendix K. This project has officer support and has been endorsed by the working groups via email. While the 0-19 funding stream has an insufficient balance to process this grant; the recommendation of officers is for Members to vire the shortfall from the General Provision budget line to support this project from this financial year's budget.

Public Health and Wellbeing

- 4.19 Eden Health and Wellbeing Forum met on 28 February to formulate the Eden Joint Public Health Strategy action plan. This session began the review of our priorities, and production of an action plan including setting a programme of open workshops to look at specific topics.
- 4.20 The Rural Issues Working Group considered rural health issues at their last meeting using guidance provided by The LGA and Public Health England. Many of the issues affecting people's health can be attributed to social, economic and environments factors which have already being considered by the group over the last twelve months including access to housing,

broadband provision, poverty and employment for example. The group will continue to use the guidance to consider rural health issues.

Community Services and Libraries

- 4.21 Penrith Library continues to offer lots of social opportunities with activities and events for both adults and children. Tuesdays have seen the introduction of an informal colouring club for adults. Brew Monday on 20 January saw staff offering tea/coffee and an opportunity for people to chat at what is seen as a low time of year for many.
- 4.22 The Coal Scuttle Brigade talk by Max Slater proved very popular with Yanwath School bringing along a class of Year 6 pupils who are studying the Second World War. Harry Potter Day was celebrated with games and activities around the theme of the Tri-wizards Tournament.
- 4.23 A programme of events was delivered during February half term including the Gruffalo Storywalk, Wordsworth Trust delivering Rucksack of rhymes and a Garden Organic composting session.
- 4.24 The branch libraries have also enjoyed a range of social events from book groups to chill and chat sessions. Shap Library is currently hosting a winter art exhibition featuring local artists.

5.0 OPTIONS

- 5.1 Members are asked to note the allocations of the Eden Local Committee Devolved Communities Budget and the locality working update contained within this paper.

6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Local Committee has unallocated resources of £35,557 in its Area Planning budget. Recommendation 3.3 will allocate £2,000 from this budget, reducing the balance to £33,557.
- 6.2 The unallocated resources in the 0-19 Services budget, of £270, already includes the commitments of £1,200 and £5,000 in recommendation 3.4.
- 6.3 There is £24,000 previously allocated in the 11-19 Universal Services budget and there are unallocated resources of £17,016 available in the 11-19 Universal Services budget. If recommendation 3.5 is agreed it would confirm allocations of £16,000 within the sums previously allocated of £24,000.
- 6.4 If Local Committee decide to agree recommendation 3.6:
 - 6.4.1 The General Provision budget of £35,838 would reduce by £2,615 to £33,223, and the uncommitted amount within the General Provision available for future commitment would reduce from £3,538 to £923.

6.4.2 The 0-19 Services budget of £49,774 would increase by £2,615 to £52,839 and would be fully committed.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 When allocating and moving money between budgets, the Local Committee must follow the rules set by the Council following its consideration of the Council's relevant budget, medium term financial plan and capital programme documents together with any available flexibilities and any additional applicable restrictions set by Cabinet and/or Council regulating the use of such funds.

7.2 Where further legal documentation is required legal services can will provide legal support on request to assist accordingly. (TM 27.02.2020)

8.0 CONCLUSION

8.1 This report provides the Local Committee with a comprehensive update on its communities budgets and related matters delegated to the committee.

Dawn Roberts

Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services

February 2019

APPENDICES

Appendix A-H - Local Committee Budgets

Electoral Division(s): All in Eden

Executive Decision

Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Key Decision

<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
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Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?

<input type="checkbox"/>	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?

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
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Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny?

<input type="checkbox"/>	No
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If so, give details below.

Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?

<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?

<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
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PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS
[including Local Committees]

No previous relevant decisions.

CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers.

REPORT AUTHOR

Contact: Nick Wright, Area Manager – Eden
Email - nick.wright@cumbria.gov.uk