

# COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR EDEN

Meeting date: 23 March 2021

From: Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services

## LOCAL COMMITTEE DEVOLVED COMMUNITIES BUDGET 2021/2022 – PROPOSED ALLOCATIONS

### **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1.1 *The devolved allocations for Eden Local Committee have been detailed within the agreed 2021/22 Council Budget. This report outlines proposals, following a Local Committee seminar on 24 February 2021, to allocate the communities budget during the year 2021/22.*

### **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 *Eden Local Committee’s current priorities were developed through the Committee’s Member / officer working groups and further discussed at a Seminar in October last year. These priorities are highlighted in appendix A. In order to ensure that it is able to support both the Council Plan and area planning priorities, the Local Committee needs to make the best use of the resources available to it, including its budget allocations.*

### **3.0 RECOMMENDATION**

3.1 *Local Committee agree:*

- 3.1.1 ***£24,332 is allocated to Area Planning from the Local Committee base budget.***
- 3.1.2 ***£18,000 is allocated to Community Grants from the Local Committee base budget.***
- 3.1.3 ***£29,464 is allocated to 0-19 Grants from the Local Committee base budget.***
- 3.1.4 ***£10,000 is allocated to 0-19 Strategic development from the Local Committee base budget.***
- 3.1.5 ***£9,696 be allocated to the School Crossing Patrol Service from the Local Committee base budget.***
- 3.1.6 ***£17,016 be allocated towards 11-19 Universal Services from the Local Committee base budget under the allocations described in paragraph 4.14.***
- 3.1.7 ***Local Committee note the decision by Council to allocate an amount of £34,870 towards the Money Advice Service from the Local Committee base budget.***
- 3.1.8 ***To note the allocation of an Environment Fund of £200,000, which is a one-off allocation for 2021/22 only.***

## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The 2021/22 Local Committee budget was agreed by full Council at its meeting on 18 February 2021. The delegated budget lines are streamlined to afford Local Committees the opportunity to vary specific allocations in accordance with the local area plan priorities.
- 4.2 In order to consider the most appropriate way to allocate their devolved funding in line with current Local Committee priorities, Members reviewed budget lines at a seminar session on 24 February 2021.
- 4.3 The proposed allocation of Local Committee's budget is outlined in Appendix B for Members' consideration, and the following paragraphs outline the rationale for these proposals.
- 4.4 Where Council has allocated funds to the General Provision, 0-19 Services, Universal Youth Services and School Crossing Patrols budget areas; the Local Committee may vire funds between these accounts should it choose to do so.

### **Community Development Team**

- 4.5 Local Committee has been allocated £64,327 under the Area Support Team budget heading. Members meet with the team on a regular basis and receive performance reports detailing the range of activity undertaken throughout the year and the positive outcomes achieved.

- 4.6 Over the past year, as well as significant efforts relating to Covid-19 response and recovery, the community development team has concentrated activity building strong communities and encouraging the community to take part in helping shape council services. Activity continues to encourage colleagues from across the Council to utilise the skills of the community development team to engage, listen and respond to the needs of local people and the places they live. As part of this, the team has continued to work alongside local Members to support them in their community leadership role.

### **Local Committee Base Budget**

#### Area Planning

- 4.7 It is suggested that £24,332 is allocated to the area planning budget line. The area planning budget line is available to support area planning delivery work in Eden. Members will be fully engaged in this programme through local delivery, Member workshops and via the area planning report tabled at each Local Committee.

#### Community Grants

- 4.8 It is suggested that £18,000 is allocated to community grants. The community development team will continue to administer community grants, advise and support the groups to make their application and carry out all necessary checks.
- 4.9 Retaining the population based funding split would result in the following divisional allocations.

<b>Division</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Alston and East Fellside	6,394	£2,191
Appleby	5,602	£1,919
Eden Lakes	5,644	£1,934
Greystoke & Hesket	6,064	£2,078
Kirkby Stephen	6,237	£2,137
Penrith East	5,622	£1,926
Penrith North	5,512	£1,888
Penrith Rural	5,748	£1,969
Penrith West	5,714	£1,958

#### 0-19 Youth Grants

- 4.10 Grants to organisations who deliver activities and projects for young people aged 0 -19 will continue to be supported. Guidance previously agreed by Cabinet states that in allocating funds from this category, Councillors should satisfy themselves that projects address at least one of the following criteria:
- Provide access to play, recreational, leisure or outdoor activities.
  - Provide access to care or educational activities.
  - Provide access to safe and enjoyable places for children and young people to go.
  - Provide access to holiday, weekend or out of school activities.

- Enable children and young people's involvement and participation eg. forum, youth council, engagement, empowerment, decision-making.
- Support children and young people to take part in volunteering or community action.

4.11 It is suggested that £29,464 is allocated to enable 0-19 youth grants. Each grant application will be discussed at the Eden Local Committee children and young people working group.

4.12 Of the 0-19 total allocation, it is suggested by the Eden Local Committee children and young people working group that £10,000 is allocated to support strategic development for young people.

#### 11-19 Universal Services

4.13 Universal youth work can best be described as a safe space where children and young people can go to access a range of positive, age appropriate activities. Council has allocated £17,016 to support the continued strategic development of universal youth services in Eden.

4.14 Following mapping work undertaken to ascertain demand, the suggested allocations to be ringfenced are for universal youth service delivery in Alston, Appleby, Kirkby Stephen and Penrith with an amount of £4,000 each.

#### School Crossing Patrol

4.15 The service level agreement for school crossing patrols in the Eden area is attached at Appendix C. Of the fully costed Service Level Agreement (£17,100.00) only 2 sites currently have a school crosser in place.

#### Money and Debt Advice

4.16 Council has allocated £34,870 to Eden's Money and Debt Advice service which is currently delivered by Citizen's Advice Carlisle and Eden.

#### Environment Fund

4.17 The purpose of this ring-fenced fund will be to support a range of environmental improvements or enhancements, covering for example, enhanced verge maintenance, tree maintenance and replacement, footpath maintenance, nature recovery, biodiversity improvements and improving the environmental conditions and quality of life.

4.18 Local Committees will be engaged on options around the Environment Fund in due course.

## **5.0 OPTIONS**

5.1 Members may decide to support the recommendations outlined in this report, amend them and choose to commit different levels of funding within their delegated budget, or not to accept them. It is important to note however that the allocation of funding plays a key part in the ability of the Local

Committee to meet the Council's priorities and the focus for the local area, and this needs to be taken into account when allocating resources..

## **6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The financial implications are as stated in this report. The total Communities Budget for 2021-22 is £407,705 as agreed by County Council on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2021.
- 6.2 The Local Committee is able to vire into or out of all budgets, with the exception of the Money Advice budget and the Neighbourhood Support budget (although this can be supplemented by other budgets).
- 6.3 An Environment Fund of £200,000 per Local Committee has been agreed by County Council as a one-off allocation for the 2021-22 financial year only. The funding may be vired to other budget areas for the purposes of carrying out specific schemes. Where virement is required, this will be reported clearly as a commitment against the Environment Fund.

## **7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There is no specific area of concern with the recommendations contained in this document. The recommendations relate to decisions that fall within the remit and function of the Committee as per the Constitution.

Craig Smith – Senior Lawyer

## **8.0 CONCLUSION**

- 8.1 The report outlines Members opportunity to clearly focus community activity managed through Local Committee in line with Council priorities and area specific need.

**Dawn Roberts**

**Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services**

*3 March 2021*

## **APPENDICES**

***Appendix A - Local Committee Priorities***

***Appendix B - The proposed allocation of Eden Local Committee's budget***

***Appendix C - School Crossing Patrol Service Level Agreement***

Electoral Division(s): All in Eden

Executive Decision

Yes	
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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?

	No	
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Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?

	No	
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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**

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