

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR CARLISLE

Meeting date: 19 July 2021

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 approves grants made from Area Planning funding summarised below*
- *£6400 to Cumbria Family Support towards a pilot project “Family Support –Covid Recovery” as described in Appendix 2*
 - *£5,972 to Carlisle and Eden Citizens Advice towards the costs of an Employment Adviser and a worker to support the virtual team as described in Appendix 3.*
- 3.3** *That the Committee notes grants from its 0-19 grants fund summarised below.*
- *£1500 to Wetheral Cricket Club towards a new netting area to support the young people in Wetheral to take up Cricket*
 - *£450 to Morton Community Centre towards Summer Holiday Activities (from earmarked 0-19 holiday activities)*
 - *£3000 to Longtown Community Centre towards Summer Evening Activities targeting young teenagers in the Longtown (from earmarked 0-19 holiday activities).*
- 3.4** *That the Committee notes grants of £12,000 from its DWP Winter Grants Fund as listed below*
- *£2500 to Carlisle Key towards supporting the charity to pay for utility bills and food costs, including food for cooking workshops*
 - *£700 to Elim Community Church (Oasis Food Pantry) towards supporting people who are in most need of accessing food, but who would not qualify for the Food Bank service of free food*
 - *£5000 to Carlisle Community Help Group towards helping the group become more sustainable, this funding will help them to keep the service going whilst they reach out and look for other funding*
 - *£3800 to Carlisle Food Bank towards food costs for core and/or emergency supplies to vulnerable people of all ages.*

- 3.5** *That the committee approves the schedule of works and budgets associated with the Contain Outbreak Management Fund to improve outdoor spaces and hold area based events and activities attached at appendices 4 and 5*
- 3.6** *That Carlisle Local Committee nominates Cllr Mitchelson to the committee of Brampton and Beyond Community Association as outlined in para 4.9*
- 3.7** *That Carlisle Local Committee nominates the Chair of Local Committee to sit on the St Cuthberts Garden Village Member Advisory Group as outlined in para 4.10.*

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 and 3 are summaries of the Area Planning and 0-19 grant applications over £5000 requiring approval by Local Committee which were considered by the Strategic Grants Panel at its meeting on 22 June 2021. Further information can be made available to any councillor on request.

Area Planning and Communities

- 4.3** **Future High Streets Fund**

Carlisle City Council will receive £9.1 million to deliver the range of projects in this scheme and is progressing the funding as the accountable body.

Detailed design work is now taking place on the two items that fall within the responsibility of the County Council, namely the Devonshire Street improvements and the Market Square redesign.

The total budget for these improvements is £3,262,696 and is now included in the Capital Programme. Procurement of a designer from the professional services framework is due to commence in order to develop the scheme to an outline design stage. Outline designs will be developed over the next 6 months and will be shared with Local Committee for approval.

4.4 **Towns Fund Deal**

Following the funding announcement of £19.7 million against an original proposal costing £25 million, Carlisle Town Deal Board met to consider revising the costings of all projects to fit within the funding envelope. This has affected the allocations to the two projects being led by Cumbria County Council namely Southern Gateway and the Digital and Community Learning Hub in the Lanes.

Funding for the development of the Southern Gateway is now included in the Capital Programme and the procurement of a design contractor is due to commence in the Summer, with the aim of having indicative designs to inform the Full Business Case by late Autumn 2021.

A programme board has been established to oversee the Digital and Community Learning Hub with Full Business Case required by March 2022

- 4.5 Given the synergy of these projects with other projects in the City Centre, including Carlisle Station Gateway, Citadels development and the emerging Local Cycling and walking Plans (LCWIP), it is essential that these works are coordinated. Project designs will be developed to ensure a consistency of approach across the City Centre, with pedestrian and cycle links identified through the LCWIP providing the framework around which the other schemes will be developed.

COVID-19 Response and Recovery, Contain Outbreak Management Fund

- 4.6 As part of the ongoing response to tackling the Coronavirus pandemic, funds have been available to each Local Committee with Carlisle receiving £200k for improving outdoor spaces and £50k for area based events and activities. Members met informally on 14th June to consider and propose activities to benefit from these two funding streams
- 4.7 This fund will be allocated to a range of initiatives designed to help partners and communities to slow the rate of COVID-19 infections with the decision making arrangements being grants of up to £5k being assessed by Chair, Vice Chair and Area Manager and grants over £5k being agreed by Local Committee
- 4.8 Given the nature of much of the works involved, it is important to commence as soon as possible within the summer and autumn months therefore a draft proposal for this funding is attached at appendix 4. Whilst costings are still to be finalised, based on the member views at the 14th June meeting it is recommended that Local Committee discuss the areas selected and agree the broad budget amounts allocated to each. Members will be kept aware of progress at each local committee up until the end of the financial year when the funds must be spent and any changes will be the subject of further Local Committee decision. Also attached at appendix 5 is the programme proposal for the Street Art Festival which form a significant part of the proposed events spend.

Nominations to Outside Bodies

- 4.9 Following the by election held in Brampton Division in May 2021, Local Committee are recommended to nominate Councillor Mike Mitchelson to sit on the Committee of Brampton and Beyond Community Trust.
- 4.10 Local Committee has been requested to nominate a member to sit on St Cuthbert's Garden Village Member Advisory Group. It is recommended that this nomination is taken by the Chair of Carlisle Local Committee

5.0 OPTIONS

- 5.1 Members may review and evaluate the recommendations. Members may choose to approve, vary or reject the recommendations at 3. Members may wish to comment on other aspects contained within the report.

6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Local Committee currently has unallocated resources of £296,144 in its Communities Budget.
- 6.2 There are unallocated resources of £66,715 in the Area Plan Projects budget. Should recommendation 3.2. be agreed, £24,255 will be committed, leaving £42,460 available for future allocation.
- 6.3 There are unallocated resources of £92,067 in the 0-19 Services budget. Should recommendation 3.3. be agreed, £6,080 will be committed, leaving £85,987 available for future allocation.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Recommendations 3.1, 3.3 and 3.4 are all items for members to note. There are, therefore, no direct legal implications.

In respect of recommendation 3.2, provided the recommended grants are in line with the Local Committee's grant award policy, it is a proper decision for members to approve under paragraph 5.1.2(d) Part 2D of the Constitution.

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

30 June 2021

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Summary Financial Statement

Appendix 2: Grant Application Family Support Project

Appendix 3: Grant Application Carlisle and Eden CAB

Appendix 4: Contain Outbreak Management Fund Schedule of activities and expenditure

Appendix 5: Proposal for Street Art Trail/Festival

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?

	No
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If so, give details below.

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

Contact: Paul Musgrave, Area Manager, Carlisle
paul.musgrave@cumbria.gov.uk
Tel 07900 662658