

# COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR EDEN

Meeting date: 30 September

From: Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community 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's vision, set out in the Council Plan 2018-2022, is to 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, and area based working and shaping services locally, are one of the key ways of delivering this vision.*

**2.2** *Eden Local Committee's current priorities have been developed by its three Member Working Groups and discussed further at a Member Seminar in October 2020. These are described in appendix K.*

**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 2021-22 and the commitments and expenditure recorded to date.*
- 3.2** *Members note the provisional unallocated resources in the 2021-22 Communities Revenue Budget of £93,829 at 31 August 2021.*
- 3.3** *Members agree a funding award of £7,627 from the COMF (Harnessing Local Capacity) budget line for Churches Together to enable a Linking Lives project in Penrith as outlined in 4.11.*
- 3.4** *Members agree a supplementary funding award from the Area Planning Budget Line to extend the Linking Lives project into the 2022/2023 financial year as outlined in 4.12. The award will be either £5,375 or £375 depending on the outcome of a Cumbria Community Foundation bid.*
- 3.5** *Members note the universal service allocation of £4,000 to the Oaklea Trust to enable service delivery in Appleby this year as described in 4.18.*
- 3.6** *Members note the 0-19 allocation of £4,000 to Warcop Parish Council to renew and improve the existing playground as described in 4.19.*

### **4.0 BACKGROUND**

- 4.1** The Eden Local Committee Communities Budget allocation is based upon the 2021-22 budget agreed by Council on 18 February 2021. 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 2020-21 have been included. Of the roll-forward amount of £126,685 from 2020-21, a large proportion is for earmarked projects.
- 4.3** The report updates Members on the Local Committee's Communities Budget for the 2021-22 financial year which are summarised in Appendix A of the report.
- 4.4** Of the total Communities Revenue Budget allocated to the Local Committee, £108,508 was allocated to discretionary revenue budgets.

#### **Covid-19 Response and Recovery**

- 4.5** The Eden Covid Resilience Group continues to meet on a monthly basis to co-ordinate activity and resources as needed. In addition to monitoring the current local situation in terms of infection rates and hospitalisations, the most recent meeting also considered vaccination rates and issues across Eden; as well as covid impacted poverty.

- 4.6 Updates are still published weekly on Cumbria County Council's website as a [situation report](#). While many are encouraged to see life returning to normal with reduced restrictions, the group reflected on the importance of local messaging with regards good practice - wearing face coverings wherever possible, washing hands, socially distancing, and getting tested regularly.
- 4.7 Rates of vaccination in the district are incredibly good compared with the regional and national data. However, we are continuing to work with NHS colleagues to identify geographical areas where rates are noticeably lower - Alston Moor, Penrith South and Penrith West. There is currently a plan to provide a mobile vaccination provision across North Cumbria and a request has been made for these areas in Eden to be included.
- 4.8 There have also been lower vaccine uptake rates amongst BAME communities and younger people which is consistent with the national picture. One GP practice has been identified where vaccine rates are lower and has been raised this with Eden Primary Care Network so that a targeted approach can be adopted.
- 4.9 The group also continue to discuss and support the immediate issues relating to recovery from the pandemic. To aid efforts in local pandemic management, Eden Local Committee has been allocated £400,000 from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund (COMF) to harness local capacity for support, enable events and activities and improve local areas and encourage participation. The breakdown of this award is highlighted below:
- £150,000 from the harnessing local capacity workstream.
  - £50,000 from the improving outdoor spaces (events and activities) workstream.
  - £200,000 from the Improving outdoor spaces (improve local areas and encourage participation) workstream.
- 4.10 Whilst Members have been kept fully informed as to how this funding has been applied to date; a summary of the fund expenditure can be viewed in appendix J.
- 4.11 Community officers have been working with Churches Together who are seeking funding to start a Linking Lives project in Penrith supporting people who are lonely or isolated. Linking Lives is a national initiative. Each local service is set up independently following a national model, however benefiting from national advice and support. More information can be found on the website: <https://linkinglives.uk>
- 4.12 The one-year project will surpass the COMF funding allocation deadline so Members are being asked to consider a funding ask of £7,627 from the COMF Capacity Building Grant and a £5,375 allocation from the Area Planning Budget. Note that Churches Together have a £5,000 funding application currently pending with Cumbria Community Foundation so this secondary ask is based on the outcome of this application. Should they be successful then a smaller allocation of £375 would be required. There is more information on this funding application in appendix L.

## **Area Based Working Update**

- 4.13 An officer working group has been formed to manage the programme of works enabled by the COMF Improving Outdoor Spaces and Environment Funds. This group comprises community development, highways and countryside access officers, is chaired by the area manager and meets on a monthly basis. The programme remains on track for completion.
- 4.14 An A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project (NTPP) Member session was facilitated by Highways England on 25 August at Penrith Methodist Church. The senior project lead for the A66 NTPP from Highways England gave a detailed presentation on the work and progress to date. Detailed designs of all schemes along the route in Eden were on display at the session. A member of the senior technical team for the project walked Members through each section to provide an insight into the technical detail of the proposed designs. Members were provided with an opportunity to offer feedback and raise issues or concerns with each scheme.
- 4.15 A regular reference group for the A66 NTPP has been formed to keep Members informed and involved and first met on 22 August.
- 4.16 The Capital Programme team for the A592 Safer Roads Scheme have been developing a plan of community communication and engagement for the scheme. Information leaflets have been distributed to 11,500 properties around the route and other methods of communication have been publicised in appropriate localities to enable public engagement. Members have received invites to online and parish engagement opportunities, to feedback on safety issues and inform the detailed plans for the scheme. A series of public engagement events will now take place along the route in Pooley Bridge, Glenridding and Windermere. Community officers have assisted with all community engagement in Eden and attended fortnightly project meetings and will be offering support at the public engagement events.
- 4.17 The Children and Young People Working Group (CYPWG) met on 9 September where Members received an update on this year's strategic project, the Activate Through Movement sports pilot, from the Eden Valley Sports Partnership Manager, Oli Luke.
- 4.18 Members heard an update on the 11-19 universal service provision and a report was tabled from the Oaklea Trust (attached at Appendix M) describing the 11-19 universal service provision in Appleby in advance of this year's allocation of £4,000. This was supported by all members of the group.
- 4.19 There was one 0-19 application heard by the group from Warcop Parish Council to renew and improve the existing playground. A £4,000 grant award was supported by the group. There is more information on the project in Appendix N.
- 4.20 The Summer Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme has now completed in Eden and across the county. 5 providers were successful in delivering a food and activities programme over the summer; these included Alston Pre School Nursery, Euphoric Circus, GLL Leisure, We Are Team and Oaklea Trust. Monitoring and evaluation for the summer programme is

due to be completed this month. Recruitment for the Winter HAF Programme is now underway. Information about the winter programme including details of how providers can submit an Expression of Interest is available on Cumbria County Council's website.

- 4.21 The Eden Youth Hub site opened by appointment in August with drop-ins scheduled to start in September. Other partners are now being invited to contribute to the youth offer at the hub including Community Learning and Skills colleagues and Inspira. HSBC will also be attending to deliver financial support sessions as part of September series of events. The development of the outreach youth coach is also now underway. Further updates are expected this month. Updates on the progress of Eden Youth Hub are shared at the CYPWG meetings each month.
- 4.22 The Eden community team are part of the monthly Eden Focus Hub meetings, which brings together agencies and organisations in Eden to solve problems and community issues. There are currently two projects that the community team are involved in; with other projects supported by more appropriate CCC officers from Adults Social Care, Cumbria Fire and Rescue and/or Children's Services.

#### **Alston Area Working**

- 4.23 Work on the Alston Front Street scheme started in August with Cubby Construction on site and the work progressing well. The team continue to collaborate with the local steering group and traders group to promote the town and the new monthly market which started in May, stating that Alston is very much open for business.
- 4.24 The team continue to work with the Alston Moor Area Planning Group to develop projects for Alston Moor and have supported the development of a project for Eden District Council's Welcome Back Fund and generated five applications to the COMF Events and Activities grant.

#### **Appleby Area Working**

- 4.25 The reorganised Appleby Horse Fair took place last month over the weekend of 13 August. Public health and community development officers were on hand during the Fair to provide general advice around Covid-19, raise awareness of vaccination and encourage people to take lateral flow tests. The team also worked with NHS colleagues to promote the mobile vaccination bus on site. It was a slow start with low uptake to begin with, but the team received positive feedback from visitors and locals alike. On the last day, the team's remit was to encourage people to test when they returned home from the Fair. They interacted with over 500 people and distributed around 230 lateral flow testing kits for people to use at home.
- 4.26 Whilst an increase in Covid cases was observed in Eden the week following Appleby Horse Fair, the cases were confirmed to be linked to a local school prom.
- 4.27 The pre and post fair public meetings were co-ordinated by the Eden community team and Appleby Town Council. The pre fair meeting was

ticketed with covid restrictions still in place, 43 members of the public attended. At the time of the post-fair meeting - 2nd September - covid restrictions had been lifted and ticketing was not required. 110 Members of the public attended, mainly from the local community. Key speakers for both events included the chairman of the Multi Agency Strategic Co-ordination Group (MASCG), the Gold Commander for the Fair and Director of Public Health.

- 4.28 The Eden community team continue to contribute to the MASCG which is now focused on evaluation from 2021 and preparation and planning for 2022.
- 4.29 The Appleby Area Planning Group last met in June for a priority mapping event with all key stakeholders. This useful session identified the key priorities for Appleby. This information is now being worked into an updated plan of local priorities by the area team. The next area planning meeting in Appleby will bring stakeholders together to agree the key actions for the group over the next 12 months. The group is now also joined by the heritage action zone officer and Cumbria CVS area manager to provide further stakeholder contributions.

#### **Kirkby Stephen Area Working**

- 4.30 The Kirkby Stephen Area Planning Group will meet again in September to review progress of actions in the local plan, which include the development of a local business network, transport audit, improved signage, a cycleway and redevelopment of local assets. The group will be joined by a new member from Cumbria CVS. The work on the transport audit and improvements to local signage will now be led by the community team with support from Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT).

#### **Penrith Area Working**

- 4.31 The Penrith Members Working Group met on 17 August and discussed ongoing projects impacting the town and its stakeholders.
- 4.32 The team continue to work with thinkingplace to deliver the Borderlands Place Programme in Penrith. At the last Town Team meeting thinkingplace presented the long list of projects and ideas collected from the workshops and online survey, the group will meet again in October to comment on the draft place plan.
- 4.33 The Penrith Parking and Movement Implementation Group continues to meet monthly. Officers are working on a number of projects to deliver the schemes and an update goes to the Penrith Members working group regularly. One of the key workstreams being delivered as part of this programme – the parking permit protocol – is the subject of a specific highways paper for this committee.
- 4.34 Community officers have been supporting colleagues to deliver workshops and create an online survey to progress the Penrith Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan.

## **Other Area Working**

- 4.35 The Shap Area Planning Group are continuing to progress the local action plan which includes the development of a local market, a visitor leaflet, electric car charging, re-development of the recreational area, development of the old sports hall site and safer streets – with highways officers attended a site visit last month to provide advice and guidance on accessibility of the proposed site.

## **Public Health and Wellbeing**

- 4.36 The Eden Health and Wellbeing Forum last met on 22 July. The local covid situation was considered, including latest changes to lockdown rules. Links have been made with the County Council's Community Learning and Skills team, to help shape and share details of courses that could help improve health and wellbeing, particularly following the pandemic. There may be some changes to membership of the Forum following the current staff restructure at Eden District Council.
- 4.37 Specific updates in relation to some of the Forum's strategic priorities are included below:
- The loneliness and social isolation subgroup of the Forum has met a second time, and with more organisations wishing to get involved. A direct outcome is the befriending service, Linking Lives, being established for Penrith through Churches Together.
  - The arts and culture for health and wellbeing subgroup of the Forum has met a second time with a range of partners getting involved. The group has agreed to develop an initial joint project based on Hadrian's Wall, with a view to adopting elements that have a positive impact on health and wellbeing.
  - Active Cumbria have shared a presentation based on their new five-year strategy along with details of the demographics they are using to identify where a more targeted approach to healthy weights can be adopted in Eden. Healthy weight also remains a key priority for the Children's Trust Board task and finish group.
- 4.38 Whilst covid remains a key focus for our joint working with the Primary Care Network, work on other priorities is also being developed, particularly around diabetes prevention, falls prevention and current pressures on adult social care.

## **Community Services and Libraries**

- 4.39 Penrith Library is still open five days a week – Monday to Friday 9:30-12:30, 1:30-5pm. Although we are unable to extend those hours at the moment due to staffing shortages, we are starting to reintroduce our Baby, Bounce and Rhyme sessions (2 a week) from this week and will be reintroducing Lego club soon. The meeting rooms are now available for hire and have been booking up well with the health and wellbeing coaches and Community Learning and Skills who are keen to have a presence in the library.

- 4.40 Alston Library is currently open four days a week. Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10-1, 2-4pm. We will be moving to winter opening hours shortly and also investigating starting to reintroduce some regular activities – more details to follow as they are confirmed.
- 4.41 Appleby Library is open two days a week. Monday and Friday 10-12.30, 1.30-5pm. These hours will be increased as soon as staffing levels allow.
- 4.42 Kirkby Stephen Library Link is open three days a week. Monday and Wednesday 10-12, 1-3pm and also Saturday 10-1pm.
- 4.43 Shap Library Link is currently open five days a week. Monday 10-1pm, Thursday 2-5pm, Friday 2-5pm, Saturday 10-12pm and Sunday 2-5pm. The service is aiming to reinstate regular staff visits from this week.

## **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
- 5.2 Members may choose to either agree the recommendations for decision as presented or suggest altered proposals.

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

- 6.1 The Local Committee has unallocated resources of £93,629 in its Communities budget, as summarised in Appendix A.
- 6.2 The Control Outbreak Management Fund allocations are shown in Appendix J. Should recommendation 3.3 be agreed £7,627 will be committed for Churches Together from the COMF Harnessing Local Capacity 2020-21 funding of £50,000, leaving £19,518 to be allocated from this funding.
- 6.3 There are currently unallocated resources of £24,743 in the Area Planning budget. Should recommendation 3.4 be agreed, £5,375 will provisionally be committed from this budget for Churches Together, leaving unallocated resources of £19,368. However, should their application for £5,000 to Cumbria Community Foundation be successful, the commitment will be £375 and unallocated resources will be £24,368.
- 6.4 The 11-19 Universal Services budget has unallocated resources of £31,235. Recommendation 3.5 notes the commitment of £4,000 to the Oaklea Trust. This will reduce unallocated resources to £27,235.
- 6.5 The 0-19 Grants budget has unallocated resources of £15,300. Recommendation 3.6 notes the commitment of £4,000 to Warcop Parish Council. This will reduce unallocated resources to £11,300.

## 7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The recommendations to the Local Committee contained in this paper fall within the remit of processes and decisions which can properly be made by the Committee as per part 5 of the Constitution.

## 8.0 CONCLUSION

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

**Dawn Roberts**

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

*Sept 2021*

## APPENDICES

***Appendix A-J Local Committee budgets***

***Appendix K Eden Local Committee priorities for 2021/2022***

***Appendix L Grant application from Churches Together***

***Appendix M Grant application from The Oaklea Trust***

***Appendix N Grant application from Warcop Parish Council***

Electoral Division(s): All in Eden

Executive Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny? If so, give details below.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**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](mailto:nick.wright@cumbria.gov.uk)