

COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR EDEN

Meeting date: 27 March 2023

From: Assistant Director – 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 key ways of delivering this vision.*

2.2 *Eden Local Committee's current priorities have been developed by its three Member Working Groups. These are described in appendix B.*

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 2022-23 and the commitments and expenditure to date.*

3.2 *Members note the provisional unallocated resources in the 2022-23 Communities Revenue Budget of £0 as of 14 March 2023.*

- 3.3** *Members agree to allocate £10,000 from the Area Planning budget to support 4Eden to deliver a pilot supper club project at Beaconside Primary School as described at point 4.9 – 4.10.*
- 3.4** *Members agree to allocate the remaining Environment Fund budget towards a footpath between Green Lane and Penrith Golf Course as described in 4.11 – 4.13.*
- 3.5** *Members agree to vire the remaining £1,016 from the 11-19 Universal Services budget to the 0-19 budget as described in point 4.30.*
- 3.6** *Members note the area planning update and grant allocations as described in 4.5 to 4.45.*
- 3.7** *Members note the “Eden Local Committee – supporting our communities” report as described in 4.45.*

4.0 BACKGROUND

- 4.1** The Eden Local Committee Communities Budget allocation is based upon the 2022-23 budget agreed by Council on 10 February 2022. 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 2021-22 have been included. Of the roll-forward amount of £168,751 from 2021-22, a large proportion is for earmarked projects.
- 4.3** The report updates Members on the Local Committee’s Communities Budget for the 2022-23 financial year which are summarised in Appendix A of the report.
- 4.4** Of the total Communities Budget allocated to the Local Committee, £109,031 was allocated to discretionary revenue budgets.

Community Resilience

- 4.5** The Eden Community Resilience Group last met on the 28 February where the group heard updates from subgroups and shared intelligence on community issues.
- 4.6** The cost-of-living crisis remains a current priority and the group were reminded to keep sharing the wide range of advice and support available via the County Council Website: <https://cumbria.gov.uk/costofliving/>
- 4.7** The group were informed that the countywide cost-of-living support coordination group will now stand down and two new groups are expected to be formed following vesting day. A report on the cost-of-living crisis in Cumbria is currently being produced for the Health and Wellbeing Board, and will be shared with elected Members when available.
- 4.8** Full details of Warm Spots in Eden have been shared across local networks. A countywide review of the Warm Spots initiative is planned and further details will be shared with elected Members when available.

- 4.9 Cost-of-living support remains a key priority for all of Eden's Area Planning Groups (APGs) and subsequently there is an ask of Committee to support a grant application from 4Eden for £10,000 to pilot a supper club project in partnership with Beaconside Primary School.
- 4.10 Up to 20 meals will be prepared by the Bake4Eden team who are all individuals with learning disabilities, transported to the school and made available to children on roll at risk of food poverty during term time. There is more information contained within the grant application at Appendix C.

Area Based Working

Environment Fund

- 4.11 At its meeting in May 2022, Eden Local Committee agreed a programme of works funded by a £200,000 Environment Fund allocation which was discussed at a prior workshop following officer recommendations based on the Highways minor works programme and suggestions from Countryside Access colleagues.
- 4.12 As we approach the end of the financial year, all of these works have reached (or are near to reaching) completion apart from the footpath between the Persimmon site and Beacon Edge in Penrith due to contractor capacity and which will now be delivered next year.
- 4.13 Due to a number of works coming in under budget, Officers are recommending that Members agree an additional project from the Highways minor works programme be ringfenced from the Environment Fund. The footpath proposal between Green Lane and Penrith Golf course had already been approved by Members for the minor works programme but was withdrawn from this year's delivery plan due to increased costs making it unviable. At a revised cost of approximately £50,000, this would now be possible from unallocated Environment Funding.

Eden Locality Resettlement Group

- 4.14 In preparation for vesting day, CCC's Resettlement Team have recently recruited 2 full time Case Workers and a Housing and Rematching Officer for Eden. A Team Manager for Westmorland and Furness Council has also been recruited.
- 4.15 Under the Homes for Ukraine scheme there are currently 42 hosts registered in Eden, 31 of these have received guests. The total number of guests who have arrived in Eden, including rematches and those who have since left the programme, is 91. For the Afghan Relocation and Assistance Policy scheme there are 4 individuals to bring to Eden before April and the Resettlement Team are hoping to reach the pledge before the deadline.

Alston Area Planning Group

- 4.16 The Alston Moor APG last met on 10 January where the main focus of the meeting was addressing the shortage of new volunteers on Alston Moor. The group had a detailed discussion, including officers from Cumbria CVS, and came up with a list of possible solutions to be taken forward by a newly established volunteers working group. The volunteer working group met on 23 February to discuss the suggestions that had been made by the APG and are currently working to develop these ideas further. The area planning group will next meet on Monday 14 March.

Appleby Area Planning Group

- 4.17 The group last met at Appleby Public Hall on Tuesday 17 January. A member of the Zero Carbon Cumbria Partnership attended the meeting to give a presentation on the work of the partnership and the support and funding available to help community initiatives that aim to reduce carbon emissions. A subgroup of the APG will be formed to develop local climate change initiatives.
- 4.18 The group reviewed all priorities in the Appleby Local Action Plan 2022-2023. The review of Appleby's footpaths is now underway. Further funding has been secured for the Platinum Park playground. The town signage review has also now been completed. A report of signage improvements for the town will be submitted to CCC Highways in March. The group also discussed local business support. A town map locating all businesses has been produced, an event to support businesses in the town will be planned for later in the spring, and a meeting will take place to discuss the development of an enterprise hub. The Appleby Events update included a roundup of seasonal events and activities planned for the year ahead including Steam Trains, Jumanji Trail, Taste Appleby and Wizard Fest. The area planning group will next meet on Monday 21 March.

Kirkby Stephen Area Planning Group

- 4.19 The group met online on Monday 16 January. With the help of a Transport Consultant and Action with Communities in Cumbria (ACT), the transport audit work has now been completed. The outcome of the project identified a number of transport options for the community which are now being developed; a Kirkby Stephen dedicated transport timetable has been produced, a local lift sharing initiative is being promoted, there are improvements to the existing taxi offer, demand responsive buses and a Saturday bus service to access key centres. The Saturday bus service to Penrith will also link up other parishes along the route and arrival of train services in Kirkby Stephen. Funding is required to contribute to the costs of running a pilot the service for 12 months.
- 4.20 The group discussed progress with local area priorities. The Evergreen Building renovation project construction has now started and will hopefully be completed at the end of April. Funding has also been secured for the Jubilee Park project and a landscaping architect will be appointed to start the work. The Town Forum which has now disbursed will be committing funds to support a local business event. Work on the town signage improvements will be completed by CCC Highways during 2023/24. Plans are being drawn up for a memorial garden on Silver Street. The restoration project for Brough Clock has secured further funding and a project to install an outdoor Gym on Brough sports field is now underway. The area planning group will next meet on Monday 13 March.

Penrith Area Planning Group

- 4.21 The last meeting of the Penrith APG was postponed due to a number of absences with the next meeting scheduled to take place on 14 March.

- 4.22 The team continue to support Highways colleagues to progress the Penrith Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP). The Penrith LCWIP has been published and officers are working to identify funding to deliver the identified schemes. A Penrith LCWIP working group has been established to bring together key partners to develop the schemes. The working group will be meeting on 15 March.
- 4.23 6 Project Initiation Documents (PIDs) were submitted for consideration for the Borderlands fund. The PIDs were reviewed by an external consultant and a recommendation report was presented to the Penrith Borderlands Town Team for consideration on 28 February.
- 4.24 The Borderlands programme will now move across to the new Westmorland and Furness authority where the consultants' recommendations will be presented for approval to submit to the Borderlands Partnership and facilitate the process for schemes to move to business case development.
- 4.25 The Penrith Members Working Group took place on 8 February where members heard updates on the above projects and discussed other current issues relating to the town. The group were unanimous in their desire to keep a similar forum going beyond vesting day into the new authority.

Shap Area Planning Group

- 4.26 The group met on Monday 6 February in person at The Market Cross and online via Teams. The group discussed the local area priorities. The Old Courthouse has successfully recruited new volunteers. A business drop-in event has been organised at the Old Courthouse with support from Eden District Council's Economic Development Team. Invitations to the event will be sent out to businesses in and around Shap. A group has formed to explore the development of a skate part at the memorial park - the focus is on gaining support from the community and fundraising for the park. The work to complete the improvements to the local footpath network will commence in the Spring with the help of local volunteers and the Countryside Access Team.
- 4.27 In agreement with the Chairman, Shap Area Planning Group have been awarded £2,500 from the Area Planning budget. This brings the group in line with Eden's four other APGs who were awarded this grant in December 2020 before the Shap APG was established. There is more information on this grant in Appendix D
- 4.28 The marketing project to increase footfall and raise awareness at the Old Courthouse requires funding. Area planning budget will be considered so the essential marketing activity to increase footfall and raise awareness about the events, activities and service can commence. The area planning group will next meet online on Monday 3 April.

Children and Young People

- 4.29 The Children and Young People working group met on 6 March. The group heard and supported the grant report from Kirkby Stephen Youth Centre which described the proposed use of the final £4,000 11-19 Universal Service budget that had previously been allocated to Kirkby Stephen by Eden Local Committee. There is more information in Appendix E.

- 4.30 The 11-19 Universal Services budget has now been fully applied with a historical balance of £1,016 which remains unallocated. The CYP group recommends to Committee that this amount be vired to the 0-19 budget to enable all of the following projects to be supported and which would see that budget also fully applied.
- 4.31 The group heard and supported 0-19 applications for the following projects which have previously been shared with Committee and with more details available in appendices G to L.
- £2000 for Tebay Parish Council to support a play areas project.
 - £2000 for Friends of Shap School to support The Nest after school project.
 - £2000 for Euphoric Circus to support the extension of their project in Alston.
 - £1500 to The Studio Morland to support a Saturday art club project.
 - £2016 to Alston Moor Federation PTA to support a DoE project.
 - £1742.40 to Kirkby Stephen Youth Centre to support a sexual health information and support service.
- 4.32 The community team have also received and fully support a grant application from the centre manager at Huntley Avenue Childrens Centre to support a holiday and activity fund which can target activity allowing for an individual focus appropriate to the young people who lives there. This grant has been supported by the Committee Chairman. More details are available in appendix F.

Public Health and Wellbeing

- 4.33 The latest meeting of Eden Health and Wellbeing Forum took place on 20 October 2022, details of which have previously been shared with Eden Local Committee The subsequent meeting of Eden Health and Wellbeing Forum has been postponed until 11 May 2023.
- 4.34 Linking Lives is now running fully in Penrith. Kirkby Stephen and Appleby Linking Lives is progressing well and has now been registered with the Charity Commission, so recruitment of a local coordinator will begin shortly. Recruitment of volunteers continues to be a challenge for both organisations. There are now four Linking Lives schemes in Cumbria and they plan to collaborate and work together to share best practice and coordinate training and recruitment.
- 4.35 In order to support the Upper Eden Linking Lives service to become established it has been granted the remaining provisions from both the Appleby and Kirkby Stephen Community Grant. Officers have also agreed with the Chairman that the remaining Area Planning budget amount of £538.91 also be grated to the initiative. There is more information in appendix M.
- 4.36 Updates have been shared on the Live Longer Better campaign - <https://www.activecumbria.org/behealthybeactive/live-longer-better/> As well as providing more activity options for older adults, the campaign also seeks to change the mindset about ageing not being about becoming more frail, but looking at possibilities to reduce the 'fitness gap'.

- 4.37 Information has been shared on the national Every Mind Matters campaign. It is aimed at 16 to 34 year olds based on research that shows people in that demographic are at higher risk of feeling lonely compared to other age groups, but are less likely to seek advice and support, and are less likely to feel able to offer help to others. Further information is available on the [Every Mind Matters loneliness website](#), including advice for ways to help yourself and others who may be feeling lonely.
- 4.38 A new Dementia Friendly Communities partnership group has recently convened in Eden and is developing plans to reinvigorate work previously undertaken to raise awareness around dementia. A review of resources is underway and plans are being explored to hold a launch event in Penrith in May, along with community events in Appleby, Kirkby Stephen, Alston, and Shap areas, with others to follow. Training opportunities and recruitment of Dementia Champions will also be explored.
- 4.39 The Eden Local Resilience Forum has been alerted to recent local cases of bird flu; one at commercial poultry premises near Langwathby and two separate cases near Appleby. Control measures are in place and monitoring is being undertaken by DEFRA and the Animal & Plant Health Agency. The risk to public health from avian flu is very low. However, it is important not touch or pick up any sick or dead birds to avoid spreading the virus, which can affect humans in rare cases. If you do find any dead swans, geese, ducks or other dead wild birds while out and about, please report them to the DEFRA helpline on 03459 33 55 77 or online www.gov.uk . Bird keepers are also urged to be vigilant for any signs of disease and report any suspected cases. Since 7 November 2022 it is a legal requirement for all bird keepers to keep their birds indoors and to follow strict biosecurity measures.
- 4.40 Recruitment to the statutory role of Director of Public Health for Westmorland and Furness is now underway. Whilst Colin Cox will be moving to Cumberland Council, he will continue to provide essential interim advice and governance until an appointment is made. In the meantime, Vicky Hepworth-Putt has been appointed to Locum Public Health Consultant for Westmorland and Furness Council, and Cathryn Beckett will continue as the Public Health Locality Manager for Eden.

Community Services and Libraries

- 4.41 The new year has been a busy time for the library service. The team started with the January Challenge – a daily arts/culture based challenge for the whole of the month. Penrith library has also hosted a Time to Talk Day drop-in session, Apprenticeship promotions and a sold out What Can We Do About Climate Change talk with Penrith Action for Community Transition. All alongside the usual class visits welcoming pupils from Morland, Temple Sowerby, St Catherines and Crosby Ravensworth as well as Beaconside Nursery. The weekly Baby Bounce and Rhyme sessions have extended from two to three sessions, and are looking at increasing to four as demand has grown.

- 4.42 Adult Education colleagues held felt making and drawing sessions in Penrith Library and will continue on a permanent basis by the summer. Work is due to start at the end of April on alterations to the staffing area to create additional space. There are no plans at this time to close the library while these works take place but there may be some temporary restrictions to some areas of the library.
- 4.43 The very successful monthly Music for your Ears sessions have extended from morning sessions in the library to afternoon sessions at the Salvation Army. These sessions have been supported via a small grant from the Area Planning budget of £500 for which there is more details in the flyer attached at Appendix N.
- 4.44 The library at Appleby welcomed class visits from Appleby Primary school and the Beavers and has launched a very successful Creative Writing group.

The work of Eden Local Committee

- 4.45 As this is the last meeting of Eden Local Committee, the Community Team has produced a short report entitled “Eden Local Committee – supporting our communities” which reflects on some of the achievements this committee has overseen over its 6-year term. This report can be viewed in appendix O.

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 alternative proposals.

6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The Local Committee's current financial position is shown in Appendix 1 to this report. All budgets have now been fully committed so there are no unallocated resources remaining.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 A review of this report indicates that the recommendations fall within the proper remit of the Committee as per the Constitution.
- 7.2 There are no immediate negative legal concerns arising from the recommendations.

8.0 CONCLUSION

- 8.1 This report provides the Local Committee with a comprehensive update on its communities budget, area planning project updates and related matters delegated to the committee.

Simon Higgins
Assistant Director – Customer and Community Services

8 March 2023

APPENDICES

Appendix A Local Committee budget summary
Appendix B Eden Local Committee priorities for 2022/23
Appendix C Grant application from 4 Eden
Appendix D Grant application from Shap Area Planning Group
Appendix E Grant application from Kirkby Stephen Youth Centre
Appendix F Grant application from Huntley Avenue Childrens Centre
Appendix G Grant application from Tebay Parish Council
Appendix H Grant application from Friends of Shap School
Appendix I Grant application from The Studio Morland
Appendix J Grant application from Euphoric Circus
Appendix K Grant application from Alston Moor Federation PTA
Appendix L Grant application from Kirkby Stephen Youth Centre
Appendix M Grant application from Upper Eden Linking Lives
Appendix N Music for your Ears Flyer
Appendix O Eden Local Committee – supporting our communities (To follow)

Electoral Divisions: 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

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