

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**Central Area Council Meeting:
14th April 2014**

Agenda Item: 3b

**Report of Central Area Council
Manager**

Central Council -Ongoing Priorities and Remaining Budget Allocation

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report provides members with a revised financial position statement for Central Council funding and projected expenditure for the next three years, based on commitments to date, and including proposals presented at today's meeting.
- 1.2 Based on Option 3, as agreed at the Central Council meeting on 14th March 2014, the report also provides members with a proposal for the allocation of the remaining funds for 2014/2015, and outlines the next steps for implementing the proposal.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 Members note the revised financial position statement for Central Council funding and projected expenditure for the next three years based on commitments to date, and including proposals presented at the meeting.**
- 2.2 Members consider and agree the proposal for the allocation of remaining funds for 2014/2015, as outlined in the report.**
- 2.3 Members agree the next steps outlined in Section 5 for taking forward the proposal.**

3. Background and Context

- 3.1 As part of the establishment of the Council's Communities and Area Governance Service and the development and delivery of the associated governance framework, Area Council's were each given a budget for April 2014- March 2015.
- 3.2 This budget has been devolved to each of the Area Council's with the intention of Area Council's commissioning services that will address the Council's Corporate priorities: Growing the Economy; Supporting Resilient communities;

and Citizens achieving their potential. In addition to addressing the Corporate priorities, Area Plan priorities should also be addressed.

- 3.3 Central Council was allocated a £500,000 budget for this period.
- 3.4 At the last meeting of Central Council on 17th March 2014, a table outlining the current financial position for Central Council, together with anticipated spend for the next three years, was provided. An unallocated amount of £134,580 for 2014/2015 was identified at that meeting.
- 3.5 Central Council considered 3 options for how it wished to proceed with the allocation/expenditure of these funds, and Central Council members agreed that Option 3 should be progressed. Option 3 is a combination of the following 2 approaches:
- Establishing a one-off non-recurrent grants programme for 2014/2015 that addresses the identified Area priorities and is aimed at community organisations, small businesses and social enterprises, with a view to developing their capacity to bid for future procurement opportunities.
 - Developing further procurement opportunities linked to the identified area priorities and/or new priorities identified through the Area Council.
- 3.6 It was agreed that:
- A small Central Council Working Group, made up of one representative from each Ward, be established to take forward the development work for Option 3 and that
 - The Working group prepares a discussion paper about the implementation of the Option 3 for consideration at the next Central Council meeting.

4.0 Current Situation

4.1 Revised Central Council Financial Position Statement

Based on updated information and as a result of interventions considered at today's meeting, Table 1 below provides a revised position statement on Central Council funding allocations and projected expenditure over the next three years.

It should be noted again however that these are indicative projections and may be subject to change depending upon the payment schedules submitted and agreed as part of the ongoing procurement processes.

Based on the revised information an amount of **£107,205** remains unallocated for 2014/2015 and **£37,125** for 2015/2016

Table 1:

Service to be procured	Length of contract & anticipated start date	Total contract cost	Anticipated Expenditure 2014-2015	Anticipated Expenditure 2015-2016	Anticipated Expenditure 2016-2017
Older People	2 years- May 2014	200,000	91,670	100,000	8,330
Children aged 8-12 years	2 years- July 2014	200,000	75,000	100,000	25,000
Young People aged 13-19 years	2 years- July 2014	200,000	75,000	100,000	25,000
Cleaner & Greener Environment in partnership with local people	2 years- July 2014	160,000	60,000	80,000	20,000
Environmental Enforcement	1 year-July 2014	51,500	38,625	12,875	-
Private Sector Rented Housing Management/ Enforcement	2 years- July 2014	140,000	52,500	70,000	17,500
Totals: Projected Expenditure			392,795	462,875	95,830
Balance remaining-based on £500,000 allocation per annum			107,205	37,125	-

4.2 Option 3 Development and proposal

As agreed by Central Council on 17th March and outlined in paragraph 3.6 above, a small working group was established and has met on two occasions to take forward the development of both parts of Option 3:

Part A: Establish a one-off non-recurrent grants programme for 2014/2015 that addresses the identified Area priorities and is aimed at community organisations, small businesses and social enterprises, with a view to developing their capacity to bid for future procurement opportunities.

Part B: Develop further procurement opportunities linked to the identified area priorities and/or new priorities identified through the Area Council.

The following Central Council members volunteered to be part of the working group, and although not all members attended meetings, all members did input:

Councillor Green – Chair
Councillor Kath Mitchell- Kingstone Ward
Councillor Jack Carr- Dodworth Ward
Councillor Wayne Johnson-Stairfoot Ward
Councillor Clarke-Worsbrough Ward
Councillor Margaret Bruff-Central Ward

To ensure the Part A element of Option 3 (outlined above) meets the aims and objectives of Barnsley Council's community and area governance arrangements, delivers on the Council's Corporate and Central Council priorities, and can easily be identified from other "grant" regimes operating in the area, the following outline process together with some outline principles are proposed by the Working Group.

PROPOSED PROCESS WITH INDICATIVE TIMESCALES FOR THE "CENTRAL COUNCIL AWARDS PROGRAMME":

1. Invite initial ideas

April-June 2015

- Publicise/Invite not for profit organisations to come forward with initial ideas (innovative or proven) to help deliver against the Central Council priorities.
- Publicity to be carried out at existing events eg. Show days, galas, etc.
- Some indicative idea of cost at this stage would be helpful.
- Awards will range from £1,000-£30,000.
- Any ideas should be underpinned by the Council's Corporate priorities, particularly around social action and volunteering.
- Issues around sustainability should also be addressed

Deadline for idea submissions –early July 2015

2. Assessment of initial ideas

Early

July 2015

- Due to Central Council members potential conflicts of interest with organisations that may come forward for an Award, and to ensure the process is as objective and independent as possible, elected members will not be part of the assessment Panel.
- A panel will assess initial ideas & identify a small number of proposals (dependent on size and quality) that should proceed to the collaboration/development stage.
- The Central Area Team and VAB will be part of the process

3. Development Stage

July-August 2014

- Proposals will be developed and outcomes/outcome indicators/targets agreed in collaboration with Central Area Team/VAB.

4. Submission of proposals

August 2014

- Organisations submit detailed proposals

5. Grant Awards

August/September 2014

- The Central Area team provisionally agree awards with associated outcomes/targets/reporting.
- A report outlining the process and proposed awards to be made will be taken to the Central Council for approval on 8th September 2014.

6. Projects start

September 2014

- Following approval at Central Council, the necessary paperwork will be completed to enable projects to start/payments to be made.

7. Ongoing Reporting and Evaluation

September 2014 onwards

- Quarterly reporting will be an important part of the process for successful organisations
- The information gathered will be reported to Central Council on a quarterly basis
- An evaluation of the process and successful projects will be carried out after a 9 month period

PRINCIPLES FOR THE CENTRAL COUNCIL AWARDS PROGRAMME:

- Organisations submitting initial ideas should be not-for-profit organisations and could include local vol/com groups /organisations, social enterprises who aspire to grow their organisation. This “grants” opportunity would help them to develop their capacity in order to bid for future procurement opportunities.
- Organisations and their proposals should directly benefit only those people living in the 5 wards that make up the Central Council area.
- There will only be one opportunity to put forward Central Council Award proposals in 2014/2015 (dates outlined above)
- Any future opportunities will be dependent on funds remaining for 2015/2016 and the success of the 2014/15 Central Council Award process
- Ideas should deliver the Central Council priorities and should be underpinned by the Council’s Corporate priorities.
- Promoting social action and volunteering should be an integral part of any ideas/proposals
- Sustainability should be addressed by all applicants
- Outcomes and outcome indicators will be identified and agreed accordingly
- Ideas put forward should be innovative or proven and should, wherever possible, be delivered across the Central Council Area

It is proposed that once the total value of the projects proceeding to the Development Stage (number 3 above) is known, further discussion can take place at Central Council about how it wishes to proceed with the Part B element of Option 3.

5.0 Next Steps

5.1 It is proposed that the Working Group continues to meet to oversee the implementation of the following actions:

- A Central Council Awards Pack is produced that includes: an easy to understand outline of the process with Award criteria, guidelines and timescales; and a short initial idea proposal form.
- A simple Communications Plan is drawn up for the promotion of the Central Council Awards scheme
- The Communications Plan is implemented as soon as possible.
- Implementation of the Central Council Awards process

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Date:
9th April 2014.