

**BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**DEARNE AREA COUNCIL 1 June 2015**

**Report of the  
Dearne Area Council Manager**

**Dearne Area Council future commissions, and use of Area Council finance.**

**1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1 The purpose of the report is to update members with regarding the development of future Area Council commissions. This includes the approval of the specification for the Environmental Clean and Tidy service, an area council financial update and plans to review the existing Area Council priorities.

**2.0 Recommendations**

2.1 That members approve the procurement of an environmental clean and tidy service specification for the Dearne Area Council as outlined in the attached specification

2.2 That members consider future Area Council commissions in the context of the available Dearne Area Council budget.

2.3 Members consider the option to delegate a further £20K from the Area Council budgets to the Ward Alliances for 2015/16 to compensate for the reduction in Devolved Ward Funds.

2.4 That members note the date for a workshop to review the Dearne Area Council priorities to be held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

**3.0 New Commissions for 2015/16 Dearne Area Council**

**3.1 Environmental Clean and Tidy service**

Based on discussions taking place at the Dearne Approach Steering Group and feedback from the Dearne Area Council the previous draft of the clean and tidy specification has now been amended and is ready for procurement.

The specification states the incoming provider will work with developed local community groups, enforcement teams as well as identifying and targeting local hot spots. The service will work alongside the Dearne North and South Ward Alliances in order to develop a service delivery plan.

It is expected that the work of the provider will be designed to complement and build upon rather than duplicate the existing provision. With the service having a particular focus on educating young people, families, volunteers and residents with regards the environmental, economic and health related impact in relation

to littering. Therefore elements of the service will focus on the “prevention of littering” and not solely focus on clean-up operations.

Based on the area size, population and realistic costings a maximum sum of £75,000 has been identified for this 1 year commission. During the tender process the incoming tenders will be evaluated based on their competence in delivering the service and there will be a 30:70 quality price split favouring quality rather than price. If agreed the procurement will commence early June 2015 with the anticipation that the winning provider will start delivering the clean and tidy service on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2015.

### **3.2 Positive Activities for Young People and Young Peoples Work Experience**

Building on discussions at previous workshops that explored future Area Council commissions, various meetings and discussions have been taking place with regards to the possibility of commissioning a service for young people in the Dearne area. The North Area Council commissioned a summer internship scheme in 2014 and the report has been circulated to members for consideration. A mapping exercise of what young people services are available in the area is currently underway. A workshop will be taking place to discuss a way forward During June 2015

### **4.0 Area council Financial update**

- 4.1 Members are informed that after taking into consideration the existing commissions and underspend from the current financial year, there will be a total of £256,439 available for commissions in the 2015/16 financial year. Appendix One shows the full grant allocation for the Dearne Area council.
- 4.2 With agreement from the Dearne Area Council the training for employment training has been commissioned until the end of March 2016, at a cost of £37,000. In the event that both enforcement contracts were to be extended until the end of the financial year the total cost of enforcement service would be £37,000. Further if the Dearne Area Council agree to the recommendations within this report to commission and procure the clean and tidy service the total amount left in the commissioning budget will be £107,439
- 4.3 For further consideration Area Councils will have the option to allocate up to £20,000 per ward from the Area Council 2015/16 budget. This is discretionary to each Area Council and the amount to be allocated is flexible up to the maximum of £20,000 per ward. Area Council's may choose not to allocate any funding to ward level.

If agreed this funding must be allocated to the Ward Alliance and then be split: 50% to be used to enhance community capacity and volunteering (the same as the existing Ward Alliance Fund), and 50% to be used to fund local projects that the Ward Alliance considers a priority (ie these can be purchase of physical improvements that do not require match-funding with volunteer time).

4.4 Taking into consideration that all allocations within this report are agreed then it would take the monies left to undertake further commissioning down to £67,439. If the suggestion of allocating each ward alliance a further 20k is approved it would significantly reduce the monies available to spend against the strategic priorities. Appendix two shows the briefing note that will inform the decision of allocating funds to the ward alliances out of the area council budget.

5.0 **Reviewing the priorities and intelligence sharing**

5.1 The Dearne area priorities; skills and learning for work, young people, and Improving the economy and environment were set in 2013 and are now due to be reviewed. A workshop has been arranged at 10am on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June, 2015 at Goldthorpe library to review these priorities. The Research & Business Intelligence team will be attending the meeting in order to relay intelligence that is relevant to the Dearne Area. It is anticipated that the intelligence will inform future priorities and commissions.

**Appendices**

Appendix 1: commissioning budget

Appendix 2: Ward fund briefing note

Appendix 3: Specification of requirements for an Environmental Clean and Tidy Service

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**Date:**

18<sup>th</sup> May 2015



## **Appendix 2 Ward Funding 2015/16 - Briefing Note**

### **Background**

During 2013/14 and 2014/15 each Ward has had a devolved funding allocation of £30,000 which has been split as follows:

- £20,000 Devolved Ward Funding  
Decisions made by Members  
Used to fund projects that will benefit the wider community  
Examples include: hanging baskets, small-scale environmental works, Christmas decorations, speed indicator devices, CCTV.
- £10,000 Ward Alliance Fund  
Decisions made by Ward Alliance (community representatives have an equal vote)  
Used to fund projects that will allow community groups to facilitate a solution to locally identified priorities.  
Examples include: materials for projects with volunteers providing labour, equipment to enable groups to be more responsive/sustainable, enabling groups to provide more activities in communities.

In addition each Ward had £7,000 for Public Health related projects in 2013/14 (although a lot of the spend was transferred to 2014/15)

### **Current Position**

A budget saving has been agreed meaning that the Devolved Ward Funding element will reduce to £10,000/ward in 2015/16 and cease altogether in 2016/17. In addition the Public Health funding has been utilised. This means that, excluding any carry-forward funding, each Ward will have:

2015/16

Devolved Ward Funding £10,000

Ward Alliance Fund £10,000

Total £20,000

2016/17

Devolved Ward Funding £0

Ward Alliance Funding £10,000

Total £10,000

### **Area Council Option for Enhanced Ward Funding**

From 2015/16 Area Councils will have the option to allocate up to £20,000/ward from the Area Council budget. This is discretionary to each Area Council and the amount to be allocated is flexible up to the maximum of £20,000/ward. Area Council's may choose not to allocate any funding to ward level.

This funding must be allocated to the Ward Alliance and then be split: 50% to be used to enhance community capacity and volunteering (the same as the existing Ward Alliance Fund), and 50% to be used to fund local projects that the Ward Alliance considers a priority (ie these can be purchase of physical improvements that do not require match-funding with volunteer time).

### **Worked Example**

An Area Council decides to allocate £20,000/ward from its Area Council budget.

In 2015/16 each Ward in that area would have:

Devolved Ward Budget - £10,000

Ward Alliance Fund - £30,000 (£10,000 plus £20,000 Devolved from Area Council budget) – to be split 50% for community capacity/volunteering, 50% for locally identified community priorities.

Total Ward Funding - £40,000