

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

**North Area Council:
22nd May 2023**

Agenda Item: 9

**Report of the
North Area Council Manager**

Devolved Ward Budget and Ward Alliance Funds

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report updates the North Area Council on financial position the Ward Alliance budget for each ward for the 2023/24 period.

2. Recommendation

- 2.2 **That each Ward in the North Area Council area prioritises the efficient expenditure of the Ward Alliance Funds 2023/24, in line with the guidance on spend.**

3.0 Introduction

- 3.1 As part of the decisions made by the Council's Cabinet in 2013 each Ward was allocated an annual Ward Alliance Fund of £10,000. In addition, the Area Council has devolved £10,000 to the Ward Alliances between 2014/15 and 2019/20; no additional funding was devolved in 2020/21 and a reduced amount of £5,000 was devolved in 2021/22. The £5,000 devolved funding from the Area Council was been agreed for 2022/23. At this time no addiotnal funding has been identified for devolution to Ward Alliances during 2023/24.

- 3.2 All funding decisions must meet with Ward Alliance approval and be allocated with in accordance with the ward Alliance Funding 2016/17 – Briefing Note. This requires half of the fund to be allocated to projects where there is match funding.

- 3.3 In considering projects for the use of the Devolved Ward Budget, Members will need to be satisfied that:
- it meets a recognised need for the Ward,
 - it is in the wider public interest (i.e. the whole community can potentially benefit),
 - it represents value for money.

4.0 2023/24 Financial Position

- 4.1 The carry-forward of remaining balances of the 2022/23 Ward Alliance Fund was added to the 2023/24 allocation, to be managed as a single budget with the conditions of the ward alliance budget allocation.

4.2 Budget allocations for 2022/23

| Ward | Base Allocation | Carried forward from 2022/231 | Additional DWB (Announced 09/2020) | Total available |
|-------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Darton East | £10,000 | £1,243.20 | | £11,243.20 |
| Darton West | £10,000 | £6,011.02 | | £16,011.02 |
| Old Town | £10,000 | £8,664.33 | | £18,664.33 |
| St Helen's | £10,000 | £7,795.22 | | £17,795.22 |

4.3 All decisions on the use of this funding need to be approved through the Ward Alliance.

4.4 Please refer to Appendix 1 for a full breakdown.

5.0 Challenges and Opportunities

5.1 All wards should take an opportunity to consult on their ward plan early during the financial year 2023/24. This will help the Ward Alliances to review the existing plans, reaffirm their ward priorities and plan projects and initiatives that will address the ward centric priorities.

5.2 Any projects requiring a long lead in time will require the involvement of the Area Team as early as possible.

5.3 Proactive promotion of the Ward Alliance Fund to local not for profit groups and organisations is highly recommended to ensure efficient expenditure over the financial year.

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Date:
9th May 2023

Appendix 1:

2023-24 Ward Funding Allocations

For 2023/24, each Ward will have an allocation of £10,000 for the Ward Alliance Fund.

All decisions on the use of this funding need to be approved through the Ward Alliance.

The carry-forward of remaining balances of the 2022/23 Ward Alliance Fund will be combined and added to the 2023/24 Allocation, to be managed as a single budget with the above conditions.

50% of the funding requires a match-funding element of volunteer time that directly relates to the project in question, or other match funding resources (such as free room hire or donations of goods and equipment). This reflects the fact that the fund is intended to support volunteering and social action in our communities.

50% can be used for initiatives that have no volunteer element – such as the purchase and installation of benches, hanging baskets or other street furniture.

Area Councils have the option to allocate up to £20,000 from the Area Council budget to each of their Ward Alliances. This is discretionary to each Area Council.

DARTON EAST WARD
ALLIANCE

For the financial year 2023-24, the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Income / Return Grant | £0.00 |
| Base Allocation | £10,000.00 |
| Devolved from Area Council (discretionary) | £5,000.00 |
| Carried forward from FY 2022-23 | £1,243.20 |

Total Available Funding £11,243.20

| | Project Details | Allocation | Match Funding (£) Element of allocation | Non-Match Funding (£) Allocation remaining | Allocation (£) Remaining 'Total Available Funding' |
|--|-----------------|------------|--|---|---|
| | | | | | |

DARTON WEST WARD
ALLIANCE

For the financial year 2023-24, the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Income / Return Grant | £0.00 |
| Base Allocation | £10,000.00 |
| Devolved from Area Council (discretionary) | £5,000.00 |
| Carried forward from FY 2022-23 | £6,011.02 |

Total Available Funding £16,011.02

| | Project Details | Allocation | Match Funding (£) Element of allocation | Non-Match Funding (£) Allocation remaining | Allocation (£) Remaining 'Total Available Funding' |
|---|-------------------------------------|------------|---|--|--|
| 1 | Q4 Secretary Payment - DW (2022/23) | £125.00 | £0.00 | £7,880.51 | £15,886.02 |

OLD TOWN WARD ALLIANCE

For the financial year 2023-24, the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

| | |
|--|------------|
| Income / Return Grant | £0.00 |
| Base Allocation | £10,000.00 |
| Devolved from Area Council (discretionary) | £5,000.00 |
| Carried forward from FY 2022-23 | £8,664.33 |

Total Available Funding £18,664.33

| | Project Details | Allocation | Match Funding (£) Element of allocation | Non-Match Funding (£) Allocation remaining | Allocation (£) Remaining 'Total Available Funding' |
|--|-----------------|------------|--|---|---|
| | | | | | |

ST HELEN'S WARD ALLIANCE

For the financial year 2023-24, the Ward Alliance has the following available budget.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Income / Return Grant | £0.00 |
| Base Allocation | £10,000.00 |
| Devolved from Area Council (discretionary) | £0.00 |
| Carried forward from FY 2022-23 | £7,795.22 |
| Total Available Funding | £17,795.22 |

| | Project Details | Allocation | Match Funding (£) Element of allocation | Non-Match Funding (£) Allocation remaining | Allocation (£) Remaining 'Total Available Funding' |
|---|-----------------------------|------------|--|---|---|
| 1 | Health and Wellbeing Garden | £785.00 | £794.60 | £8,897.61 | £17,010.22 |