

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Penistone Area Council
February 15th 2024

Summary report of the
Penistone Area Council Manager

Penistone Area Council Procurement and Financial updates

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 This report provides members with a summary update on the following commissioning and procurement activity:

- Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older people service
- Working Together Grant Fund
- Supporting Young People Grant Fund
- Environment Services

1.2 The report advises of the current priorities for PAC linking to spend

1.3 The report outlines the current budget position of the Penistone Ward Alliance

1.4 The report outlines the budget position for Penistone Area Council 2023/24 and highlights predicted carry forward to the financial year 2024/25

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 **That members note the update of the contract funded by the Supporting Isolated and Older People Grant fund and agree to participate in a workshop to consider any future procurement options.**

2.2 **That members receive the update and current financial position of the Penistone Working Together Grant Fund.**

2.3 **That members note the current position and uptake of round 3 of the Supporting Young People Grant fund ringfenced within the existing Working Together Grant Fund**

2.4 **That members receive the updates on the procurement processes for the new service contracts to support PAC's environment priority**

2.5 **That members note the current financial position of the Penistone Ward Alliance and agree to support this to the end of the financial year 2023/24 with additional funds of £5k from within the current PAC budget.**

2.6 **That Members receive the record of allocated and proposed spend from within the current PAC budget for 2023/24 and note the potential underspend to carry forward to 2024/25.**

3.0 **Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People Service**

- 3.1 At the PAC meeting 1st October 2020 it was agreed that £70K was made available from the 2020/21 Area Council budget to set up a further 'Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People Fund' (SVIOP) with devolved responsibility for the formal approval of the grants to the Executive Director for Communities, following recommendations from the grant fund Panel Members.
- 3.2 Following member review of previous provision to establish a grant specification in August 2021 a robust grant procurement process was established and a new service delivered by Age UK Barnsley was secured to support vulnerable and isolated older people Ageing Well in Penistone. The new contract started from July 1st 2022 at a cost of £70k per year for two years.
- 3.3 Following a full 12 month evaluation of outcomes for the first year of this contract at PAC on June 8th 2023, members agreed to the continuation of this grant funded service to year 2 of the contract at a cost of £70k.
- 3.4 Members are advised that the current grant funded service contract finishes at the end of June 2024. A review of the project outcomes to date is presented within this meeting.
- 3.5 In order to determine any future procurement requirement to support vulnerable and isolated older people in the Penistone area, it is advised that members participate in a workshop on March 14th 2024.

4.0 **Penistone Area Council Working Together Fund**

- 4.1 At PAC 9th February 2023 Members were informed that a total of **£10,986** remained within the Working Together Grant fund, and that there were insufficient funds to be able to respond to emerging needs resulting from the impact of the rising costs of living. Members at this meeting subsequently agreed that an additional allocation of **£80k** be made to this grant pot from within the 2022/23 PAC budget.
- 4.2 Following a presentation to members at PAC February 9th 2023 by Citizens Advice Bureau where outcomes from their grant funded Debt advice service for Penistone for the last 12 months were outlined, members were informed of the likely potential future need for the area. As a result, members agreed that there was a future need for this service from April 2023 and encouraged CAB to apply for further Working together grant funds
- 4.3 An application from CAB for £21,179 to deliver a service for 2 years was received by the Working together grant panel, following the February PAC meeting. This grant funding application was approved by the Panel on March 22nd 2023.
- 4.4 External monies available through the remaining Practical Support grant within PAC budget provided a contribution of £7245 to the delivery of the CAB service, with a **£13,934** allocated from the working together grant pot.

- 4.5 At PAC 8th June 2023 Members agreed that £40k of the current Working Together Grant Pot be ringfenced in support of a further 'Supporting Young People' grant programme for 2023/24
- 4.6 A current total of **£37,052** remains within this grant pot and is available for spend against proposals that will address the current priorities for PAC, including any impacts resulting from the rising cost of living.
- 4.7 Total allocations to date (since the grant started in 2014)

Penistone FM	£ 15,627.00
Penistone Round Table	£ 11,660.00
Penisone Scout Group	£ 8,050.00
Sporting Penistone	£ 16,230.00
DIAL (Information and Advice service 2017)	£ 4,275.00
Barnsley Market – BMBC Market Barn additions lighting and Wi-fi	£ 6,740.00
Penistone Youth Project (TYS)	£ 8,730.00
The People Focussed Group (Bumping spaces)	£ 19,836.00
Cycle Penistone CIC	£ 5,990.00
Penistone FM Community Radio Older people	£ 19,840.00
South Pennine Community Transport CIC 2017 pilot	£ 5,000.00
Trans Pennine Trail Conservation Volunteers Penistone Station project	£ 6,630.00
Allocation to Ward Alliances	£ 10,000.00
DIAL (Information and Advice service 2018)	£ 4,395.00
South Pennine Community Transport CIC 2017 Pilot extension	£ 6,538.00
South Pennine Community Transport CIC Service Delivery 2018/19	£ 20,000.00
TPT conservation volunteers Penistone Station project extension	£ 2,890.00
Penistone FM Young Voices	£ 7,644.00
DIAL (Information and Advice service 2019 with option to extend to 2020)	£ 9,700.00
CAB Barnsley (Information and Advice Debt support 6 month Pilot to Sept 2019)	£ 2,115.00
South Pennine Community Transport CIC Service Delivery contribution 2019/20	£ 14,000
Barnsley CAB debt advice service operational costs to September 2020	£ 3566
Barnsley CAB debt advice service operational costs to September 2021	£8118

DIAL (Information and Advice service 2021 with option to extend to 2022)	£10,136
Penistone FM Young Minds project	£8583
Additional amount allocated to cover YP grant overspend	£594
Barnsley CAB debt advice service operational costs to April 2023	£8191
Additional amount to Supporting Young People grant 2022	£574
DIAL (Information and Advice service) delivery for 2023	£5198
Angel Voices academy adult singing workshops	£8650
Total Allocations to February 2023	£259,500
<i>Amount remaining February 2023</i>	£10,986
<i>PAC allocation to enhance grant pot to meet emerging cost of living needs March 2023</i>	£80,000
<i>Barnsley CAB debt advice service operational costs contribution to April 2025</i>	£13,934
<i>Allocation of ringfenced funds to support young people 2023/24</i>	£40,000
Total amount available for allocation February 2024	£37,052

5.0 Working Together Grant fund – Supporting Young People

5.1 At PAC on June 8th 2023 members agreed the need to continue to provide a third round of grant funding for 2023/24 to encourage further projects to help support young people with physical and mental wellbeing in the area. A fund of £40k for this has been allocated from within the existing Working Together grant pot (see 4.5 within this report) .

5.2 Grant panels held in September and October 2023, agreed to funding for 5 projects at a total cost of **£37,337.83** from within the current budget allocation, leaving **£2,662.17** remaining unallocated within this pot.

5.3 Members are advised that all five projects have now started delivery and updates are provided on outcomes to date within the Q3 performance report presented at this meeting

5.4 Breakdown of allocations for Supporting Young people grant round 3 (2023/24)

Ad Astra –Listening support for young people in Penistone Grammar school	£8124
Angel Voices – singing workshops	£10,000

Cawthorne junior cricket club – Young people’s development programme	£3,719
Thurgoland Thespians – expansion programme	£4,544.83
Walking the Goats – young people’s wellbeing programme	£10,950
Total allocations	£37,337.83
Amount remaining unallocated	£2,662.17

6.0 Environmental Services

- 6.1 This priority has previously been addressed via a Clean Green and Tidy Service delivered by Twiggs Grounds Maintenance Ltd via a three year contract to the end of March 2023. A further 6 month waiver to this contract was approved by PAC at its meeting on 1st December 2022 at a cost of £50k allocated from the PAC 2023/24 budget whilst a procurement review exercise was being undertaken. The Service contract finally ended at the end of Quarter 2 (end of September 2023)
- 6.2 PAC members participated in a number of review workshops in 2022 to consider the future need for a service to support the Penistone area to meet its’ environment priority, and at PAC September 15th 2022 Members approved £100k to be allocated from the PAC 2023/24 budget in order to progress a procurement process for a new clean green and tidy contract
- 6.3 At a member workshop on June 15th 2023 members were presented with outcomes of a recent consultation exercise with the Penistone community which demonstrated the need for future services that will provide sufficient flexibility to meet the environmental needs of the area. Members held an in-depth discussion on these outcomes and considered how this need may be best met for the area within this workshop.
- 6.4 At PAC July 20th 2023, members were presented with options on how they may proceed to procure any new services that could meet the area’s needs. A proposal to procure and invite interest was presented for two services; service one to purchase specific environmental works as needed to keep the area tidy and well maintained (outside of the scope of BMBC’s core service to the area) , service two to purchase a community environmental support service to work directly with environmental groups and volunteers in the Penistone area.
- 6.5 Members agreed at PAC July 20th 2023 to devolve responsibility for the formal approval of contracts to the Executive Director for Public Health and communities in order to persue a direct purchasing of the proposed services.
- 6.6 At PAC July 20th Members were advised that an existing budget allocation of £50k approved on September 15th 2022 was available for this procurement exercise and members also agreed to supplement this with the approval of a further £50k from the 2024/25 budget in support of both services over a 12 month period.

- 6.7 A tendering exercise has now been carried out to procure service one to provide a reactive environment service directed by the Penistone community, Parish Councils, Penistone Town Council and PAC members. Following a robust evaluation process in which Parish Councils and PAC members participated, a preferred bidder has been identified. Following the standstill period, the successful bidder will be awarded a contract which will be starting from March 2024.
- 6.8 A grant application process has been established to procure service two (Community Environmental Support Service) which closes on February 12th 2024. An evaluation panel will assess applications shortly after this. Members of environmental community groups have been approached to support the evaluation panel and PAC members are invited to be part of this process. Once a preferred service provider is identified this service should be operational from March 2024.
- 6.9 The Penistone Area team has been managing any demand for support with environmental projects during the procurement phase until new service contracts have been secured.

7.0 **Penistone Ward Alliance**

- 7.1 A budget allocation of £20k (£10k for each ward within the Penistone area) was made available to the Ward Alliance outside of Area Council funds for the financial year 2023/24. This, together with underspend of **£1,654.18** from the previous financial year 2022/23 and a carry forward allocation of **£3,875.00** from the ring fenced School's Out allocations provided the Ward Alliance with a working budget of **£25,529.18** for the 2023/24 financial year.
- 7.2 Following the Ward Alliance meetings on 14th December 2023 and 11th January 2024 where **£6959.28** was allocated, the total allocations to date are **£25,529.18** from the 2023/24 budget. This includes **£3195** allocation from the Schools Out fund and leaves a current amount of **£950** remaining for allocation this financial year including **£680** of ring fenced schools out fund.
- 7.3 Members are advised that demand for Ward Alliance funds is estimated at £3,950 up to the end of the current financial year and therefore exceeds the remaining funds should applications be approved. ***It is therefore recommended that PAC provide supplementary funds of £5k to the Ward Alliance from within the current PAC Budget to ensure projects requesting funding may be progressed.***

8.0 **Penistone Area Council Priorities**

- 8.1 The current area governance arrangements recommend that Area Council priorities are reviewed on a regular basis in order to ensure that these reflect the current and emerging needs of the area and funding can be allocated appropriately
- 8.2 At PAC June 9th 2022 members agreed to participate in a workshop in early September to reconsider PAC priorities. The outcomes of the workshop concluded that existing PAC priorities are still relevant although it was acknowledged that impacts of cost of living increases need to be monitored.
- 8.3 At PAC meeting September 15th 2022 members agreed that ***existing priorities will remain the same but will be monitored within the context of any impact of rising costs of living*** in order that PAC may be able to provide any appropriate support.

8.4 Members are advised that should they wish to encourage further investigation into food access and provision for the area, as discussed within this meeting, any potential funding requirements could be met from the Working together grant fund in line with PAC priorities.

9.0 **Current Financial Summary Position**

9.1 A PAC 2023/24 budget allocation of **£200k** has been made available for spend. Together with underspend from the financial year 2022/23 of **£8,059** this provides a total working budget of **£208,059**.

9.2 Budget allocations approved for 2023/24 include Clean Green and Tidy contract extension and future procurement exercise £100k, Year 2 of the Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People grant contract at cost of £70k, and a contribution to the 10 year celebration event of £843 leaving a total of **£37,216**

9.3 Should members approve an allocation of £5k to support the Ward Alliance budget to the end of the financial year 2023/24 as at 7.3 within this report, a final budget total of **£32,216** remains until the end of the current financial year. This amount may be carried forward to any budget allocation for 2024/25.

Budget Allocations summary 2023/24

Budget 2023/24	
Base Budget	£200k
Additional income to base budget Underspend from 2021/22 budget	£8,059
Total budget available for spend 2023/24	£208,059
Approved Spend items 2023/24	
Spend already approved by PAC for procurement of Clean, green and tidy contract 2023/24 (to include £50k allocation to waiver existing contract to end of September 2023)	£100K
Yr 2 Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People grant fund	£70k
<i>Contribution to 10 year celebration event</i>	£843
Total Remaining amount for allocation 2023/24	£37,216
Recommended allocation to top up Ward Alliance funds to end of March 2024	£5,000
10.0 Remaining total (subject to approval of WA top up) to be carried forward to 2024/25	£32,216
Budget 2024/25	
Allocation in support of procurement exercise for services to support PAC environmental priority.	£50k

PAC Working Budget 2023/24 Financial Summary

PENISTONE AREA COUNCIL - COMMISSIONING BUDGET 2023/24				
Contract Name	Commissioning Budget 2022/23	Commissioning Budget 2023/24		Commissioning Budget 2024/25
	Budget	Budget	Spend	Budget
Base Expenditure	£200,000.00	£200,000.00		
Underspend from previous year	£28,095.00	£8,095.00		
Countryside Skills Training				
Countryside Skills Training Extension				
Clean & Green				
Clean & Green extension				
Working Together Fund	£80,000.00			
Allocation to Ward Alliances/DWB 15-16				
Allocation to Ward Alliances 16-17				
Reducing Isolation in older people				
Public Health Funds				
Supporting Older People Fund				
Supporting supporting vulnerable isolated older people 23/24		£70,000.00	£33,983.50	
Supporting Young People Fund				
Supporting Young People Fund 2022/23	£40,000.00			
Supporting Young People Fund 2023/24		£40,000.00	£23,196.96	
Allocation to Ward Alliances 17-18				
Allocation to Ward Alliances 18-19				
Allocation to Ward Alliance 19-20				
Allocation to Ward Alliance Dec 21				
Clean & Green 2017/18 (Y1)				
Clean & Green 2017/18 - extension Nov 19 (Y2)				
Clean & Green 2017/18 - extension April 2020 (Y2)				
Clean & Green April 2020 (Y1)				
Clean & Green April 2021 (Y2)				
Clean & Green April 2022 (Y3)	£100,000.00			
Clean & Green 2023		£100,000.00	£50,546.00	
Environment contracts				£50,000.00
Penistone Living Inserts				
Area Council Promotion		£2,000.00	£2,075.00	
Public Health Monies				
financial hardship monies				
Practical Support Grant	£7,245.00			
Expenditure Incurred in Year			£109,801.46	
What funds are available	£228,095.00	£208,095.00		
Carry forward = What funds are available - Practical Support Grant				

Contact Officer:
Elaine Equeall
Penistone Area Council Manager

Contact No:
01226 775382