

**BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
DEARNE AREA COUNCIL 25th July 2016**

**Report of the
Dearne Area Council Manager**

Update on Ward Alliance Fund spend

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 This report seeks to inform Members about spend to date from Ward Alliance Funds within the Dearne Area.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 **That the Dearne Area Council receives the Ward Alliance Fund Report and notes any spend to date for the Wards of Dearne North and Dearne South.**

3.0 Introduction

3.1 This report is set within the context of decisions made with regards to Ward Alliance Fund arrangements (Cab.16.1.2013/10.3).

3.2 In considering projects for the use of the Ward Alliance Funds, Members are satisfied that the projects identified meet a recognised need for the Ward, are in the wider public interest, and represent value for money.

4.0 Commitments to Date

4.1 In the 15/16 financial year the Dearne North Ward Alliance underspent by £69. Therefore for the 16/17 financial year the Ward Alliance has a starting budget of £10,069 to spend on Dearne North projects. During the first quarter the alliance have spent a total of £3,040 with £2,790 been matched funded against volunteer time. This leaves a total of £7,029 to spend on Dearne North projects.

In the 15/16 financial year the Dearne South Ward Alliance underspent by £1160. Therefore for the 16/17 financial year the Ward Alliance has a starting budget of £11,160 to spend on Dearne South projects. During the first quarter the alliance have spent a total of £4,551 with £4,301 been match funded against volunteer time. This leaves at total of £6,609 to spend on Dearne South projects.

- 4.2 The Area Council have agreed with the option to allocate finances from the Area Council budget to the Ward Alliance. It was agreed that the Area Council discuss this at a later date when monies have been spent out of this year's allocation.

Further point to note is that 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. All decisions on the use of this funding need to be approved through the Ward Alliance.

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25th July 2016