

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Penistone Area Council
18th July 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 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 which finished at the end of June 2024, and following discussion within this meeting agree the preferred procurement option to continue to provide services that will support isolated and vulnerable older people in the future.**

2.2 **That members receive the update and note the 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 and agree on whether they wish to ringfence a further £40k to enable another round of grants for 2024/25**

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

2.5 **That members note the current financial position of the Penistone Ward Alliance within the budget allocation for 2024/5.**

2.6 **That Members receive the record of allocated spend from within the current PAC budget for 2024/25 and note the current remaining amount available for spend.**

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 were advised at PAC on February 15th 2024 that the current grant funded service contract finishes at the end of June 2024. A review of the project outcomes to date was presented to PAC at this meeting by Age UK.
- 3.5 Following discussion of a potential future services to support vulnerable and isolated older people in the Penistone area at PAC on April 11th 2024, members agreed to approve £70k from the 2024/25 budget to set up a '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.
- 3.6 At a member workshop on May 23rd, members were presented with findings of recent community research into the needs for older people in the area, and were asked to give consideration to a number of options on how the grant funding allocation may be used to provide outcomes to meet the emerging needs. A proposal to apportion the funding to specific outcomes for Be-friending, group activities, transport solutions and welfare advice was preferred and subsequently agreed at PAC on 6th June 2024.
- 3.7 Members were advised that due to timescales for developing and advertising grant opportunities there would be a likely gap in dedicated service provision in the area. However, the community based research findings suggested that community led provision, and other added value services provided by Age UK outside of the current Penistone service offer, should be able to mitigate any likely impact in the short term.
- 3.8 Members are presented with the costed options for the apportionment of the agreed grant within this meeting and are asked to agree their preferred options in order that a grant procurement process can be put into place at the earliest opportunity.
- 3.9 A final outcome report for the current contract held by Age UK will be available in the full quarter 1 performance report which will be presented to PAC at its meeting on September 12th 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 **£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 Members were advised at PAC 6th June 2024 that a total of **£37,052** remained available for spend from the Working Together Grant fund.
- 4.7 At PAC June 6th 2024 Members received an update from DIAL in relation to their welfare advice service and it was highlighted that recent demand for services has increased and a further weekly session would be advisable from October 2024. Members agreed that an application to the grant fund should be encouraged in support of this and to enable funding a further future service when the current contract expires at the end of January 2025. This is currently being progressed.
- 4.8 Members approved an additional £50k to be allocated to the Working Together Grant pot from the current PAC budget at its meeting on June 6th 2024 in order to accommodate any future applications for welfare services as discussed with DIAL and also to ensure sufficient funds may be available for the continuation of the Supporting Young People grant funds.
- 4.9 Members are invited to discuss the merits of a future programme of funding to support young People within this meeting at 5.4. Should this be agreed £40k will be ringfenced from within the current Working together Grant fund and would leave a total of £47,052 available for other grant applications.
- 4.10 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 April 2024	£37,052
<i>PAC allocation to grant fund June 2024 in support of funding future welfare services and potential further ringfence funds to support young people</i>	£50,000
Total available for allocation June 2024	£87,052

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 2 out of 5 of these projects completed at the end of quarter 4 with performance being reported in to PAC on June 6th 2024. A further 2 projects will be concluding at the end of September 2024, and the remaining project concludes December 2024.
- 5.4 In light of the majority of projects concluding by the end of September 2024, Members are asked whether they would be supportive of a further round of funds for projects to support young people in line with PAC priorities, by agreeing to ringfence £40k from within the Working Together Grant pot for this process. This amount together with underspend of £2,662.17 from this year's budget would provide a total grant pot of £42,662.17 for projects over a 12 month period 2024/25
- 5.5 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 Following a series of member review workshops during 2022/23, a proposal was presented to PAC in July 2023 to procure 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.
- 6.3 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 pursue a direct purchasing of the proposed services.
- 6.4 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.
- 6.5 Following robust tendering processes Vital Facilities was identified as a preferred bidder for service one and became operational from April 1st 2024, and Greenotes Community Interest Company was identified as the preferred bidder for service two and also became operational from April 1st 2024.
- 6.6 A grant pot of £20k to support community environmental projects has also now been developed as part of this priority, and was open for applications at the end of April 2024.
- 6.7 Progress highlights are provided within this meeting as part of the interim performance report , with full quarterly performance reporting presented at a later PAC meeting within the Quarter one report (covering April – June 2024).

7.0 Penistone Ward Alliance

- 7.1 A budget allocation of £20k (£10k for each ward within the Penistone area) has been made available to the Ward Alliance outside of Area Council funds for the financial year 2024/25. This together with the underspend of **£2,210** from the 2023/24 budget provides the Ward alliance with a total working budget of **£22,210** for the 2024/25 financial year.
- 7.2 Following the Penistone Ward Alliance meeting on June 13th 2024 where grants totalling £8620 were approved a total of **£12,840** currently remains available for spend.

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 Following a recent grant panel to consider a proposal to provide further investigation into food need in the area, members of the panel concluded that this was now not needed as current evidence suggests there is sufficient provision to meet area need. PAC members are therefore advised that the area team to continue to monitor this situation working with existing providers such as Community Shop on the Go and will report where there is any new evidence of growing demand so that PAC may consider how they wish to respond in the future.
- 8.5 As it is nearly two years since a full review of PAC priorities was made, it is recommended that a Member workshop is scheduled to do this within the next 3 months, to ensure that PAC can continue to allocate funds appropriate to the needs of the area. The area manager will advise members of potential dates for a workshop to be held outside of this meeting.

9.0 Current Financial Summary Position

- 9.1 A PAC 2024/25 budget allocation of **£200k** has been made available for spend. Together with underspend from the financial year 2023/24 of **£32,216** this provides a total working budget of **£232,216**
- 9.2 Budget allocations approved for 2024/25 include allocation of £50k in support of new services to support environmental priorities, £70k approved for supporting vulnerable and isolated older people grant funds and £50k allocated to the Working Together Grant pot fund.

9.3 A current final budget total of **£62,216** remains available for allocation 2024/25.

9.4 **Budget Allocations summary 2024/25**

Budget 2024/25	
Base Budget	£200k
Additional income to base budget Underspend from 2023/24 budget	£32,216
Total budget available for spend 2024/25	£232,216
Approved Spend items 2024/25	
Allocation for services to support PAC environmental priority.	£50k
Allocation in support of SVIOP grant fund	£70,000
Allocation to support Working Together Grant Fund (and enable further funds to Supporting Young People Grant fund)	£50k
Remaining total available for spend at July 18th	£62,216
Budget 2023/24 Approved spend	
Procurement of new environmental services contracts 2023/24 (£50k allocation to waiver existing contract to end of September 2023)	£100K
Yr 2 Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older People grant fund	£70k
Contribution to 10 year celebration event	£843
Top up Ward Alliance funds to end of March 2024	£5,000
Total approved from 2023/24 budget of £208,059	£175,843

10.0 Financial Summary PAC Working Budgets 2022-2024

PENISTONE AREA COUNCIL – COMMISSIONING BUDGET FINANCIAL ANALYSIS – 2014/15 TO 2024/25						
Contract Name	Commissioning Budget 2022/23		Commissioning Budget 2023/24		Commissioning Budget 2024/25	
	Budget	Spend	Budget	Spend	Budget	Spend
Base Expenditure	£200,000.00		#####		£200,000.00	
Base Expenditure plus underspend from previous year	£305,002.00		£312,800.80		£232,227.00	
Countryside Skills Training						
Countryside Skills Training Extension						
Clean & Green						
Clean & Green extension						
Working Together Fund	£80,000.00	£9,944.25	£37,000.00	£13,490.50	£50,000.00	£4,043.00
Allocation to Ward Alliances/DWB 15-16						
Allocation to Ward Alliances 16-17						
Allocation to Ward Alliances Schools Out Fund						
Allocation to Ward Alliances Dec 21						
Reducing Isolation in older people						
Public Health Funds						
Supporting Older People Fund						
Supporting Older People Fund ex						
Supporting Older People Fund ex 2						
Supporting Older People Fund ex 3						
Supporting Older People Fund ex 4						
Supporting Older People Fund 2022	£70,000.00	#####	£70,000.00	£67,967.00	£70,000.00	
Supporting Young People Fund		#####				
Supporting Young People Fund 2022	£40,000.00	#####		£25,175.75		
Supporting Young People Fund 2023			£40,000.00	£12,490.41		£9,290.83
Community Magazine distribution costs						
Allocation to Ward Alliances 17-18						
Allocation to Ward Alliances 18-19						
Allocation to Ward Alliance 19-20						
Allocation to Ward Alliances 23-24			£5,000.00	£5,000.00		
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)	£100,000.00	£100,000				
Clean & Green 6 month EXT			£50,000.00	£50,546		
Clean & Green 24/25 3 lots					£100,000.00	£13,000
Penistone Living Inserts/Area Council Promotion	£3,000.00	£1,843.20	£2,000.00	£2,075.63		
Supporting Vulnerable & Older People Grant 2021						
Income						
Public Health Monies						
financial hardship monies						
Practical Support Grant	£13,846.40	£2,229.50	£11,616.90	£4,828.50		
Expenditure Incurred in Year	306,846	192,201	215,617	181,574	220,000	26,334
What funds are available		112,801		131,227		205,893
Earmarkings (to include CIF & unspent allocation)						
Actual spend for year						
Balance Including Any Base Expenditure Not utilised in Previous Financial Year						

Contact Officer:
Elaine Equeall
Penistone Area Council Manager

Contact No:
01226 775382