

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Penistone Area Council

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:

- Services to Supporting Vulnerable and Isolated Older people
- 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 2025/26

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 **That members note the updates on progress with procurement for new options to support vulnerable and isolated older people as agreed at PAC in July 2024**

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

2.3 **That members receive the update on the current Supporting Young people grant for 2024/25**

2.4 **That members note the updates to the environmental service contracts to support PAC's environment priority for 2025/26**

2.5 **That members note the current financial position of the Penistone Ward Alliance within the 2025/26 budget allocation**

2.6 **That Members note the budget allocation for 2025/26 and the record of allocated spend and carry forward from the 2024/25 budget.**

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

- 3.1 In anticipation of a service contract ending with Age UK in June 2024, PAC agreed on April 11th 2024, 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.
- 3.2 Following a member workshop on May 23rd, where members were presented with findings of recent community research into the needs for older people in the area, members concluded that funds should be apportioned to specific outcomes for Be-friending, group activities, transport solutions and welfare advice which was subsequently agreed at PAC on 6th June 2024.
- 3.3 Members agreed at the July 18th PAC meeting that £50k of the funding be allocated to a developmental post to sit within the Penistone area team to support volunteer be-frienders, groups, and reestablish the Penistone specific network of providers and volunteers who provide support to older people in the area. It was subsequently agreed at PAC 21st November 2024, that in order to provide greater continuity, the development post should be funded for a 2 year period with £50k funds earmarked from the PAC 2025/26 budget.
- 3.4 Following a recent successful recruitment process, a suitable candidate has now been identified and has agreed to take up the new post within the area team to start from April 7th 2025. Members will be introduced to the post holder and updated on developments at the PAC meeting on June 5th 2025.
- 3.5 To supplement support within this priority Members also agreed at PAC July 18th, that two grants of £10k each be made available to invite applications from organisations to deliver dedicated welfare advice services and transport solutions.
- 3.6 Following a grant application assessment process, in which members were involved, DIAL has been selected as the preferred provider for the dedicated welfare advice service. This service became operational from the beginning of January 2025, and a performance update is provided within this meeting.
- 3.7 Members were advised at PAC 21st November, that further research is needed into the logistics of a transport solution that will meet with the needs of the area. This research will become part of the initial duties for the new SVIOP development role and a procurement exercise will follow from this.

4.0 **Penistone Area Council Working Together Fund**

- 4.1 At PAC June 6th 2024 Members approved £50k to be allocated to the Working Together Grant in order to accommodate future potential need leaving a total of **£87,052** available for allocation
- 4.2 Following an update from DIAL in relation to an increase in demand for services has 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 expired at the end of January 2025.

4.3 An application from DIAL for funds totalling **£20,485** to cover both the extension to the existing contract and for service delivery costs for a 2 year period from January 2025 was agreed following grant panel approval in August 2024.

4.4 At PAC July 18th 2024 a further programme of funding to support young People was agreed and £40k was ringfenced from within the current Working together Grant fund leaving a total of **£26,567** available for other grant applications.

4.5 Following the Supporting Young People Grant panel in November 2024 where 6 applications were approved the total approved exceeded the allocated grant pot by £10,021.44. It was therefore recommended to PAC that this amount be transferred from the main Working Together Grant pot, leaving a total available for spend of **£16,545.56**

4.6 Following a full presentation of positive service outcomes from CAB at PAC on 21st November 2024, members were in agreement at PAC January 30th 2025 that a further application for funds to continue the service after the end of March 2025 should be encouraged. An application totalling £22,187 (£11,247 Yr 1 , £10,950 Yr 2) has now been received and is under consideration for approval by the grant panel.

4.7 Members are advised that should the grant be approved, there will be a need for a future approval of additional PAC funds to be allocated to the Working Together Grant pot in order to meet future payments.

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
<i>PAC allocation to grant fund June 2024</i>	£50,000

Allocation of ringfenced funds July 2024 to support young people programme 2024/25	£40,000
DIAL (Information and Advice service) delivery for 2025/2026	£20,485
Transfer of funds to Supporting Young people grant pot to accommodate 2024 applications	£10,021.44.
Total available for allocation January 2025	£16,545.56
<i>Application received for funds to continue CAB Service</i>	
<i>Yr1 April 2025- March 2026</i>	£11,237
<i>Yr 2 April 2026 – March 2027</i>	£10,950

Working Together Grant fund – Supporting Young People

5.0

5.1 At PAC on June 8th 2023 members agreed the need to continue to provide a third round of £40k grant funding for 2023/24 to encourage further projects to help support young people with physical and mental wellbeing in the area.

5.1

5.2 Following grant panels, 5 projects were approved at a total cost of **£37,337.83** from within the allocation, leaving **£2,662.17** remaining unallocated within this pot for 2023/2024.

5.2

5.3

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

Ad Astra –Listening support for young people in Penistone Grammar school	£8124	Completed August 2024
Angel Voices – singing workshops	£10,000	completed October 24
Cawthorne junior cricket club – Young people’s development programme	£3,719	Completed April 2024
Thurgoland Thespians – expansion programme	£4,544.83	Completed April 2024
Walking the Goats – young people’s wellbeing programme	£10,950	Completed December 2024
Total allocations	£37,337.83	
Amount remaining unallocated to C/F to 24/25 programme	£2,662.17	

5.4

Performance updates have been provided to PAC via the quarterly reporting with the last remaining project update reported in the quarter 3 report within this meeting

At PAC July 18th members were supportive of a further round of funds for projects to support young people 2024/25 in line with PAC priorities, and agreed that £40k should be ringfenced

5.5 from within the Working Together Grant pot for this process. This amount together with underspend of £2,662.17 from the 2024/5 PAC budget provided a total grant pot of **£42,662.17** for projects over a 12 month period 2024/25.

5.6 Following a round of grant applications, an assessment panel, where members were represented, met on November 14th to consider funding for round 4 of the Supporting Young People grant. Six application were submitted and assessed for funding.

Breakdown of allocations for Supporting Young people grant round 4 (2024/25)

5.7

Provider	Outcomes	Funding approved
Ad Astra –Wellbeing café for young people in Penistone Grammar school	Approved project started March 2025	£7859
Angel Voices – Music Industry master classes	Approval for delivery Equipment to be purchased by Area Team and made available for general community usage post project Due to Start mid April	£9993.24
Penistone Taekwondo development programme	Approved programme started mid January	£8857.37
Thurgoland Welfare – Young people’s talent event programme	Approved programme started end of January	£5894
Walking the Goats – young people’s wellbeing programme extension	Approved project started in January	£10,080
Sporting Penistone – Youth Active Hub	Approved project started February	£10,000
Total allocations		£52,683.61
Amount available for spend		£42,662.17
Transfer of additional funds from main Working together grant fund to meet need		£10,021.44.

5.8 Performance updates to be reported to PAC at its meeting on June 5th 2025.

6.0 **Environmental Services**

6.1 Following a series of member review workshops during 2022/23, a proposal was presented to PAC in July 2023 to procure two services to address this priority; 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.

6.2 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.

6.3 A grant pot of £20k to support community environmental projects has also been developed as part of this priority, and was open for applications at the end of April 2024. The designated grant panel has to date approved approximately £13k worth of grants, with further applications in development. Should future funds be needed in support of this grant members will be advised

6.4 At PAC 21st November 2024 Members were asked to consider options for meeting the environment priority beyond the existing contracts for the 2 main services. Following discussion, members agreed to authorise the Area Council Manager to go forward with the option to extend contracts for a further 12 months to enable existing services to embed further.

6.5 At PAC January 2025, Members approved funding of £80k to extend existing services for a further 12 month period from April 2025 to the end of March 2026, with a £40k allocation from the existing PAC 2024/25 budget and £40k earmarked for allocation from the PAC 2025/26 budget.

6.6 Performance updates on both services are provided within this meeting.

Penistone Ward Alliance

7.0 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 2024/25. This together with the underspend of **£2,210** from the 2023/24 budget provided the Ward alliance with a total working budget of **£22,210** for the 2024/25 financial year.

7.1 At its meeting on September 12th 2024 PAC members approved for an additional £10k from within the current PAC budget to be allocated to the to the Penistone Ward Alliance Budget, to help mitigate any shortfall of funds in the remaining months of the financial year. Taken with the existing budget allocation, this has provided the Ward Alliance with funds totalling **£32,210** for the 2024/25 financial year.

7.2 Following the Penistone Ward Alliance meetings on 13th February and 13th March 2025 **£3,469** remained in the 20224/25 budget allocation. This amount has now been carried forward to the new budget allocation for the Ward Alliance for 2025/26.

7.3 The budget allocation of £20k (£10k for each ward within the Penistone area) has now been made available to the Ward Alliance for the financial year 2025/26. This together with the underspend of **£3,469** from the 2024/25 budget provides the Ward alliance with a total working budget of **£23,469** for the new financial year

Penistone Area Council Priorities

8.0 The current area governance arrangements recommend that Area Council priorities are
8.1 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 The last review was confirmed at the PAC meeting September 15th 2022, where members agreed that **existing priorities remained the same but were to 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.

8.3 It is therefore recommended that a full review of PAC priorities should be considered within the next financial year to ensure that they are reflective of the needs of the area. This will need to be programmed in to take account of initiatives currently being developed as part of the wider Love Where You Live refresh.

Current Financial Summary Position

9.0 A PAC budget allocation of **£200k** has now been made available for the financial year 2025/26.
9.1 This together with underspend from the financial year 2024/25 of **£12,216** provides a total working budget of **£212,216**.

9.2 At PAC November 21st 2024 members approved **£50k** in support of a 2 year contract for the new SVIOP specialist CDO post. This has now been allocation from the 2025/26 PAC budget.

9.3 A further **£40k** was approved from the 2025/26 PAC budget by members at PAC 30th January 2025 in support of extensions to environmental service contracts (as at 6.5 within this report) .

9.4 A current unallocated amount of **£122,216** therefore remains within the **2025/26 budget**.

Budget Allocations summary

9.5

Budget 2025/26	
Base Budget	£200k
Additional income to base budget Underspend from 2024/25 budget	£12,216
Total budget available for spend 2025/26	£212,216
Approved spend items	
funds in support of year 2 of contract for the SVIOP specialist CDO post (includes resource budget allocation for post)	£50k
Allocation for extension to environmental contracts for 2025/26	£40k
Remaining total available for spend 2025/26	£122,216

Budget 2024/25 Approved Spend items	
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
Allocation to top up WA funds	£10k
Allocation for extension to environmental services contracts for 2025/26	£40k
Total approved from budget of £232,216	£220,000
remaining within 2024/25 budget carried forward to 2025/26 budget	£12,216

10.0

Working Budget summary 2022-2024

PENISTONE AREA COUNCIL

COMMISSIONING BUDGET FINANCIAL ANALYSIS - 2022/23 TO 2024/25

Contract Name	Delivery Body	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		£200,000.00	
Base Expenditure plus underspend from previous year		£305,002.00		£312,800.80		£131,227.25	
Total Spend						£331,227.25	
Countryside Skills Training	Growforest						
Countryside Skills Training Extension	Growforest						
Clean & Green	BMBC						
Clean & Green extension							
Working Together Fund	Various	£80,000.00	£9,944.25	£37,000.00	£13,490.50	£50,000.00	£27,497.00
Allocation to Ward Alliances/DWB 15-16	N/A						
Allocation to Ward Alliances 16-17	N/A						
Allocation to Ward Alliances Schools Out Fund							
Allocation to Ward Alliances Dec 21							
Reducing Isolation in older people	Age UK						
Public Health Funds	Age UK						
Supporting Older People Fund	Various						
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	£37,733.50	£70,000.00	£67,967.00	£70,000.00	£20,000.00
Supporting Young People Fund			£20,842.75				
Supporting Young People Fund 2022		£40,000.00	£19,608.00		£25,175.75		
Supporting Young People Fund 2023				£40,000.00	£12,490.41	£27,509.59	£18,898.89
Supporting Young People Fund 2025	Various						
Community Magazine distribution costs	Various						
Allocation to Ward Alliances 17-18	N/A						
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)	Twiggs						
Clean & Green 2017/18 - extension Nov 19 (Y2)	Twiggs						
Clean & Green 2017/18 - extension April 2020 (Y2)	Twiggs						
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							
Greennotes						£40,000.00	£40,000.00
Vital facilities						£40,000.00	£10,370.57
Community Grants Pot						£20,000.00	£13,077.55
Clean & Green 25/26 3 lots							
Penistone Living Inserts/Area Council Promotion		£3,000.00	£1,843.20	£2,000.00	£2,075.63		
Supporting Vulnerable & Older People Grant 2021							
Supporting Vulnerable & Older People Grant 2025-26							
PAC Area Specialist CDO (SVIOP & Community Grant Pot)							
Income							
Public Health Monies	Healthier Communities						
Financial hardship monies							
Practical Support Grant		£13,846.40	£2,229.50	£11,616.90	£4,828.50		
Expenditure Incurred in Year		£306,846.40	£192,201.20	£215,616.90	£181,573.55	£247,509.59	£129,844.01
What funds are available			112,801		131,227		201,383

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