

## BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

North Area Council Meeting:

20<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Agenda Item: 5

Report of North Area Council  
Manager

### North Area Council Stronger Communities Grant Update

#### 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To update members about the North Area Council Stronger Communities Grant application and allocation process.
- 1.2 To update members on the outcome of the grant panel meeting and the projects approved for funding.
- 1.3 To identify how unallocated funding for 2016/17 & 2017/18 will be utilised.
- 1.4 The report also outlines the performance management and monitoring arrangements for successful projects.

#### 2. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 Members note the NAC Stronger Communities Grant update.
- 2.2 Members note the projects that have been approved for funding.
- 2.3 Members agree the performance and monitoring arrangements outlined in Section 7.
- 2.4 That Members note the unallocated £65,108.50 (This includes carry forward from 2016/17) and agree on how the remainder of the funding will be utilised.

#### 3. Background

Having noted the success of the Stronger Communities Grant funded projects which have been delivered throughout 2015/16 and 2016/17 and it was agreed at the Area Council Meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016 that the North Area would run the Stronger Communities Grant funding opportunity for the project delivery in 2017/18.

The NAC Stronger Communities Grant was established as a grants programme totalling £129,766 (this included unallocated funds form 2016/17) to address the

identified North Area Council priorities. It is aimed at developing the capacity of community groups and organisations, social enterprises and not for profit organisations, with a view to enabling them to bid for future procurements.

The grant was launched at the beginning of December 2016 and the final date for submission of applications was the 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017. 7 applications were received, totalling £92,837.50.

The Grants Panel Member received their panel packs w/c 30<sup>th</sup> January. This included an information sheet, paper copies of all the applications and 'Scoring Matrix' top sheet for each application which needed to be completed prior to the panel meeting.

Each ward was represented on the panel as follows:

Darton East      Cllr Gail Charlesworth

Darton West      Cllr Sharon Howard

Old Town          Cllr Philip Lofts

St Helen's        Cllr Dave Leech

#### **4. Recommended Projects**

The Members had an opportunity to independently score each application before meeting for the Evaluation Panel on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February. The scoring matrix provided a robust qualitative and quantitative basis upon which to identify suitable applications. All applications required a majority recommendation from the panel in order to be successful. The panel was independently chaired by the North Area Council Manager and supported by the North Area's Senior Link Officer and the Area Team. The approval process can found as Appendix 1.

5 applications were identified and submitted for approval by the Stronger Barnsley Locality Manager. The total allocated amount for these 5 projects was £64,658. This leaves £65,108.50 unallocated.

#### **The recommended projects are as follows:**

##### **YMCA – YMCA Youthwork: £6,735**

The project aims to enable children and young people from the locality to access a range of positive activities as an alternative to risk taking and anti-social behaviour. To sustain a programme of open access, positive activities for children and young people that contribute to improving their health and wellbeing and raising levels of aspiration. Providing safe, local opportunities for children and young people to make positive choices about what they do outside of school hours. The project aims to provide youth work opportunities for 592 young people and create 66 volunteering and peer support opportunities.

### **Reds in the Community – Premier League Kicks: £11,503.50**

Premier League Kicks programme, offers weekly sports sessions in community time, young people will be doing more sport and physical activity and will develop their sporting skills. Sessions will also support the development of essential life-skills such as teamwork, leadership and communication skills. Through engaging young people with sports participation activities, and of course sporting role models in the form of professional football players, as well as incentives such as match day tickets, Reds in the Community will inspire and motivate the young people we work with to continue leading healthy and active lifestyles. The programme will be available to 50 young people.

### **Reds in the Community – Walking Football Fit Reds: £7,062**

Through the Fit Reds programme, Fit Reds Health Trainers provide participants with information regarding diet, nutrition and healthy lifestyles along with vital one to one support. Fit Reds Physical Activity Coaches engage participants with physical activity suited to their individual needs. Reds in the Community's proposed Walking Football Fit Reds Programme, which will build upon the positive work which the charity has undertaken in the North Area over the past year whilst piloting a brand new programme of activity which combines Walking Football with our successful Fit Reds programme, aims to directly address the issue of inactivity amongst males 55+ in the North Area of Barnsley and promote healthy living. The programme will be available to 30 individuals in the North Area.

### **Royal Voluntary Service – Barnsley North Looking Out for Older People: £19,557**

The project aims to provide Opportunities for Young People by increasing their chances to interact and build relationships with members of other generations, learning new traditional skills and taking part in a range of enrichment activities which may not otherwise have been available to them. The project will help develop Stronger Communities by encouraging intergenerational groups to support one another and ensure that all participants have the opportunity to shape the future of the project by involving them in decision making and developing the work of the project in ways which best support services in their neighbourhoods. Participants will also have the opportunity to access RVS' existing network of luncheon and social clubs. The project aims to work with 200 young people and create 40 new volunteering roles.

## **Emmanuel Methodist Church – Over Fifty Friends: £19,800**

**Over Fifty Friends** aims to promote and support the health and wellbeing of older and vulnerable people by the reduction of social isolation and loneliness, through a wide range of activities supported by volunteers of all ages. The range of activities are specifically designed to stimulate the mental capacity of an aging generation. Participants will have the opportunities to develop skills as well as learn new skills, alongside meeting others who are of a similar age with similar interests. This project aims to engage over 200 older people in the activities.

### **5. Lessons Learned**

- i. The Area Council are asked to note that Limited Companies are not eligible to apply for the grant funding.

### **6. Project Development Work**

The Area Manager will now meet with all the successful project leads to ensure that all the projects are robust: deliverable within the timescales, and outcomes/outcome indicators and targets developed.

In some cases the panel have attached conditions to the grant funding.

### **7. Grant Awards and Performance Monitoring/Management**

Once approved, all organisations will be notified and asked to sign an Award Agreement letter which, together with the detailed Stage 2 application form, will form the basis of the contractual agreement between the Council and the organisation for the grant awarded.

Those projects under £10,000 will receive a one-off grant payment for the full amount and will be asked to submit their monitoring information at the end of the project.

Those projects over £10,000 have submitted a monitoring/performance framework and quarterly payment schedule as part of their application. Quarterly payments will only be released once the North Area Council Manager is satisfied that monitoring/performance targets for the previous quarter have been met, or if not met, a satisfactory reason is given as to why this is the case and revised targets for the following quarters agreed.

Progress on projects will be reported back to North Area Council on a regular basis and a full evaluation report about the NAC Stronger Communities Fund process and projects will be presented to North Area Council on completion of all projects, anticipated early 2017/19.

**8. Next steps**

It is not advised to roll the unallocated funding forward to 2018/17 based on the total value of grant applications received in the last two rounds of the funding.

Members are asked to agree how the remainder of the funding will be utilised?  
Two options have been identified

- i. Advertise a second funding round for 2017/18. Making £65,108.50 available for projects.
- ii. Reallocate the £65,108.50 to fund a different project within the North Area.

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**Date:**  
**06/03/2017**

## Appendix 1: North Area Council

### Stronger Communities Grant 2017/18 onwards - Approval Process

