

BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

North Area Council Meeting:

25th March 2019

Agenda Item: 7

**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 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.**

3. Background

Having noted the success of the Stronger Communities Grant funded projects which have been delivered throughout 2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19 it was agreed at the Area Council Meeting on the 19th November 2018 that the North Area would run the Stronger Communities Grant funding opportunity for the project delivery in 2019/20.

The NAC Stronger Communities Grant was established as a grants programme totalling £80,000 (2019/20) 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. For the first time Wellbeing Grant funding, of value £19,359.05 was also made available to address the Five Ways to Wellbeing. This increased the grant funding pot to £99,359.05.

The grant opportunity was advertised at the beginning of December 2018 and the final date for submission of applications was the 25th January 2019. A total of 6 applications were received totalling £106,152.38.

The Grants Panel Member received their panel packs w/c 4th February. 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.

The Wards were represented by the following Councillors.

Darton East	Cllr Gail Charlesworth
Darton West	Cllr Sharon Howard
Old Town	<i>(Not represented on the 2019/20 Panel)</i>
St Helen's	Cllr Jenny Platts

4. Recommended Projects

The Members had an opportunity to independently score each application before meeting for the Evaluation Panel on Thursday 28th 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, Public Health Colleagues and the Area Team. The approval process can found as Appendix 1.

The panel also considered the Five Ways to Wellbeing as part of the scoring and moderation process. The Panel recommended that the Wellbeing should be a primary focus of the Stronger Communities Grant arrangements if the funding is made available in future years.



6 applications were recommended for funding. At the time of writing the projects have yet to be submitted for approval by the Head of Stronger Communities. The total allocated amount for these 6 projects was £106,152.38.

The recommended projects are as follows (they are in no particular order):

YMCA – YMCA Youthwork: £19,315.00

Extract from application form: Provide opportunities for children and young people in the North Area to engage with and explore activities, information and guidance that equips them to make better lifestyle choices and less likely to engage in behaviour detrimental to the health of themselves, their families and the wider community. Through the provision of generic open access and detached youth work, targeted outreach, and specialist community engagement events and initiatives.

Building on previous and existing programmes in this area we intend to work alongside communities to explore some of their expressed and perceived wellbeing needs, some of which are already identified as priorities within local Public Health frameworks.

Ad Astra – Taking Young People Seriously - £19,730.00

Extract from application form: The intention is to run two groups in two wards. Both groups will aim to promote positive mental health and a sense of well-being for all participants.

- One for young women (aged 12 +) – MIND AND DANCE (MAD)
- One for ladies of all ages - WELL WOMENS GROUP.

MAD is a dance project to nurture and promote positive mental health for young women aged between 13 to 18. The physical movement of dance helps reduce stress, anxiety and depression, dancing with others also helps us feel more connected and social. Dancing can encourage social bonds and friendships which are key factors in improving our mood and mental health.

WWG is a discussion group for women to promote positive mental Health. This group is to encourage positive role models and peer support for women to share information and skills. To create a safe environment for women to start intimate important conversations – to help resolve issues and nurture positive relationships.

Darton Cricket Club – Cricket Practice Facility - £19,000.00

Extract from application form: The Aim of the project is to install a brand-new, outdoor cricket practice facility at Darton Cricket Club. Fulfilment of our project would allow a state-of-the-art cricket facility for people living within the North Area and would represent a significant participation incentive to our existing and future membership base, in addition to greatly enhancing the quality coaching threat we would be able to provide to our junior members.

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

Extract from application form: Our aim is not to replace, but to complement existing provisions. The project will work to develop links with existing service provider to help fill in any gaps in provision relating to older people while being aware that older people are part of a wider family unit. We intend to focus on developing our Move it or Lose it groups to offer more access to exercise routines target at those with mobility problems. We have held trial sessions in a number of care homes and sheltered schemes. The benefits of this are to increase access to exercise for residents and at the same time utilising under used premises by offering access to carers, families and other members of the public at a low cost. By keeping costs down we intend to increase the sustainability of the classes after the end of the project.

Emmanuel Methodist Church – Ignite Barnsley - £13,205.67

Extract from application form: Ignite works with children and young people to encourage them to discover their strengths, make positive choices and promote individuality through good mental health. The project works with small groups of children and young people in both school and community group settings to help spark aspirations and enable them to children and young people reach their potential. We have found that many children and young people have few coping strategies when it comes to maintaining poor wellbeing and struggle to find support. Our workshops offer a helping hand to children and young people as well as signposting them to other organisations that can offer more individual help.

Since 2014 Ignite Barnsley have worked in both primary and secondary schools across Barnsley with groups of children and young people to help maintain wellbeing and promote positive mental health. We deliver early intervention workshops for both primary and secondary age children which are interactive, age appropriate and engaging for all children and young people. These are delivered both during the school day and in afterschool club sessions. If it is felt that the children and young people need more intervention, they are signposted to other organisations which will be able to help with their specific needs. The funding is intended to offer the workshops to children and young people from the North Area.

Reds in the Community - Healthy Lifestyle Programme – £8,551.38

The programme will improve the health and wellbeing of both young people and adults in the North Area: through the delivery of structured physical activity sessions coupled with lifestyle workshops, we will encourage and empower participants to adopt more active and healthier lifestyles. To ensure the programme reaches a broad cross-section of local people and achieves maximum impact. These 8-week programmes consist of weekly sessions involving 60 minutes of exercise and a 45 minute healthy lifestyle workshop. The exercise sessions include a warm up and circuit-based exercises incorporating boxercise, football and conditioning. Each workshop covers different aspects of nutrition and diet.

The bid also covers some in school provision for years 3 – 6.

5. Lessons Learned

Members responded well to the inclusion of the Five Ways to Wellbeing. Giving consideration to these elements will provide greater opportunities for joint working with Public Health in the future.

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. Public Health colleagues will be invited to participate in monitoring meetings.

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 2019/20.

8. Next steps

8.1. Members are asked to note that this year's grant funding was over prescribed. This led to greater scrutiny of the applications in accordance with the scoring criteria.

8.2. That the Grants Panel work with Public Health to develop a scoring system which is more closely linked to the Five Ways to Wellbeing if they wish run the grant again in 2019/20.

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Date:
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Appendix 1: North Area Council

Stronger Communities Grant 2017/18 onwards - Approval Process

