

BARNSELEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

DEARNE AREA COUNCIL 16th March 2020

Report of the Dearne Area Council Manager

Finance and commissioning update

1.0 Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of the report is to update members regarding the 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial position and to receive an update regarding current commissions.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That members note the current financial position and the impact on future budgets.
- 2.2 That member's note the latest position with regards commissioned services.
- 2.3 That members agree with the recommendation to continue with the employability service into its second year from 1st April, 2020 to 31st March 2021 at a cost of £33,000.

3.0 Area Council Financial update

3.1 2019/2020

The Dearne Area Council has a stating budget of £216,886.17 for the 2019/20 financial year. To date the Area Council have agreed to commission and fund the education, environment and volunteer service, Housing and Migration officer, employability contract, community newsletter and earmark £60k to the Development Fund out of 2019/20 finances. This comes to a total of £212,597.76 spent/earmarked on Dearne Area priorities. This leaves a total of £4,288.41 in the Area Council budget to spend on Dearne Area priorities. It is expected that this total will slightly increase based on an underspend with regards the design, printing and distribution of the community newsletter.

3.2 2020/21

Based on previous years allocations to the Area Council and the underspend of £4,288.41 the starting balance for 2020/21 will be £204, 288.41. The Area Council have agreed to fund the environmental, education and volunteer service, social connectivity service, housing officer and employability service. If all commissions continue the total spend during the 2020/21 financial year will be £176,557 leaving a balance of £27,731.41 to spend on area priorities.

3.3 **2019/20 Dearne Development Fund**

As of April 2019 the Dearne Area Council still had an earmarked budget of £ 9,572.10 to spend on Dearne Area priorities from the previous year's allocation. This with the approved £60k for 2019/20 totals £69,572.10. In addition to this the Area Council/team received a wellbeing grant from healthier communities of £19,018.78. This money was to be spent on projects that meet the five ways to wellbeing and has been distributed through the Dearne grants process. Therefore when combining the two the starting balance for 2019/20 was £88,590.88.

Eleven projects have been successful through the grants process and the amount spent to date is £84,940.20 leaving £3,650.68 to spend on Dearne Area priorities.

See Appendix 1 for financial breakdown

4.0 **Commission update**

- 4.1 The Community Newsletter has now been developed and distributed to all houses in the Dearne Area. Once final costings come in it is anticipated that there will be some of the allocated funding left over.
- 4.2 The Housing and Migration post has now been filled and the candidate started work on the 6th of January. He continues to work on some of the issues previously identified such as contaminated bins and waste in gardens.
- 4.3 The Twiggs contract is now approaching its second year of delivery. The B:Friend contract is in its final year of delivery and continue to progress with no issues.
- 4.4 The Dearne Electronic Community Village employability service first year is now coming to an end. The service was given the contract on a 1+1+1 basis. The service has had no issues and performed really well. Within the last quarters reporting Rory had worked with 76 individuals on the ICT and Employability Support sessions, 3 days per week (24 hours). He has also assisted 61 of those go into further training and 15 into employment. My recommendation would be for members to approve the continuation of this service into its second year of delivery, at a cost of £33,000 per annum.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Financial update

Officer
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Dearne Area Council Manager

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Date: 16th of March 2020