

# BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

## South Area Council Meeting:

19<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Agenda Item: 8

Report of South Area Council  
Manager.

### **South Area Council update on future commissions for 2015/16 and 2016/17 and possible use of existing Area Council underspend**

#### **1. Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To present an update on the development of a range of South Area Council projects agreed in principle on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2015
- 1.2 To present possible options for the allocation of existing South Area Council underspend

#### **2. Recommendations**

**2.1 That members note the progress of projects under development as outlined in Section 4.1 of this report**

**2.2 That members consider the options for future Area Council spend outlined in Section 5 of this report and approve any options they wish to develop further**

#### **3. Background**

3.1 Following the approval of four priorities in September 2013 (and their renewed approval in September 2015) the South Area Council commissioned a number of projects which left an amount of **£152,672** unallocated from its original funding of **£400,000** at the end of 2014/15.

3.2 This amount was added to the £400,000 allocation of funding received by the South Area Council for 2015/16, giving a total of **£552,672** available to spend in 2015/16.

3.3 Of this **£552,672** available, a total of **£440,762** has already been committed to the continuation of existing projects as below:

- One Stop Shop £73,950 per year
- Tidy Team £171,000 per year
- Tidy Team Apprenticeship costs £24,720 per year
- Summer Internship Programme £36,000 per year
- Environmental Enforcement contract £135,092 per year

3.4 This leaves an amount of **£111,910** of the 2015/16 allocated still to be spent. However, because many of the above contracts do not run from April to March but start mid-year, the actual spend during the 2015/16 financial year will be less and will come in at **£322,286.32** leaving **£230,385.68** remaining at the end of the year for carry forward into 2016/17.

3.5 This will be added to the new 2016/17 allocation of **£400,000** to make a total available in 2016/17 of **£630,385.38** of which **£440,762 (existing projects as above) + £23,532.81 (new projects as outlined in Section 4.1 below)** will already be committed to existing projects, making a total of **£464,294.81** spend allocated in 2016/17.

3.6 This leaves an unallocated sum of **£166,090.57** for spend during 2016/17. As the future of Area Council budgets beyond March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017 is currently unclear, it is probably safest to assume that this funding needs to be spent during 2016/17, as carry forward cannot be assumed.

3.7 This means that any of the new projects outlined below will have to either begin before 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 or may have to run for less than 12 months, unless a further extension of allocated funds is agreed at a later date.

#### **4. New projects approved by South Area Council**

4.1 The table below shows the projects and activities approved by the South Area Council on 18<sup>th</sup> December and the progress made to date:

<b>Project</b>	<b>Confirmed costs and progress to date</b>
Provision of 100 x A3 signs 'This area is maintained by volunteers' for clean-up sites	£375 from Taylor Made signs. These signs are currently on order and will take approximately 14 days to complete. Arrangements have already been made with the Tidy Team to display the signs at local littering and fly tipping hotspots
Youth Asset Mapping Events to be delivered by the Forge Community Partnership's existing Youth Partnership & Digital Media Club	<p>£5,000 to provide 4 Asset Mapping events (1 in each ward) to be led by local young people supported by Forge workers Full digital survey of young people not attending the four events to be conducted by Digital Media Club with support from staff Analysis of results to be presented as report to South Area Council in April 2016.</p> <p>Forge are in the process of developing four Asset Mapping events (one per ward) with their Youth Partnership Group to take place in February after half term. They are also developing an online survey which will go out prior to events and out through the local school networks with an invitation to the events.</p> <p>Elected members will be invited to attend and take part in the events once the dates and times have been finalised.</p>

Project	Confirmed costs and progress to date
<p>Delivery of Health Asset Mapping Conference to be organised by South Area Team in conjunction with Be Well Barnsley Team from Public Health</p>	<p>£1,000 to include full buffet lunch &amp; venue costs. South Area Council Manager in process of meeting with Be Well Barnsley team (recently appointed) to finalise date, venue, guest list etc.as per event outline previously agreed</p>
<p>Provision of 1 week Achieving Respect &amp; Confidence (ARC) course for 14 x young people at risk of offending delivered by South Yorkshire Fire &amp; Rescue Service</p> <p>Provision of Fire Cadet scheme for young people by South Yorkshire Fire &amp; Rescue Service</p>	<p>£5,000 per 1 week course</p> <p>£12,157.81 per year for 16 Cadets meeting 39 times per year</p> <p>South Area Council Manager has had an initial meeting with SYFRS to outline the programme, with the ARC course planned to start in March 2016 to act as a feed onto the Fire Cadet course to start in April 2016.</p>
<p>Possible funding of veteran support pack &amp; launch conference if not funded by Armed Forces Community Covenant Fund</p>	<p>Funding is not likely to be needed at this stage. South Area Council Manager is currently meeting with University of York (who provide Veteran Awareness training for practitioners) &amp; SWYFT who have produced support information for veterans which needs to be promoted more widely. These 2 actions will replace the need for a veteran pack as originally envisaged.</p>
<p><b>Total costs</b></p>	<p><b>£23,532.81</b> This assumes delivery of: 1 x ARC course 1 x Fire Cadet course for one year This does not include the costs of ongoing delivery of any youth work commissioned as a result of the Youth Asset Mapping work</p>

## 5. South Area Council unallocated funds – options for future spend during 2015/16 and 2016/17

5.1 As outlined in Section 4.3, the South Area Council currently has an unallocated amount of **£166,090.57** available, which currently needs to be spent by March 31<sup>st</sup> 2017.

5.2 This means that further project ideas need to be identified and developed as a matter of urgency. The following options are available to take this forward; any number of which could be agreed:

1. An examination of local datasets is undertaken at the meeting of the South Area Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2016, with a view to identifying future projects.
2. The potential devolution of Area Council funding to Ward Alliances at a maximum of £20,000 per ward, making a possible maximum total of £60,000.

This option, which is being undertaken by a number of Area Councils, is **permitted only for Ward Alliances which are holding £10,000 or less of Ward Alliance Funds**. A briefing note on eligibility rules for Ward Alliance Fund for 2016/17 is attached at Appendix A of this report.

This outline explains that where extra monies are devolved from an Area Council to a Ward Alliance, **50% of that funding must continue to support applications with a full match of volunteer hours and the remaining 50% does not have to be matched with volunteer hours**, enabling some community groups who would find this eligibility difficult to potentially benefit from funding.

At the time of writing, the three Ward Alliances have the following amounts of spend unallocated.

**NB: The figures in the table below are much lower than those presented in the report at Agenda item 5 'Use of Devolved Ward Budgets and Ward Alliance Funds' because they represent all funding applications under consideration, rather than only those which have already been signed off and are currently being processed**

Ward Alliance	Amount of unallocated Ward Alliance Fund
Darfield	None – all spend allocated
Hoyland Milton & Rockingham	£18,820.00 (equating to £9,41.00 per ward as this is a joint Ward Alliance)
Wombwell	£9,831.00

5.3 Two of the three Ward Alliances are still holding balances approaching the maximum of £10,000. In addition, all of the Ward Alliances will receive a further allocation of £10,000 per ward in April 2016. The ability of the Ward Alliances to spend their existing allocations therefore needs to be considered when deciding whether or not to approve further devolution of Area Council funding for this purpose.

**Officer Contact: Kate Faulkes**  
**South Area Council Manager**

**Tel: 01226 355866 / 07791 600836**  
**Date: 5<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

**Appendix A: Ward Alliance Funding 2016/17 Briefing Note**