

**REPORT OF THE ACTING DIRECTOR OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES**

**SAFER STRONGER COMMUNITIES FUND IN THE WEST AREA**

**1 SUMMARY**

This report provides members with an update of expenditure to date using the Safer, Stronger Communities Fund (SSCF) in the targeted areas, and asks members to approve spending of the remaining monies.

**2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended the Area Committee note the schemes in Appendix 1 that were delivered in 2006-2008 and approve funding of £35,000 for projects listed below:

Broxtowe Country Park-maintenance and refurbishment	£9,000
Co-op Planters-refurbish and planting scheme	£5,000
Contribution towards setting up of Greenfields Chidcare	
And training provision in Broxtowe	£16,000
Target Hardening Scheme	£5,000
Total	£35,000

It is recommended this area committee agrees to the Area Manager and the Chair of the LIG being given the authority to allocating under spend or remaining LIG budget towards area priorities.

**3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The priority neighbourhoods in Bulwell, Bestwood, Broxtowe, Bells Lane, St Anns and Sneinton received additional funding allocated from the SSCF, an integral part of the delivery mechanisms for Local Area Agreements. The neighbourhoods receiving the funding were selected on the basis of disadvantage.
- 3.2 The purpose of the SSCF pilot programme was to improve the basic conditions affecting people's quality of life in disadvantaged neighbourhoods. One of the core outcomes was to bring these disadvantaged neighbourhoods up to the City average for service delivery and improvements. Therefore, a core focus has

been to work with service providers in making them more customer focussed and responsive to neighbourhood needs.

3.3 The pilots in each area were asked by the One Nottingham Partnership to focus on four core priorities. For the West Area these were:

- § people feeling safe in their communities;
- § a cleaner, greener city;
- § education attainment;
- § more local people being economically active.

3.4 The work of the SSCF in the West Area has been overseen by the Local Implementation Group (LIG). The LIG has been responsible for making decisions on expenditure of resources aligned to the pilot. To date they have put forward funding proposals to the West Area Committee totalling £250,356. Information about the types of activities approved is contained within Appendix 1.

3.5 The West Area Neighbourhood Management Team is in the process of aligning much of the engagement work established by the pilot to its own structures. This includes support for existing LIG members to be involved in other consultation opportunities. A meeting was held with these members on the 18 December 2008 exploring how they wanted to continue with the work begun by the Priority Neighbourhood Pilot.

3.6 The Neighbourhood Management Team will ensure many of the lessons learnt from various activities introduced by the LIG are used to improve performance of service delivery across the West Area.

## **4 PROPOSALS**

It is proposed that members agree to the request made in the Section 2 of this report.

## **5 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

The £35,000 allocation can be met by the uncommitted balance for the priority neighbourhood pilot budget. The uncommitted balance of the priority neighbourhood pilot budget, not including the affect of other requests for allocation elsewhere on this agenda, stands currently as follows:

Priority Neighbourhood Pilot	£40,000
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## **6 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

The Area Committee is required to follow governance arrangements approved to ensure that there are adequate financial controls on the priority neighbourhood budget.

## **7 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

An equalities impact assessment will be conducted as part of the monitoring processes for the SSCF programme. The impact assessment will include disability, gender, race, sexual orientation, age and religion as priorities.

## **8 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

The remaining uncommitted balances for the SSCF project will be lost unless they are approved as recommended in this report.

## **9 CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS**

Activities developed by the SSCF have targeted crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour in the pilot neighbourhoods. These activities have contributed to the crime targets within the Local Area Agreements.

## **10 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES**

This report contributes towards the following strategic priorities:

- people feeling safe in their communities;
- a cleaner City;
- educational attainment;
- active citizenship;
- young Nottingham.

## **11 VALUE FOR MONEY**

The West Area Team aims to develop projects which make a valuable contribution to the Best Value Review process and to adhere to the Best Value principles.

## **12 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION**

None

## **13 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT**

None

**LIANNE TAYLOR**  
**ACTING DIRECTOR OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES**  
Isabella Street  
Nottingham  
NG1 6AT  
Tel: 0115 9158615

Email: [lianne.taylor@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:lianne.taylor@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

Contact Officer:

Asif Mohammed

Acting Neighbourhood Manager

Tel: 0115 9157656

Email: [asif.mohammed@nottinghamcity.gov.uk](mailto:asif.mohammed@nottinghamcity.gov.uk)

## APPENDIX 1



### Priority Neighbourhoods - Broxtowe and Bells Lane

YEAR ONE AND TWO

#### FUNDS ALLOCATED

<b>Project No.</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Agreed Spend</b>
1	NEAT	£69,779.00
2	Sports Training	£1,500.00
3	Brightening Broxtowe & Bells Lane	£29,811.00
4	Community Call Centre	£20,640.00
5	Broxtowe Country Park	£10,000.00
6	Literacy Volunteers	£4,300.00
7	Breakfast Clubs	£10,487.00
8	Domestic Violence Package (family support work, training and awareness raising)	£10,000.00
9	Introduction to youth work - training package	£6,690.00
10	Safer Homes package - target hardening	£40,000.00
11	Connexions	£35,000.00
12	Fire Safety within the homes	£2,000.00
13	BEST in construction	£7,432.00
14	Drugs conference	£500.00
15	Seagrave School - garden project	£5,966.00
16	Parent Volunteers programme	£798.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£254,903.00</b>

YEAR THREE

**APPROVED BY LIG (18/12/08) - Requires West Area Approval**

<b>Project No.</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Agreed Spend</b>
5	Broxtowe Country Park - maintenance and refurbishment	£9,000.00
19	Co-op Planters - refurbish and planting scheme	£5,000.00
20	Contribution to setting up of Greenfields Childcare and Training provision in Broxtowe Ward	£16,000.00
21	Target Hardening Scheme	£5,000.00
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£35,000.00</b>

BUDGET - current position

<b>Budget - Year 1 &amp; 2</b>	£248,986.00
Allocated	£254,903.00
Overspend	£5,917.00

<b>Budget - Year 3</b>	£35,000.00
Allocated (requires West Area Approval)	£35,000.00