

BASFORD AND BESTWOOD AREA COMMITTEE – 27th JULY 2011

Title of paper:	WARD COUNCILLOR BUDGET ALLOCATION 2011/12	
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Relevant Council Plan theme(s):		
Choose Nottingham		X
Respect for Nottingham		X
Transforming Nottingham's Neighbourhoods		X
Supporting Nottingham People		X
Serving Nottingham Better		X
Summary of issues (including benefits to customers/service users):		
This report outlines Ward Councillor budget allocation for 2011/12		
Recommendation(s):		
1	Note that each Councillor has been allocated an individual Ward Councillor budget allocation of £8,000.	
2	Note that additional monies have been made available to the top 5% most deprived wards in the City based on Indices Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2007. Included in this is the Bestwood Ward where Councillors will each receive an additional allowance of £3,000	
3	Notes that any unspent monies in individual Ward member Support Budgets at the end of the Municipal Year will be reallocated to the relevant Area Committees Area Allocation budget.	
4	Approves that Decisions regarding funding from the Community Local Issues Fund within the Area Allocation budget be delegated to the Area Manager or in their absence, the Director of Local Communities, and that any such decisions be reported to the next available Area Committee.	

1 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In 2009/10 each Ward member was allocated £10,000 to support their role as "Champion of Place". For 2011/12 each ward Councillor is allocated £8,000 to support this role – in addition to this allocation further funds are allocated to ward members to further support work to be undertaken in the top 5% most deprived wards in the city.

- 1.2 However, it is also recognised that there will still be a need for a central funding pot to support grants to individuals and groups within the voluntary sector and inter ward, area-wide and cross cutting issues. This is important to ensure the transparency and also reflects that some issues are cross cutting and not geographically based.

2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 To support the Ward member role as “Champion of Place” and provide a platform for a further focus to the top 5% most deprived wards.
- 2.2 To ensure value for money and transparency of the decision making process.

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 None

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY)

- 4.1 The continued allocation of Ward Councillor budgets and the continued use of delegated approval pro-formas are within current legal powers. The process described in the report provides a lawful basis for taking expenditure decisions.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS, CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS AND EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS)

- 5.1 The funds allocated to this Committee are used to address the diverse needs of the various sections of the community and reduce inequalities within the community.

6 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

- 6.1 Nominal Ledgers

7 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

- 7.1 Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2007