

# COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR ALLERDALE

Meeting date: 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022

From: Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services

## INVESTING IN OUR COMMUNITIES

### **1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 1.1 *The report presents grant applications in excess of £5,000 for consideration and approval from the 2022-23 budget at Appendix 1.*
- 1.2 *The report also presents the outturn budget for 2021-22 at Appendix 2.*

### **2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 2.1 *The Allerdale Local Committee has both executive and non-executive duties as set out in the County Council's constitution.*
- 2.2 *Allerdale local committee is committed to the following priorities:*
  - *Supporting people to access training, apprenticeships and employment*
  - *Encouraging people to live well*
  - *Supporting our communities to thrive*
  - *Supporting and influencing the recovery from Covid-19 both as individuals, in the role of community leaders and as a committee.*
- 2.3 *Allerdale Local Committee has adopted key themes proposed by the Children and Young People's Partnership which are:*
  - *Youth employment*
  - *Improving accessibility to opportunities*
  - *Mental wellbeing*
  - *Good health for life*

**2.4 The work of the local committee contributes to the achievement of the Council Plan 2018-2022 vision which is to be**

- **A Council that works with residents, businesses and communities and other organisations to deliver the best services possible within the available resources.**

**2.5 The outcomes of this vision are:**

- **People in Cumbria are healthy and safe**
- **Places in Cumbria are well-connected and thriving**
- **The economy in Cumbria is growing and benefits everyone**

**2.6 There are no negative equality implications arising out of the recommendations of this report.**

### **3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

**3.1 Members note the contents of the report.**

**3.2 Members agree to utilise the Environment Fund for 2022/23 to fund an overspend of £13,750 against the 2021/22 budget.**

**3.3 Members agree that an amount of £10,000 is allocated from General Provision to Workington Heritage Group towards the creation of a footpath in the Jane Pit area of Workington.**

**3.4 Members agree that an amount of £5,000 is allocated from General Provision to West Cumbria Domestic Violence Support towards a multi-agency domestic abuse perpetrator intervention.**

**3.5 Members agree that an amount of £5,000 is allocated from 0-19 Oughterside & Allerby Parish Council towards a revamped play area.**

**3.6 Members agree that an amount of £11,088 is allocated from the 0-19 budget to Oakleigh Trust towards their Rights2Work programme supporting young people into education, training and employment opportunities.**

**3.7 Members agree that an amount of £20,000 is allocated from the Environment Fund to Bowness Community Group towards reinstating**

***fencing in the Banks area and capping the sea walls improving safety in the area.***

**3.8 *Members agree that an amount of £5,000 is allocated from the Environment Fund to Cumbria Countryside Access Team to improve a footpath at Pigeon Well Lonning, Maryport.***

**3.9 *Members agree that an amount of £90,000 is allocated from the Environment Fund to Cumbria Countryside Access Team to create a footpath from Bessemer Way to Shore Hill, Workington.***

**3.10 *Members agree that an amount of £4,090 is allocated from the Environment Fund to Cumbria Countryside Access Team to improve the footpath and address flooding issues at Jubilee Walk, Aspatria***

**3.11 *Members agree that an amount of £60,000 is allocated from the Environment Fund to Cumbria Countryside Access Team to improve a footpath from Beckstone School to the Harrington area.***

**3.12 *Members agree that an amount of £500 is allocated from the Environment Fund to Cumbria Countryside Access Team to replace two trees that were felled due to disease***

## **4.0 BACKGROUND**

### **GRANT APPLICATIONS**

**4.1** This report sets out the detail of grant applications received, under the relevant budget headings, that exceed £5,000 for approval by local committee. In some cases, the proposed allocation is for less than £5,000 but has been included as these are from the Environment Fund against which all allocations will be reported.

**4.2** For information, the current budget for 2022-23 is attached for reference at Appendix 1.

### **APPLICATIONS TO GENERAL PROVISION**

#### **Workington Heritage Group**

**4.3** Workington Heritage Group would like to create a walkway from the roadside pavement across the green area in front of Jane Pit. It is planned for nine large boulders to be placed at the side of this footpath representing the nine pits that were once in Workington, each boulder will have a name plate representing a pit. The walkway will lead to information boards regarding the mining history of Workington and the two remaining Jane Pit heads.

4.4 This is linked to a larger restoration project for Jane Pit through the Heritage lottery submission. The Heritage Group and Helena Thompson Museum are working with Workington Town Council and Allerdale Borough Council on this project. This project would allow schools, history groups and the community to visit the area and learn about Workington's mining history linked to displays in the Helena Thompson Museum.

4.5 The total cost of the project is £70,000 and the organisation are applying to local committee for £10,000 of General Provision funding.

This application meets the following priorities

- Supporting our communities to thrive

#### **West Cumbria Domestic Violence Support**

4.6 The group are applying for funds to support delivery of their project aimed at reducing domestic abuse by working with perpetrators in Allerdale and Copeland. The project aims to engage perpetrators with positive role models and sporting activities as an alternative to other counselling and support services to reduce the risk of reoffending

4.7 This pilot project, United Together – Positive Role Model programme and alternative practise will engage with adults utilising sport, its values, learning and role models to act as a disruptor.

4.8 The adult programme will consist of recruiting 10 participants, 18+ year olds to take part in 12-weekly, 3 hour sessions where they will deliver a mix of sport and physical activity, with group and optional 1 to 1 support sessions. They will introduce coaching and leadership qualifications to those wishing to progress,

4.9 The community awareness programme will consist of a 1-hour face to face or online awareness workshop, in conjunction with Cumberland FA. They will deliver a series of 4 club awareness sessions for approximately 40 coaches and volunteers from community football and sports clubs, allowing them to gain more understanding about domestic abuse.

4.10 The total cost of the project is £15,000 and the organisation are applying to local committee for £5,000 of General Provision funding.

This application meets the following priorities

- Encouraging people to live well
- Supporting our communities to thrive
- Mental Wellbeing

#### **APPLICATIONS TO 0-19**

#### **Oughterside and Allerby Parish Council**

4.11 Oughterside and Allerby Parish Council would like to upgrade Pond Green play park replacing some of the existing play equipment. The Parish council have some financial provision to support this project in addition to funds from Pond Green Park fundraising group. These two organisations are working in partnership to enable an upgrade to the current poor facilities in Oughterside.

4.12 Upgrading the play equipment and surrounding area will create a reinvigorated community hub for children of all ages, their parents and grandparents. This will increase social interaction opportunities for both the children and adults in this rural community.

4.13 The total cost of the project is £24,000 and the organisation are applying to local committee for £5,000 of 0-19 funding.

This application meets the following priorities

- Improving accessibility to opportunities
- Mental wellbeing
- Good health for life

#### **Oakleigh Trust (Right2Work)**

4.14 The Oakleigh Trust, Right2Work programme is a unique offer for young people living in Cumbria. The programme focuses on supporting a young person's personal development and social skills, enabling them to have a voice, influence and place in their community and society.

4.15 The support is needs-led providing tailored emotional, social and practical help for a child or young person with additional needs, mental health issues, a learning or physical disabilities. The programme supports young people who are beginning to disengage with school or college due to emotional issues, health conditions, bereavement, or other personal problems.

4.16 The programme can accommodate twelve young people in Allerdale supporting them into education, training, and employment. This will include a real work placement via in work support, employability and functional skills qualification and an individual vocational profile. The scheme works in partnership with established networks with Job Centre Plus, local employers, social work teams, psychologists, CAMHS and careers advice services.

4.17 This application is for funding to support a follow-on pilot to the 2020-2021 programme and strengthen the evidence needed to develop the programme as a commissioned service in the future.

4.18 The total cost of the project is £44,352 and the organisation is applying to local committee for £11,088 of 0-19 funding towards the Allerdale part of the programme.

This application meets the following priorities

- Youth employment

- Improving accessibility to opportunities
- Mental wellbeing

## **ENVIRONMENT FUND ALLOCATIONS**

- 4.19 A budget of £200,000 was agreed at full Council on 10 February 2022 to be distributed for schemes which fit within the scope set out below:
- enhanced verge maintenance
  - tree maintenance / replacement
  - footpath maintenance
  - nature recovery
  - biodiversity improvements
  - improving the environmental conditions and quality of life 'on the doorstep'
- 4.20 The Environment Fund allocated for 2021-22 was fully utilised and a summary is shown at Appendix 4.
- 4.21 The 21-22 Outturn Budget Report (at Appendix 2) shows a spend of £213,750 for the full year against the budget of £200,000 resulting in an overspend of £13,750. These costs were applied at the very end of the financial year and do not yet reflect the contributions from other parties to these works which will be made during the current financial year. The overspends relate to the Dovenby Pathway scheme and the Bolton New Houses scheme. It is recommended that the overspend be deducted from the Environment Fund for 2022/23 as a temporary measure until other contributions are received. Local Committee will be advised when this has been corrected due to the impact on schemes to be delivered in 2022-23.
- 4.22 Schemes for the current financial year (2022-23) have been put forward by Members of local committee and have been discussed at workshops to develop a full list of schemes to bring forward for approval.
- 4.23 Those schemes are outlined below.

### **Bowness Community Group**

- 4.24 Bowness Community Group is a volunteer group who have been carrying out work to improve the Banks area of Bowness-on-Solway which is the official start/end of Hadrian's Wall trail. The Banks is a well know feature of the trail and visited by walkers starting or finishing the route, approximately 8,000-10,000 people per year.
- 4.25 The group would like to improve safety in the area by reinstating fencing (the rotten wooden railings were removed as they were deemed a Health and Safety issue), together with fencing around the well and down the flag steps area. They would also like to undertake work to capping the sea walls.

4.26 The total cost of the project is £20,000.

This scheme meets the following priorities

- improving the environmental conditions and quality of life 'on the doorstep'

### **Cumbria Countryside Access Team**

The following schemes can all be delivered through the Cumbria Countryside Access Team (CCAT).

4.27 **Pigeon Well Lonning** - CCAT received £10,000 from the 2021/2022 Control Outbreak Management Fund, to improve the footpath at Pigeon Well Lonning, Maryport. However, further funding is required to provide a more robust surface and take into account increasing costs.

4.28 The total cost of the project is £15,000 but due to a previous allocation, an amount of £5,000 is required.

This application meets the following priorities

- footpath maintenance
- improving the environmental conditions and quality of life 'on the doorstep'

4.29 **Bessemer Way and Shore Hills** – CCAT are able to provide a footpath from Bessemer Way to the Shore Hills by upgrading the surface, which is currently a rough ground, to tarmac, making this area more accessible to the community. Currently this rough footpath is well used by the local community and the upgrade would increase accessibility.

4.30 The total cost of the project is £90,000.

This application meets the following priorities

- footpath maintenance
- improving the environmental conditions and quality of life 'on the doorstep'

4.31 **Jubilee Walk** - CCAT are able to raise the footpath at Jubilee Walk, Aspatria to alleviate flooding. The work would involve installing a soakaway and a French drain. Cumbria Countryside Access Team have received funding from the 2021/2022 Control Outbreak Management Fund of £5,910 towards this project and further funding is required to undertake this additional work.

4.32 The total cost of the project is £10,000 but due to a previous allocation, an amount of £4,090 is required.

This application meets the following priorities

- footpath maintenance
- improving the environmental conditions and quality of life 'on the doorstep'

4.33 **Beckstone Footpath** - CCAT are able to improve the surface of an existing but very rough footpath located behind Beckstone School, Harrington, Workington. This would create a footpath that would be accessible to all, linking part of the Harrington area to Beckstone school and existing footpaths beyond the school.

4.34 The total cost of the project is £60,000.

This application meets the following priorities

- footpath maintenance
- improving the environmental conditions and quality of life 'on the doorstep'

4.35 **Cherry Lane** - CCAT are able to replace two trees that were felled due to disease located at Cherry Lane, Cockermouth. The cost includes replanting of two trees, stump removal and tree replacement with stake and ties.

4.36 The total cost of the project is £500

This application meets the following priorities

- tree maintenance / replacement
- nature recovery
- biodiversity improvements
- improving the environmental conditions and quality of life 'on the doorstep'

## **MONEY ADVICE SERVICE**

4.37 Members will be aware that this budget line has previously covered the services provided by the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) - Allerdale. The funding of £66,570 is ring fenced for this purpose and remains the same as the previous year.

4.38 CAB – Allerdale submit an overview annually of their achievements, made possible by the grant and the overview for 2021-22 is attached at Appendix 4.

4.39 Members are asked to support the allocation of this budget in totality to Citizens Advice Bureau – Allerdale for 2022-23.



## **5.0 OPTIONS**

5.1 In respect of recommendations 3.2 to 3.11, Members have the option to:

- Agree some or all of the recommendations
- Not agree some or all of the recommendations
- Defer the decisions and request additional information.

## **6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 Should the grant recommendations in section 3.3 to 3.12 of this report be approved, the 2022-23 discretionary budget unallocated resource will decrease by £210,678. (SEA 27/4/22)

## **7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 It is a function of Local Committees under Part 2 D, 5.1.2(b) of the Constitution to approve applications for grants from the Local Committee's budgets for amounts exceeding £ 5,000 in line with the policy. It is noted at paragraph 4.1 of this report that proposed allocations from the Environment Fund will be reported even if under the £5,000 level (hence the inclusion of the recommendation at paragraph 3.12).

7.2 The recommendations at 3.2 and 3.7-3.12 relate to spending from the Environment Fund, the scope of which is set out in paragraph 4.19 above, and also detailed at Appendix E to the Council report on the budget (10 February 2022). Specifically, Appendix E states that – “Environment Fund” is a one-off allocation for 2022/23 only. The purpose of this ring-fenced fund will be to support environmental improvements for enhanced verge maintenance, tree maintenance and replacement, and footpath maintenance. Local Committees are encouraged to work with their Districts, Parishes and Town Councils to make best use of the money, including identifying match funding where possible. Virement: This budget may not be vired to other Local Committee budget areas but can be supplemented by other budgets.”

7.3 Recommendations 3.3-3.4 relate to expenditure from the General Provision budget and recommendations 3.5 -3.6 relate to expenditure from the 0-19 budget. Local Committees have flexibility on the use of the General Provision and 0-19 budgets. When allocating money, Local Committees must follow the rules set by Council following its consideration of the Revenue Budget 2022/2023 and the Medium-Term Financial Plan (2022-2027) (see Appendix E to the report tabled at the Council meeting on

10/02/22) and any additional restrictions set by Cabinet or Council regulating the use of such funds.

## 8.0 CONCLUSION

8.1 This report presents the outturn budget allocated to local committee for 2021-22 and the budget for 2022-23 as at 1 April 2022 together with the grant applications received that are over the threshold requiring local committee approval.

**Dawn Roberts**  
**Executive Director – Corporate, Customer and Community Services**

*April 2022*

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## APPENDICES

***Appendix 1 – Local Committee Budget 2022-23***

***Appendix 2 - Local Committee Budget 2021-22 Outturn***

***Appendix 3 – Summary of Environment Fund Allocations 2021-22***

***Appendix 4 - Citizens Advice Summary of Achievements***

Electoral Division(s): All

Executive Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny? If so, give details below.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

***N.B. If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.***

**PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS**  
*[including Local Committees]*

*No previous relevant decisions.*

**CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY**

*Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.*

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

*No background papers.*

**REPORT AUTHOR**

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