

Saddleworth and Lees District Executive

Budget Report

Portfolio Responsibility: **Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services: Arooj Shah**

14 June 2018

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Purpose of Report

1. To advise the Saddleworth and Lees District Executive of the breakdown of expenditure from the financial year 2017/18 and to consider potential budget commitments for 2018/19 presented to this meeting.

Recommendations

1. That the District Executive notes the funding allocations made during 2017/18. (The breakdown is attached for information in appendix B, appendix A shows the spreadsheet for the 2017/18 budgets)
2. The District Executive is asked to consider allocating £6,590 from its revenue budget to support Christmas lights and trees in 2018
3. The District Executive is asked to consider allocating funding to support winter maintenance in the district during 2018/19 (amount to be agreed)
4. The District Executive considers allocating £3,456 from its revenue budget for summer and winter planting 2018/19
5. The District Executive considers allocating a maximum of £15,000 from its revenue budget to support the band contest in 2019
6. The District Executive considers allocating up to £475 to cover the cost of District Partnership/District Executive/Health and Wellbeing Sub Group room booking costs during 2018/19

1. CURRENT POSITION

1.1 District Executive Budget

The District Executive has a total allocation of £60,000 (£10,000 revenue and £10,000 capital per ward) which is available to help meet the priorities and actions across the district. (As detailed in the District Plan)
Decisions on this budget will be made by the District Executive

1.2 Individual Councillor Allowance

Each Borough Councillor has an allowance of £5,000 on which they may take decisions. Councillors may also decide to pool their individual allowance in order to joint fund projects.

1.3 Saddleworth and Lees District Plan

Expenditure of District Executive and Councillor allowance should be in accordance with priorities/actions agreed in the district plan.

2. Projects for Consideration – District Executive Revenue Budget

2.1 The District Executive has £30,000 revenue funding to allocate during 2018/2019

2.2 Year on Year Budget Commitments from the DE Revenue Budget

The District Executive has over recent years funded projects which have resulted in year on year budget commitments, the costs associated with these have been reviewed and are presented for consideration.

2.3 Christmas Lights

The District Executive is asked to consider allocating up to £6,590 to cover the cost of existing Christmas trees and Christmas lights for 2018. Moving forward the District Executive may wish to request a financial contribution from the Christmas lights organisers to reduce the year on year costs.

2.4 Winter Maintenance

The District Executive is asked to consider allocating funding to support winter maintenance in the district.

In previous years the DE has allocated **£4,279** to cover the cost of 4 refills for the 14 additional grit bins which were initially funded by Councillors and through the District Executive. The £4,279 is paid in advance and allows the Council to plan for grit supplies.

- **Fill on request option**

However, during less severe winters the bins may not require 4 fills and the District Executive may wish to move to a 'fill on request' option which means that the cost of 1 fill will be allocated in advance, with additional fills paid for on request.

The cost of 1 fill is £122.59 and would therefore mean that the DE would need to allocate **£1,716.26** saving £2,563 from it's revenue budget

The District Executive is asked to consider which option it wishes to fund.

Moving forward the District Executive may also wish to ask that requests for additional grit bins and refills go through the DE so that ongoing costs may be considered.

2.5 Summer and Winter Planting

The District Executive is asked to consider allocating £3,456 to support summer/winter planting in 2018/19.

2.6 Whit Friday Band Contest

The District Executive is asked to consider allocating a maximum of £15,000 to support the Whit Friday Band Contest 2019.

The Band Contest has received year on year support from the District Executive and in 2017/18 the total cost of the contest is likely to be £16,000 (final costs are yet to be determined). An additional £1,002.25 was allocated from individual councillors totalling £16,002.25 allocated to the 2018 contest.

2.7 Room Booking Costs

The District Executive is asked to consider allocating up to £475 to cover the cost of District Partnership/ District Executive and Health and Wellbeing Sub Group meetings at Uppermill Civic Hall during 2018/19.

2.8 Balance of funding

Following the allocation of year on year costs the District Executive is left with a balance of £200 or £2,763 (depending on which winter maintenance option is agreed)

3. Projects for consideration - District Executive Capital Budget

3.1 The District Executive has £30,000 capital funding to allocate during 2018/19.

3.2 Millgate Arts Centre – Roof and Auditorium Refurbishment

The District Executive is asked to consider making a contribution of (up to) £4,000 towards a total cost of £30,000 for roof repairs to the Millgate Arts Centre. In turn, this work is part of a total programme of refurbishment works which includes an additional £50,000 for the refurbishment of the Auditorium.

The funding application and background to the project are attached at appendix 3 for consideration.