

CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE (LIF)
Agenda

Date Thursday 19 December 2019

Time 5.00 pm

Venue Leader's Office, Level 3, Civic Centre, West Street, Oldham OI1 1NL

- Notes
1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- If a Member requires any advice on any item involving a possible declaration of interest which could affect his/her ability to speak and/or vote he/she is advised to contact Paul Entwistle or Sian Walter-Browne in advance of the meeting.
 2. CONTACT OFFICER for this Agenda is Sian Walter-Browne Tel. 0161 770 5151 or email sian.walter-browne@oldham.gov.uk
 3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS – Any member of the public wishing to ask a question at the above meeting can do so only if a written copy of the question is submitted to the Contact officer by 12 Noon on Monday, 16 December 2019.
 4. FILMING - The Council, members of the public and the press may record / film / photograph or broadcast this meeting when the public and the press are not lawfully excluded. Any member of the public who attends a meeting and objects to being filmed should advise the Constitutional Services Officer who will instruct that they are not included in the filming.

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MEMBERSHIP OF THE CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE (LIF) IS AS FOLLOWS:
Councillors Fielding, Jabbar and Shah

Item No

6 Local Improvement Fund Project Recommendations (Pages 1 - 10)

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Report to CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE

The Local Improvement Fund – Project Recommendations

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Sean Fielding, Council Leader

Officer Contact: Jonathan Downs (Corporate Policy Lead)

Report Author: Jonathan Downs (Corporate Policy Lead)

Ext. 5691

19 Dec 2019

Reason for Decision

Following the District Review a £500k Local Improvement Fund (LIF) was established to support district priorities. The LIF Cabinet Sub-Committee are asked to review the final scores and comments provided by the advisory panel and agree which applications should receive funding.

Recommendation

Review the Advisory Panel recommendations and agree which should receive LIF Funding.

Reviewing District Working in Oldham**1 Background**

- 1.1 At Annual Council on the 22nd May it was agreed that a Local Improvement Fund (LIF) should be established to support district priorities. The LIF is a £500k capital fund that all elected members and District Teams can access through a bidding process.
- 1.2 The LIF launched in July 2019 and required elected members to submit expressions of interest for funding by the end of September 2019. In total the LIF received 24 expressions of interest.
- 1.3 The LIF Advisory Panel met in November and scored the expressions of interest, recommending that 20 of the expressions of interest be invited to submit full applications.
- 1.4 The deadline for receiving full applications was Friday 13th December 2019. In total the LIF received 19 full applications.
- 1.5 The LIF advisory panel met on Monday 16th December 2019 and scored the full applications. The Advisory Panel's recommendations and comments are included in Appendix 1.
- 1.6 The LIF Cabinet Sub-Committee are asked to review the final recommendations and comments provided by the advisory panel and agree which applications should receive LIF funding, totalling no more than £500k.

2 Options/Alternatives

- 2.1 Do Nothing – This is not a preferable option as the funding needs to be allocated in this financial year.
- 2.2 Review the full Advisory Panel recommendations and agree which should receive LIF Funding – The purpose of the LIF is to support district priorities, allocating funding to projects that demonstrate they meet the required scoring criteria.

3 Recommended Option

- 3.1 Review the Advisory Panel recommendations and agree which should receive LIF Funding.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The Capital Programme includes £0.500m to support the Local Improvement Fund for Districts. Funding requests total around £0.845m of which £0.385m are recommended for approval. Provided the sub-committee approve only the recommended schemes then £0.115m of funding remains available. If the sub-committee wishes to approve additional schemes then the total should not exceed the approved capital programme allocation of £0.500m. Colleagues are reminded that expenditure on all approved schemes must meet the statutory definition of expenditure for capital purposes. (Andy Moran, Assistant Director of Finance)

5 Legal Services Comments

- 5.1 Following the consideration of recommendations from the Local Improvement Fund Advisory Panel, the purpose of the Local Improvement Fund Sub-Committee is to allocate

funding from the Local Improvement Fund to projects across the borough which promote and pursue the aims and objectives of the individual District Priorities.

- 5.2 The Sub-Committee is a constituted meeting of the Council and is subject to the Council's procedure rules, Cabinet procedure rules and the access to information procedure rules, as set out in the Council's Constitution, unless stated otherwise in the terms of reference. (Colin Brittain).

6. **Co-operative Agenda**

- 6.1 As a co-operative council, we are committed to reforming public services and encouraging innovation, leading to better outcomes and delivery. The Local Improvement Fund will ensure that Districts are best able to meet the needs of both elected members and the residents they represent. (Jonathan Downs).

7 **Human Resources Comments**

- 7.1 None

8 **Risk Assessments**

- 8.1 None

9 **IT Implications**

- 9.1 None

10 **Property Implications**

- 10.1 None

11 **Procurement Implications**

- 11.1 None

12 **Environmental and Health & Safety Implications**

- 12.1 None

13 **Equality, community cohesion and crime implications**

- 13.1 None

14 **Equality Impact Assessment Completed?**

- 14.1 No

15 **Key Decision**

- 15.1 No

16 **Key Decision Reference**

- 16.1 N/A

17 **Background Papers**

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- 17.1 Establishing a Local Improvement Fund for Districts – 24.06.2019
 - 18 **Appendices**
 - 18.1 Appendix 1 – Advisory Panel Recommendations and Comments

Appendix 1 – Local Improvement Fund -- Advisory Panel Recommendations

	Amount Requested (The LIF has a total budget of £500k)	Advisory Panel Recommendation	Panel Feedback
Chadderton			
Application 1 – Improving Foxdenton Pavilion: the project aims to bring a derelict building back into community use.	£17k	Fund (The panel recommend providing £10k of LIF funding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project has received fantastic support from partners and residents. • There has clearly been a lot of consultation and engagement. • The outcomes and objectives are clear and measurable. • There appears to be some discrepancy around finances in relation to the additional £7k overspend for window shutters. Where has the money come from to pay for the overspend? • The panel recommend providing £10k of funding for the project, but don't feel the LIF should provide the additional £7k for the project overspend.
Application 2 – Regeneration of Chadderton Town Hall: the project aims to develop a Community Hub, ensuring better use of the facilities available in Chadderton Town Hall.	£40k	Potentially Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project is linked to district priorities and has some understanding of project dependencies. • The panel felt that in places the application was confused, for example, the last paragraph in section 8 refers to Improving Foxdenton Pavilion, not to the regeneration of Chadderton Town Hall. • The panel also had concerns about financial control of the project. Chadderton Together will be managing the funding, but if they don't secure the additional grant funding to complete the work, will the LIF funding be returned?
East Oldham			
Application 3 – Albany Alva Pocket Park: the project aims to make the current greenspace more accessible, safer, and visually appealing.	£20k	Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fantastic application with clearly aligned district priorities and outcomes. • Excellent resident engagement with clearly defined benefits for residents.

Appendix 1 – Local Improvement Fund -- Advisory Panel Recommendations

Application 4 – Safe Play in Alt: the project would take several grassed areas on the Alt Estate and fence them off, creating safe spaces for play for local children.	£45,678	Potentially Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The panel felt that the project lacked innovation and questioned if the proposal would achieve its objectives. The panel has concerns about the ongoing maintenance of the site. Would FCHO be responsible for maintaining the fencing, as well as undertaking regular inspections of the self-closing gates? As the project is looking to fund three separate areas of fencing, could the schemes be prioritised? This would potentially reduce the total funding requested.
Application 5 – Outdoor Gym Equipment: the project aims to create East Oldham's first outdoor gym facility, to provide access to free exercise equipment for local people.	£28,756	Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project has clearly defined aims and objectives. There is clearly a need for this kind of facility in the area, helping local people become more active.
Application 6 – Community Hubs in St. James: the project seeks to support the development of two important community hubs in the St James' Ward, helping to make them more sustainable.	£34,930 to £55,835	Fund (The panel recommend providing £55,835k of LIF funding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project has clearly defined aims and objectives and demonstrated outcomes and benefits clearly. The panel would like to see evidence that the schemes have ongoing community support. Any unused contingency funding should be returned to the LIF. The advisory panel would recommend providing the full £55,835.33 of funding.
Failsworth and Hollinwood			
Application 7 – Deployable CCTV in Hollinwood: the project aims to deploy CCTV in Limeside to identify ASB perpetrators to enable	£15k	Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is clearly evidence that the project would help tackle anti-social behaviour / crime. The panel were pleased to see evidence of resident consultation. Who will pay for the ongoing monitoring charge? This will be £900 per year (£450 for each camera).

Appendix 1 – Local Improvement Fund -- Advisory Panel Recommendations

the relevant action to be taken.			
Application 8 – Hollinwood War Memorial: the project would enhance the Hollinwood War Memorial which is located within the grounds of St Margaret's Church, Chapel Road.	£10,843	Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project has clearly defined aims, objectives and benefits. The outline programme was detailed and clear.
Application 9 – Westminster Gardens: the project aims to create a playable feature that blends into the landscape.	£33,768	Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project would help solve community cohesion issues in Westminster Gardens, leading to better outcomes for local people using the park. The project has clearly defined aims and objectives that align to the District Plan, including aiming to get local people more active.
Royton, Shaw and Crompton			
Application 10 – George St. Skate Park: the project would refurbish and improve the skatepark at George Street playing fields.	£105k - £230k	Potentially Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project is very ambitious, requiring a significant amount of funding to deliver. Previously the panel agreed that other options (for example, a phased approach) should be explored. Further resident / user consultation is required. According to the bid 16 young people have been consulted. This seems low when considering the amount of funding requested. The LIF could potentially contribute to the project, without funding all the work.
Application 11 – Royton High St. Grants: the project aims to provide existing businesses and new start-ups with a	£25k	Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposal is clearly aligned to district priorities, with clear aims and objectives. Any unspent funding should be returned to the LIF.

Appendix 1 – Local Improvement Fund -- Advisory Panel Recommendations

grant of up to £3,000 (to be match funded by the business), to improve the exterior of their buildings including fascia's, shop fronts, signage.			
Application 12 – Trim Trail in High Crompton Park: the project aims to develop a trim trail in High Crompton Park.	£25k	Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Though the project has clear aims and objectives and includes detail on the type of equipment proposed. • Are there any ongoing revenue implications that need highlighting? • How will the annual £3.5k revenue commitment be met? Could the Friends Group be supported to undertake fund raising activities?
Application 13 – Turf Lane Footway: the project aims improve footway widths over the former rail bridge along Turf Lane, Royton in order to reduce risks to pedestrians, motorised scooter users and buggy/pram users.	£27k	Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project has clearly defined aims, objectives and benefits, as well as clear project costings. • There is good evidence of community consultation and support. • Complete plans, including pictures of the area, have been included and make the case for option 2 which will see the road narrowed to single way working with priority signage.
Saddleworth and Lees			
Application 14 – Satellite Centre Greenfield: the project aims to refurbish the Satellite Centre.	£18k	Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The panel agrees that the aims and benefits of the project are clear. • The project is clearly supported by the local community. • The panel requested confirmation that the completion of phase 1 wasn't dependant on securing funding for phase 2, as phase 2 of the proposal currently remains unfunded. This information has now been given and there is no dependency between the phases.
Application 15 – Denshaw Road Safety Scheme: the project	£15,844	Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The panel agreed that this was a good application, with clear aims, objectives and clear costings. • The project is supported by the school, parents and residents.

Appendix 1 – Local Improvement Fund -- Advisory Panel Recommendations

aims to improve Road Safety in Denshaw Village, particularly for parents and children crossing the road when travelling to and from Christchurch School.			
Application 16 – Lees Village Centre: the project would aim to regenerate Lees Village Centre, creating catalyst for increasing community/business activity and involvement.	£23,215	Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project has clearly defined aims, objectives and benefits, as well as clear project costings. • Could local businesses be encouraged to contribute to elements of the project, for example, sponsoring trees or benches? • There is evidence of resident consultation.
West Oldham			
Application 17 – Tudor Street All Weather Pitch: the project aims to resurface an existing needle punch carpet kick pitch. The kick pitch is designated as a school playing field for St Thomas CE primary (Werneth) but is also managed for community use out of school hours by a local sports alliance.	£70k - £122k	Potentially Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Though the project has clear benefits, could opportunities for match funding be explored? • Though the LIF could contribute to the project, the panel would anticipate that other funding is found to support elements of the project.
Application 18 – Martha St. and Ripon St. Play:	£76,260	Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project has clearly defined aims, objectives and benefits, as well as clear project costings.

Appendix 1 – Local Improvement Fund -- Advisory Panel Recommendations

the project would improve an area that bounds Featherstall North and create a haven for flora and fauna where local children can play explore and families can relax.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The project includes detailed plans, showing the landscaping and impact of the project. There are potential revenue implications, potentially around £3.5k per annum. Could we request elected members fund the ongoing revenue implications?
<p>Application 19 – Fence for Fitton Hill Skate Park: the project aims install hoop top fencing around the skate park in Fitton Hill, improving safety for young people.</p>	£16,100	Potentially Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As this is linked to the Northern Roots project, should Northern Roots be asked to contribute funding? Additional consultation is required.
Total Funding Requested:	£647,395 - £845,300		

Total recommended for funding: £384,522

Total remaining budget: £115,478