

CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE (LIF)
Agenda

Date Friday 20 March 2020

Time 2.30 pm

Venue Shaw Room, Civic Centre, Oldham, West Street, Oldham, OL1 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 Tuesday, 17 March 2020.

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.

Please note that anyone using recording equipment both audio and visual will not be permitted to leave the equipment in the room where a private meeting is held.

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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 (LIF)

The Local Improvement Fund – Project Recommendations: Round 2

Portfolio Holder:

Councillor Sean Fielding, Council Leader

Officer Contact: Jonathan Downs (Corporate Policy Lead)

Report Author: Jonathan Downs (Corporate Policy Lead)

Ext. 5691

20 March 2020

Reason for Decision

Following the District Review a £500k Local Improvement Fund (LIF) was established to support district priorities. The first round of the LIF launched in July 2019, with final applications reviewed by the Cabinet Sub-Committee on 19th December 2019, with 14 projects receiving funding, totalling £391,521. A second funding round opened in January 2020 to allocate the remaining £108,479.

The LIF Cabinet Sub-Committee are asked to review the final scores and comments provided by the advisory panel on the second-round applications and agree which applications should receive funding.

Recommendation

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

Reviewing District Working in Oldham

1 Background

- 1.1 At Annual Council on the 22nd May 2019 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 first round of the LIF launched in July 2019, with final applications reviewed by the Cabinet Sub-Committee in December 2019. In total the LIF received 19 full applications, with 14 projects receiving funding, totalling £391,521. This left £108,479 available for further projects.
- 1.3 The Cabinet Sub-Committee requested that a second funding round was held, launching in January 2020. The LIF Advisory Panel met in February 2020 and scored the expressions of interest, recommending that 12 of the expressions of interest be invited to submit full applications.
- 1.4 The deadline for receiving full applications for round 2 was Friday 6th March 2020. In total the LIF received 12 full applications.
- 1.5 The LIF advisory panel met on Tuesday 10th March 2020 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 £108,479.

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 original allocation in the 2019/20 Capital Programme was £0.500m to support the Local Improvement Fund for Districts. To date schemes totalling £0.392m have been approved. The remaining funds of £0.108m can be approved allocating funds to projects within Appendix 1. Colleagues are reminded that expenditure on all approved schemes must meet the statutory definition of expenditure for capital purposes.
- 4.2 A further capital allocation of £0.500m is available across financial years 2020/21 and 2021/22. (Sam Smith)

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- 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**
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- 16.1 N/A
 - 17 **Background Papers**
 - 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 Round 2 -- Advisory Panel Recommendations

	Amount Requested (The LIF has a total remaining budget of £108,479)	Advisory Panel Recommendation	Panel Feedback
Chadderton			
Application 1 – Burnley Lane Traffic Island Scheme: The project will introduce traffic calming measures along Burnley Lane, reducing speeding in the area.	£3,400	Potentially Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The panel welcomed the contribution from elected members, meaning the project is clearly good value for money. • The project clearly aligns to the District Plan, with clearly defined aims and objectives. • A very clear understanding of risk, dependencies and project risks. • There has been a good level of resident consultation, though it would be helpful to undertake additional consultation.
East Oldham			
Application 2 – Beresford Park Green Space Enhancement: The project will enhance an existing green space, supporting biodiversity by adding more trees and shrubs, creating an outdoor venue for community and social events.	£15,744	Potentially Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The panel recognised the value of developing the site, providing additional greenspace for the community. • The project has very clearly defined aims, objectives and benefits. • The panel would like to see a survey undertaken following the delivery of the project, ensuring that the benefits / impacts of the project are measured and can influence future projects. The panel suggested that a measure could be the reduction in ASB on the site. • There is a revenue implication for the project. This will need to be identified in consultation with Environmental Services. • The panel were impressed at the level of consultation undertaken.
Application 3 – Pitt Street Pocket Park Scheme: The project will	£25,039	Potentially Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project refers to the Glodwick values, which clearly aligns to the District Plan. • The project has clear benefits, potentially reducing significant ASB issues.

Appendix 1 – Local Improvement Fund Round 2 -- Advisory Panel Recommendations

create a community space for local people to use all year round, helping bring a disused piece of land back into use.			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the fire pit is built it's essential that training occurs, ensuring that the pit is used appropriately. It would also be helpful to link in with the local schools, youth groups, etc, to raise awareness of fire safety. • The panel were please to see that match funding has been secured. • Any contingency budget that is unspent should be returned to the Local Improvement Fund at the end of the project.
Failsworth and Hollinwood			
Application 4 – Failsworth War Memorial Renewal: The project will restore Failsworth War Memorial, safeguarding our heritage and removing the risk of collapse and potential for injury to the public	£26,315	Potentially Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The panel felt that the project clearly aligns to the District Plan and has clear aims and priorities. • The panel welcomed the contribution from Failsworth councillors. • The panel felt that a key risk could be the ongoing safety of the War Memorial, though this wasn't included in the application. • The application mentions that the project may come over budget, but there doesn't appear to be a contingency amount built into the project budget.
Application 5 – Alder Road Traffic Calming Measures: The project will introduce traffic calming measures along Alder Road, reducing speeding in the area.	£42,700	Potentially Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no benchmarking showing the current number of accidents. Before funding is released, this information would be required to ensure that there is a genuine need for the project. • The panel recommending undertaking a speed survey before and after the delivery of the project, helping demonstrate the impact of the project. • Is there any opportunity for highways to contribute to the project, especially if there is a significant problem with speeding and casualties? • There is no clear timeline for the project and limited consultation has been undertaken, though the panel appreciated that the consultation was planned. • The costings currently lack some detail. The panel would like to see the detail that sits behind the costings.

Appendix 1 – Local Improvement Fund Round 2 -- Advisory Panel Recommendations

<p>Royton, Shaw and Crompton</p>			
<p>Application 6 – Holy Trinity Church Clock Repairs: The project will repair the clock at Holy Trinity Church, Shaw.</p>	<p>£5,280</p>	<p>Potentially Fund</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The panel felt that the project would help with community pride, safeguarding local heritage. • The risks are well considered, mitigating any negative consequences. • If the project was funded, but the community didn't want the strike repaired, the funding should be returned to the Local Improvement Fund. • Any ongoing maintenance for the clock would have to be picked up by the church. The panel recommend that a contract is developed stipulating this before any funding is released. • Confirmation is needed from Finance on whether religious buildings can receive Council funding.
<p>Saddleworth and Lees</p>			
<p>Application 7 – Dobcross Bridge Highway Improvement: The project will improve safety across Dobcross Bridge, widening the pavement and creating a single lane traffic flow across the bridge.</p>	<p>£35,475</p>	<p>Potentially Fund</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The panel agreed that the project has clearly defined aims and benefits, improving road safety across the bridge. • The panel felt that there are probably risks that need to be included, for example, potential road closures while the project is delivered. • The project is clearly costed with excellent levels of resident consultation.
<p>Application 8 – Springhead Community Centre Gardening Project: The project will create a facility for Springhead Community Centre's fledgling gardening group who</p>	<p>£13,329</p>	<p>Potentially Fund</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project clearly aligns to District Plan priorities and has clear aims / objectives. • The panel felt that additional consultation could be undertaken, ensuring as many people are able to be involved in the gardening project as possible. • The panel would like to see evidence that project sustainability has been considered in more depth, for example, are different age groups being encouraged to participate in the project?

Appendix 1 – Local Improvement Fund Round 2 -- Advisory Panel Recommendations

would like to cultivate the rear outside space.			
Application 9 – Friezland Arena Improvements: The project will complete the renewal of the arena fencing and the repairs to the arena base so that the arena remains in use.	£18,410	Potentially Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The panel recognised that the facility was well used by a range of different groups. • Though the panel recognised that other funding sources has been explored, they would like to see if additional fundraising options could be explored, for example crowdfunding? • If the group was disestablished how would the arena continue to operate? Could additional groups be encouraged to help?
West Oldham			
Application 10 – OBA Millennium Centre Heating and Cooling Systems: The project will upgrade and install new heating and cooling systems at the OBA Millennium Cultural Centre.	£10,500k - £62,500k	Potentially Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The project clearly aligns to the District Plan priorities and supports our Thriving Communities agenda. • The panel were pleased that mitigations have been included for the identified risks. • The timeline for the project is extremely clear. • The consultation has been undertaken with local groups, though the panel would like to see further evidence of wider community engagement. • The panel appreciated that the funding was broken down into stages and suggested funding the heating system boilers totalling £37,000.
Application 11 – Tamworth St Parking Area: The project will provide increased off-street parking spaces in a neighbourhood with little/no off-street parking facilities.	£18,000 - £55,000	Don't Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The panel felt that the project didn't clearly align to the District Plan, though it does have clear aims and objectives. However, the panel were concerned about the removal of greenspace in an urban area. • The panel were concerned that the project would encourage additional congestion and parking. Does this project align to our aim of reducing carbon emissions in Oldham? • There appears to be enough parking bays provided for the number of houses on Tamworth Street. • It's unclear if all the properties backing onto the proposed parking area have been consulted.

Appendix 1 – Local Improvement Fund Round 2 -- Advisory Panel Recommendations

<p>Application 12 – Tudor Street All Weather Pitch (Resubmission from Round 1): The project will refurbish a well-used local asset which will benefit a wide cross section of the community and provide a space where people can come together to engage in physical activity.</p>	<p>£20,000</p>	<p>Potentially Fund</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The panel were pleased to see that the recommendations from round 1 had been taken on board, with a much lower amount of funding requested for the project.
<p>Total Funding Requested:</p>	<p>£234,192 - £323,192</p>		

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