

***CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE (LIF)***  
***Agenda***

Date Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Time 2.00 pm

Venue Shaw Room, Civic Centre, West Street, Oldham, OL1 1NL

Notes 1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST- If a Member requires 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 Peter Thompson at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

2. CONTACT details for this agenda are available from the Constitutional Services team telephone – 0161 7705151 or via email [constitutional.services@oldham.gov.uk](mailto:constitutional.services@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 12.00 noon on Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE (LIF)  
Councillors Jabbar, Shah and Taylor

Item No

1 Election of Chair

The Panel is asked to elect a Chair for the duration of the meeting.

2 Apologies For Absence

3 Urgent Business

Urgent business, if any, introduced by the Chair

4 Declarations of Interest

To Receive Declarations of Interest in any Contract or matter to be discussed at the meeting.

5 Public Question Time

To receive Questions from the Public, in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

6 Minutes of Previous Meeting (Pages 1 - 4)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023 are attached for approval.

7 Consideration of LIF Bids 2023/24 (Pages 5 - 14)

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.



**Present:** Councillors Jabbar, Shah and Taylor

Also in Attendance:

Glenn Dale	Head of Environmental Services
Jonathan Downs	Strategy, Partnerships and Policy
Mahmuda Khanon	Policy Support Officer
Paul Rogers	Constitutional Services

**1 ELECTION OF CHAIR**

Resolved – That Councillor Shah be elected Chair for the duration of the meeting.

**2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence received.

**3 URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of urgent business received.

**4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest received.

**5 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

There were no public questions for this meeting of the Sub-Committee to consider.

**6 MINUTES**

RESOLVED – That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet Sub-Committee (LIF) held on 14 February 2023, be approved as a correct record.

**7 CONSIDERATION OF LIF BIDS 2023/24**

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

RESOLVED – That

The following requests for funding for East District were considered and agreed:

2. LEES RBL - £500 agreed
4. Springfield AFC Development - £500 agreed
5. LSG Litter Heroes - £1100 agreed
6. Afghan Park Refurbishment - £2800 agreed
7. Growing Hub in the Friends of Stoneleigh Park – £1,359.27 - agreed
9. Moorside Cricket and Bowling Club Bowling Green Perimeter Refurbishment - £2,500 agreed
10. Community Defibrillators - £3,500 agreed
11. Securing Waterhead Community Centre - £3,500 agreed

The following requests for funding for the Central District were considered and agreed:

12. Oldham Fighting Obesity - £3,429 agreed
14. Bar Gap Road growing project and bulb planting – £3,500 agreed
15. Featherstall Flora - £3,500 agreed
17. Millenium Centre Refurbishment - £1,750 agreed
19. Don't Trash Hathershaw - £3,500 agreed
21. Establishing Girls Cricket at Glodwick Cricket Club – £3,495 agreed



The following requests for funding for the North District were considered and agreed:

22. Royton Town AFC - £1,500 agreed
24. Shaw Road End Park - £1,800 agreed
25. Heyside Community Alleyways - £3,400 agreed
26. Heyside Public Rights of Way - £3,000 agreed
27. Harry Street Unadopted Road - £3,500 agreed
28. Hopwood Garden Enhancements - £847.93 agreed

The following requests for funding for the West District were considered and agreed:

29. Planting in an Urban Street - £580 agreed
31. Improving Built Planter o Cambridge Street - £580 agreed
32. Fernhurst Allotment Society - £3,500 agreed
33. Springbank Bowling Club-Fully Inclusive - £3240 agreed
34. Promoting the Development of Chadderton -£1,800 agreed
35. Darker Nights - £3,481 agreed
36. Granby Street Westland Area - £3,500 agreed

The following requests for funding for the South District: District were considered and agreed:

40. Coppice Play Area - £1300 agreed
41. Coppice Community Garden - £3,500 agreed
44. Kennedy Street Alleygate - £3,500 agreed
46. Medlock Vale Clean Up - £450 agreed
47. Westminster Gardens - £3,500 agreed
48. Lower Memorial Park, Failsworth - £3,450 agreed
50. Day Drive – Community Garden and Grow Hub Project in Conjunction with FCHO - £3,500 agreed

The following request for funding in the South be deferred:

38. West Youth Kicks - £3,500 deferred

The following request for funding in the said districts be rejected:

1. SCCPs 'Become Your Style' Community Fashion Show £2,050 rejected
3. Hey with Zion PTFA, East District - £3,480 rejected
8. Sensory Garden in Stoneleigh Park, East District –

- £3,500 rejected
13. Neighbourhood Revive by Oldham Greenhill, Central District - £3,480 rejected
  16. Northmoor Library new residents support and engagement, Central District - £2,500 rejected
  18. Holts and Alt Improvement Plan, Central District - £3,500 rejected
  20. Abbey Hills Road continued improvement, Central District - £3,500 rejected
  23. District Planters for Royton, North District - £1,7 rejected
  30. Coppice and Wernerth Community Garden Project, West District - £3,475 rejected
  37. Chadderton Cricket Club, West District - £3,500 rejected
  42. Medlock Clean Sweep, South District - £3,500 rejected
  43. Medlock Edu Neighbourhood, South District - £3,500 rejected
  45. Festival Celebrations, South District - £3,400 rejected
  49. Pocket Park – Between Beech Street and Ash Street, South District – £3,500 rejected

The following request for funding for the South District was not considered:

39. Avro Football Club – Not considered

The meeting started at 11.15 am and ended at 12.16 pm

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**Report to CABINET SUB-COMMITTEE**

## **The Local Improvement Fund – February 2024 Capital Project Recommendations**

**Portfolio Holder:**

Councillor Arooj Shah, Council Leader

**Officer Contact:** Steve Hughes (Assistant Director, Strategy and Performance)

**Report Author:** Jonathan Downs (Corporate Policy Lead)

**19 February 2024**

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### **Reason for Decision**

The Local Improvement Fund (LIF) in 2023/24 includes £400,000 allocated as “capital grants” for projects of £10,000 or more to improve Oldham’s neighborhoods for the benefit of residents. 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 In 2023/24 the Local Improvement Fund (LIF) has again been divided into two, with £400,000 distributed as capital grants and £100,000 as “fast grants” of between £500 and £3,500. This paper focuses on the administration of the £400,000 capital grants.
- 1.2 The deadline for expressions of interest to the capital fund was 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023. In total 32 proposals were received. The Advisory Panel were asked to score the applications, using the same scoring matrix as in previous years. This involved rating each element of the bid out of five according to the extent to which the proposal:
- Addresses one or more key priority
  - Has clearly defined aims and objectives
  - Demonstrates the outcomes and benefits clearly
  - Evidences an understanding of project dependencies
  - Evidences resident consultation and support
  - Evidences project costing
- 1.3 The LIF Advisory Panel met in November and scored the expressions of interest, recommending that 19 of the expressions of interest be invited to submit full applications.
- 1.4 The deadline for receiving full applications was Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024. In total we received 19 full applications for the capital fund.
- 1.5 The LIF advisory panel met in February 2024 and scored the full applications. Following the moderation of scores, the panel agreed that anything scoring over 21 should automatically go through to the sub-committee. The panel then had a conversation about any application that scored between 15 – 20, rejecting or recommending the applications based on their collective analysis.
- 1.6 The Advisory Panel’s recommendations and comments are included in Appendix 1. Please note, 14 applications have been recommended by the advisory panel totalling £430,108 of spend.
- 1.7 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 £400k.

### **2 Options/Alternatives**

- 2.1 Do Nothing – This is not a preferable option as the funding needs to be allocated in this financial year.



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- 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 £0.400m to support the Local Improvement Fund for Districts as outlined in this report. Colleagues are reminded that expenditure on all approved schemes must meet the statutory definition of expenditure for capital purposes.

### **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, Assistant Borough Solicitor).

### **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 – Corporate Policy Lead).

### **7 Human Resources Comments**

- 7.1 None

### **8 Risk Assessments**

- 8.1 None

### **9 IT Implications**

- 9.1 None

### **10 Property Implications**

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- 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**
  - 17.1 Establishing a Local Improvement Fund for Districts – 24.06.2019
  - 17.2 The Local Improvement Fund 2022/23 – 14.11.2022
  - 18 **Appendices**
  - 18.1 Appendix 1 – Local Improvement Fund Capital Grants February 2024 – Advisory Panel Recommendations

Bid Name	Ward	Funding Requested	Score	Recommended Funding Allocated	Comments
<b>Central</b>					
<b>Application 1 – Eldon Street Estate Play Area:</b> To update and improve the existing children’s play area in one of our poorer and more outdated housing estates.	Alexandra	£35,155.00	22	£35,155.00	Recommend for funding.
<b>Application 2 – Shadowbrook/Sandringham Play Area:</b> To refurbish and expand an existing community play area located on Shadowbrook Close	Coldhurst	£17,303.00	22	£17,303.00	Recommend for funding.
<b>Application 3 – Oldham Edge Play Area:</b> To transform the play space by making it an area that is accessible, visually appealing, and for the community to view it as an asset that will improve their wellbeing and the environment as well as a space that they can be proud of.	Coldhurst	£23,017.59	23	£23,017.59	Recommend for funding.
<b>Application 4 – West End Street Kickpitch:</b> To assess how a community or voluntary organisation could takeover the West End St kickpitch (inc associated building and land), attract funding, refurbish the area, and run an effective and sustainable community resource for the benefit of local people.	Coldhurst	£29,500.00	22	£29,500.00	Recommend for funding.
<b>Application 5 – Installation of a non-turf pitch at The Meadows Sports Courts:</b> To revitalise the playing field area at The Meadows Sports Courts, Glodwick with the installation of a non-turf cricket wicket in order to create a recreational cricket pitch and a new slide for the nearby play-area.	St Marys	£43,125.00	23	£43,125.00	Recommend for funding.

East					
<b>Application 6 – Cooper Street Road Safety:</b> To introduce a 20mph zone with associated traffic calming measures to address road and pedestrian safety issues on Cooper Street, Springhead.	Saddleworth West and Lees	£43,000.00	21	£43,000.00	Recommend for funding. This is the second time this project has been submitted for consideration to the LIF.
<b>Application 7 – Dobcross Park:</b> To make much needed improvements to Dobcross play park and will meet the council corporate priority 'Transforming and improving Oldham's neighbourhoods'.	Saddleworth Noth	£28,583.50	24	£28,583.50	Recommend for funding. Reference to an 'All Ability Swing', but no reference in the plans, so needs clarifying.
<b>Application 8 – Stoneleigh Park Play Area:</b> To extend the 25-year-old existing play offer and add new, fit for purpose, exciting, equipment and features that will enable the community to come together and connect again after a difficult few years.	St James	£30,000.00	23	£30,000.00	Recommend for funding.
North					
<b>Application 9 – Improvement to Growing Hub:</b> To improve the condition and facilities of the growing hub at Dunwood Park and carry out repair of willow Sculpture.	Shaw	£17,850.00	20	£17,850.00	Recommend for funding.
<b>Application 10 – High Crompton Park Toilets &amp; Sports Facilities Improvements:</b> To improve the condition and facilities of the tennis court and MUGA at High Crompton Park to allow residents and visitors to the park to utilise all facilities.	High Crompton	£50,149.00	20	£0.00	LTA funding now secured, so no LIF funding required.
<b>Application 11 – Wendlebury Green Playground:</b> To provide improved play equipment at the small park at Wendlebury Green.	High Crompton	£36,850.00	22	£36,850.00	Recommend for funding.

South					
<b>Application 12 – Creating a safe green space for the Medlock Vale Community:</b> To develop the green field adjoining to Coppice Primary Academy and enclosed in between New Rd, Sheraton Rd and Upland Rd.	Medlock	£15,724.32	21	£15,724.32	Recommend for funding.
<b>Application 13 – Wildbrook Community Food &amp; Growing Hub (Food Hub Renovation):</b> To revitalise the abandoned Community Allotment and develop a Growing Hub and in the 2nd phase (2024) renovating the vandalised building as a Community Food Hub.	Medlock	£32,000.00	21	£32,000.00	Recommend for funding.
<b>Application 14 – Coppice Pathway Project:</b> Bridging Oldham's Communities: To urgently transform this treacherous and extensively fly-tipped site into a secure pathway, revolutionising the neighbourhood and facilitating access to local businesses, community hubs, and the Mosque.	Medlock	£29,000.00	18	£0.00	This project is very reliant on additional external funding. The applications needs to be clearer in terms of delivery. The application is also unclear in terms of the full funding breakdown.
West					
<b>Application 15 – Victoria St Pocket Park:</b> To bring the site back in to community use. To design out crime and anti-social behaviour. To encourage social inclusion and reduce isolation through community activities taking place on site.	Chadderton North	£10,000.00	20	£10,000.00	Recommend for funding.
<b>Application 16 – Car Park, Crossley Playing Fields:</b> To increase safety for residents and improve the	Chadderton Central	£24,500.00	17	£0.00	There are community safety concerns as this

community currently suffering long term anti-social behaviour through cars meeting to play loud music, smoke, drink, do 'donuts' and carnal activity.					project is reliant on residents and the restaurant to manage the barrier.
<b>Application 17 – Improving Road Safety in Chadderton:</b> To promote a greater degree of road safety for pedestrians and motorists alike at a number of specific locations within the ward.	Chadderton North	£18,000.00	20	£18,000.00	Recommend for funding.
<b>Application 18 – Improving Facilities in Chadderton Hall Park:</b> To enhance facilities in Chadderton Hall Park in support of a planning application to increase parking facilities within the park.	Chadderton North	£20,000.00	22	£20,000.00	Recommend for funding.
<b>Application 19 – Micro Wood, Granby Street Wetlands:</b> To improve and transform this area of green space in our neighbourhood with natural solutions to improve the environment, manage flood and drought risks, create a mosaic of habitats for nature and improve access to quality green space supporting the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors.	Chadderton South	£45,609.74	19	£0.00	The Advisory Panel appreciated the ambition of the proposal but felt that the application needed strengthening to justify the requested spend.
<b>Delayed Applicants – East</b>					
<b>Application 20 – Whitehall Lane Park Refreshment:</b> To refresh the Whitehall Lane Park playing area, ensuring that good quality play equipment is available to residents in the Moorside area.	St James	£30,000.00	22	£30,000.00	Recommend for funding.

<b>Application 21 – Arundel Park Multi Games Area:</b> To create a multi-game space in the heavily built-up area of Clarksfield, with a significant population under 18.	Waterhead	£52,200.00	15	£0.00	The Advisory Panel felt that the application was poorly written and lacked impact for the funding requested.
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**£631,567.15**

**£430,108.41**

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