

**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**

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### **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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> March 2020. In total the LIF received 12 full applications.
- 1.5 The LIF advisory panel met on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> 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

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