

Funding Report

Summary of report

This report seeks to inform the Local Neighbourhood Partnership of the progress to date with regards to the funding priorities 2005-2006.

Recommendations

The LNP is asked to note progress on projects

To explore potential project proposals that meets the 2006-2007 funding criteria.

Progress on active projects

Lindrosa Road Railway line hotspot by Hardwick Wood

An update of the project was given at the Safer Stronger Community Action Group on 25th September 2006. The proposals for the site are being consulted upon by Safer Walsall Borough Partnership. Regular updates of the project will be provided at the Safer Stronger CAG's.

Proposals for benches at Aldridge Parade and resurfacing the land by Bosty Lane are currently been worked upon and will be presented to the CAG and LNP.

There is £8,500 remaining to spend from the resource allocation from 2005-2006 and £10,000 from the 2006-2007 resource allocation.

The Safer Stronger CAG on 16th November 2006 will look to explore future projects for LNP funding based upon LNP pledges and criteria. The recommendations from the CAG will be brought back to the LNP meeting on 11th December 2006.

The criteria and process for the 2006-2007 resource allocation has been enclosed in appendix 1, this will be used at the Safer Stronger CAG to identify suitable funding projects.

Contact Officer

Parveen Sangha
Senior Neighbourhood Partnerships Officer
Tel: 01922 654701 Mob: 07921872232
Email: sanghap@walsall.gov.uk

Local Neighbourhood Partnerships Funding

Each of the Local Neighbourhood Partnerships have been allocated £5,000 per ward to help them support initiatives in their local community.

Please see below a guide to:

- Funding criteria 2006-2007- what the funding may be used for
- Funding process – the process that needs to be adhered to, to release the funding

Funding criteria

To be eligible for funding, initiatives will have to link in with the following criteria:

Strategic linkage:

- They need to be actions which fall within one of the pledges identified by the LNP in their Neighbourhood Agreement
- The action will need to link into the priorities for Vision 2008. In particular to “Ensure a clean and green borough”
- Prioritisation should be given by the LNP to the delivery of 3 environmental projects in their LNP area, which is a Council pledge for 2007/08. The LNP should aim to fund initiatives that will have the greatest environmental impact across their area, not necessarily on a ward by ward basis.
- The activities/actions need to have a direct impact on Local Area Agreement indicators.

Sustainability:

- The actions need to be ‘sustainable’- therefore they should not need further funding or maintenance in the future, unless further funding or a maintenance agreement has been identified elsewhere. Actions eligible under this criteria are:
 - ‘one-off actions’, which need no further maintenance/ funding, for example: an event
 - Actions which kick start a bigger initiative- for example: to fund a pilot project which can be rolled out through other funding (already identified) if proved to be successful
 - Actions which support a ‘capital’ investment where maintenance or further funding is agreed. For example: the funding of a bin, after having agreed with Street Pride that they will empty this bin regularly.
 - Actions which ‘add value’. For example: funding of equipment to support the expansion of a service/community based project.
- A menu/basket of measures is available to assist LNPs in identifying and prioritising actions and activities that they wish to fund. This has been compiled from Streetpride, Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership and Environmental Regeneration.
- Actions that **can not** be funded include: Core funding for a community or other project- as this is not sustainable unless the funding is to bridge a gap between already identified funds.

Applicants:

- Actions need to be carried out by the council or by its partners (tPCT, Police, Community Organisations, etc). If the project is carried out by a partner this should be through a grant agreement (for more information on grant agreements- see 'funding process'.)

Geographic criteria:

- Actions need to have a positive impact on the whole partnership area. The LNP will need to ensure the whole partnership area benefits from the funding. Preferably by funding projects that benefit the whole partnership area, rather than a specific area/ ward. Cross boundary projects, working with other LNP's, are also encouraged.
- There needs to be a focus on hotspots/areas of greatest need, as identified by community intelligence and local data. Therefore funding should not necessarily be split by ward but by areas of greatest need.

Please contact the Neighbourhood Partnerships Team if you want advice on whether your project proposal links into the criteria or need any advice on filling out the project proposal form.

Funding Process

The funding process has been amended slightly in August 2007 to ensure a quicker turn around of projects.

Please see below a step by step guide to the new process. Please bear in mind that the timescales involved are individual to each project and are dependent on a number of factors. The LNP team aim to keep the LNP informed of progress through the designated LNP member and at LNP meetings.

Please see the table on the next pages for the funding process.

Funding Process

1. Priority needs are identified through the Neighbourhood Agreement pledges.



2. The LNP identifies an action that supports the pledge.

This may happen by the LNP, for example in a Community Action Group, or individual LNP members may initiate this.



3. A designated LNP member will be identified to follow through the action.

This LNP member will be kept informed on progress. If the action is initiated by an individual and it has not been shared with the LNP yet, they will be the designated contact.



4. A service area/ partner organisation (including Community organisations) (from now on referred to as the 'delivery agent') which can deliver the action will be identified.

The delivery agent may be identified by the LNP, but this may also be initiated by an individual. The LNP may ask the Neighbourhood Partnership Officer for support in identifying a suitable 'delivery agent' from within the Council or from the WBSP Nominated Partners. – Please be aware the identification of a suitable delivery agent may take some time. The designated LNP Member will be kept informed of any barriers.



5. The delivery agent will need to identify a nominated contact within their organisation who will work on the project. The Neighbourhood Partnerships Team will need to be informed of the details of the contact person.



6. The nominated contact will be sent the project proposal form with the request to complete it.



7. The Project Proposal form will need to be returned to the LNP team. Upon receipt the project team will check it for eligibility



8. If eligible, the project will be taken to the LNP meeting for the LNP for consideration.



8. If not eligible, the LNP team will contact all relevant people to explain why the project is not eligible. They are entitled to resubmit their application with amendments.

Continue on next page

Continuation previous page

9. If, at the LNP meeting, the LNP agree to fund the project, based on the information on the project proposal form, the Chair will sign and date the form.

10. The form will be returned to the Neighbourhood Partnerships team and the delivery agent will be sent a memo in which they are told they may commence the project.

10A. If the delivery agent is a Council department, they will also be sent a claim for reimbursement form which needs to be completed and returned with evidence of spend and of completion. This will be required for monitoring purposes and to enable monies to be released after completion of the project

10B. If the delivery agent is outside the council they will be sent a grant agreement which they need to sign and return. They will also be sent a claim for reimbursement form for monitoring purposes, but will receive the funding upon return of the grant agreement, rather than after the completion of the project.