

**WIRRAL COUNCIL**

**WALLASEY CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE**

**22 JANUARY 2015**

<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>YOUR WIRRAL (WALLASEY): BID YW2 STRIDING OUT CIC</b>
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED:</b>	<b>LEASOWE &amp; MORETON EAST; LISCARD; MORETON WEST &amp; SAUGHALL MASSIE; NEW BRIGHTON; SEACOMBE AND WALLASEY.</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>CONSTITUENCY MANAGER</b>
<b>RESPONSIBLE PORTFOLIO HOLDER:</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR GEORGE DAVIES NEIGHBOURHOODS, HOUSING &amp; ENGAGEMENT</b>
<b>KEY DECISION?</b>	<b>NO</b>

**1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1.1 This report seeks a decision by Wallasey Constituency Committee as to bid YW2 to Your Wirral (Wallasey) by Striding Out CIC for a Digital & IT Skills for Employability Project.

**2.0 BACKGROUND**

2.1 At Wallasey Constituency Committee Working Group on 1 October 2014 a decision was made to award Your Wirral (Wallasey) grants amounting to a total of £61,733.42 to social sector groups (minute 20 of the Working Group refers). A decision in relation to bid number YW2 (Digital & IT Skills for Employability) for £2,485 was deferred for further information, namely whether there was a gap in provision that this project would fill.

2.2 The Your Wirral (Wallasey) Fund was overspent by £11,733.42 and at Wallasey Constituency Committee on 23 October 2014, the Constituency Manager identified alternative funding to allocate to this overspend (minute 20 of the Committee refers). The Constituency Manager also provided additional information in relation to bid YW2 by Striding Out CIC, proposed to be delivered from Vale House Community Centre, New Brighton. The Constituency Manager reported that the Council's Lifelong Learning Team had recently commissioned Striding Out CIC to deliver a project to 160 learners also from Vale House Community Centre. The Team was satisfied that this would provide adequate coverage from this geographical location. The Committee requested further information regarding the bid, in particular where there were any overlaps/duplication with the project currently funded, and asked that the applicant attend the next Committee meeting to answer any further questions

that the Committee may have. The details of bid YW2 are set out in Appendix 1.

2.3 Appendix 2 sets out an extract from Striding Out CIC's bid document to the Council's Lifelong Learning Team which outlines the contents of the courses currently funded. Striding Out CIC has been commissioned to provide courses (as outlined in Appendix 2) for 160 learners before July 2015. In December 2014 the contract was reviewed and at that time only 5 learners had been recruited. The Team is satisfied that Striding Out CIC has advertised the courses well but that there does not appear to be sufficient demand in the area.

2.4 The Committee is requested to make a decision as to whether this bid YW2 submitted to Your Wirral is funded.

### 3.0 Budget 2014/15

3.1 At Wallasey Constituency Committee on 23 October 2014, decisions were made as to its uncommitted budget of £46,306.73, which included £5,950 set aside for its Problem Solving Fund (minute 20 of the Committee refers). £24,780 was committed to various projects to tackle the Constituency's priorities. In addition, a maximum of £20,000 was set aside for the erection of Christmas lights in key locations across the Constituency allowing for any contingencies. This left £1,526.73 allocated to the Problem Solving Fund.

3.2 A total of £16,237.96 was spent on Christmas lighting. The remaining £3,762.04 has therefore been returned to the Problem Solving Fund, leaving a total of £5,288.77 unspent by the Committee and set aside in its Problem Solving Fund.

3.3 If the Committee wishes to fund YW2 it will do so from this Problem Solving Fund.

3.4 A full update on the 2014/15 budget spend will be provided to the Constituency Committee at its meeting on 16 April 2015. This will include an evaluation of projects in receipt of Wallasey Bright Ideas Fund (Year 1). The funding available to the Committee for 2015/16 is not yet known.

### 4.0 **RELEVANT RISKS**

4.1 Failure to agree the distribution of funding may result in a loss of funding allocation.

### 5.0 **OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

5.1 Learning has been taken from the approach to this spend in 2013/14.

### 6.0 **CONSULTATION**

6.1 Elected members and community representatives have the opportunity to participate in all Constituency Committees and Working Group meetings.

## **7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND FAITH GROUPS**

7.1 Both Wallasey Bright Ideas Fund and Your Wirral funding has been allocated to a number of voluntary, community and faith groups and 'not-for-profit' organisations.

7.2 The neighbourhood working model will strengthen the Council's relationship with the voluntary, community and faith sector.

7.3 Tackling the priorities of the Constituency will benefit communities directly.

## **8.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FINANCIAL; IT; STAFFING; AND ASSETS**

8.1 This report has implications for the expenditure of budget allocated to Wallasey Constituency Committee.

8.2 Funding may assist in greater use of and/or access to community assets.

## **9.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 The arrangements will help the Council to deliver on the Localism Act 2011 and Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012.

9.2 Advice has been taken from Internal Audit regarding the operation of the small grants programmes.

## **10.0 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 Has the potential impact of your proposal(s) been reviewed with regard to equality?

Yes and impact review can be found at the link below (Progressing Neighbourhood Working).

<http://www.wirral.gov.uk/my-services/community-and-living/equality-diversity-cohesion/equality-impact-assessments/eias-2010/chief-executives>

## **11.0 CARBON REDUCTION IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 The funding creates opportunities to encourage the sharing of community assets, therefore supporting carbon reduction.

## **12.0 PLANNING AND COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 A number of the priorities and areas of focus set by the Committee will likely have a positive impact upon community safety.

## **13.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is recommended that:

13.1 The Committee decides whether it wishes to fund Bid YW2: Striding Out CIC.

13.2 The Committee notes that an update on the budget will be reported to the next Constituency Committee meeting on 16 April 2015.

#### 14.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

14.1 To enable the work of the Constituency Committee to be focused upon the needs of the local area and spend to be distributed accordingly.

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#### SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Cabinet – Neighbourhood Working	24 January 2013
Council – Neighbourhood Working	11 February 2013
Cabinet – Neighbourhood Working – Proposed Operating Model	23 May 2013
Cabinet – Public Health Outcomes Funding	10 October 2013
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Constituency Priorities and Spend	11 December 2013
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Constituency Priorities and Spend	19 February 2014
Cabinet – Local Transport Capital Funding & The Integrated Transport Block (ITB) Programme 2014/15	13 May 2014
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Constituency Priorities and Spend	26 June 2014
Wallasey Constituency Committee Working Group – Wallasey Bright Ideas Fund	17 September 2014
Wallasey Constituency Committee Working Group – Integrated Transport Block Capital Programme Fund	1 October 2014
Wallasey Constituency Committee Working Group – Your Wirral	1 October 2014
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Constituency Priorities and Spend	23 October 2014