

Constituency Committee - Wallasey
Thursday, 6 July 2017

REPORT TITLE:	WALLASEY CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEE BUDGET AND SPEND
REPORT OF:	Director for Health & Wellbeing

REPORT SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the Constituency Committee's available spend and outlines the Committee's budget for 2017/18, seeking decisions around how that budget is allocated.

The work of Wallasey Constituency Committee contributes to a range of Wirral Plan 2020 pledges and neighbourhood working is key to delivery of the Plan.

This report affects all Wards within the Wallasey Constituency (Leasowe & Moreton East, Moreton West & Saughall Massie, Liscard, New Brighton, Seacombe and Wallasey).

This is not a key decision.

RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATION 1: The Committee decides how to allocate its underspends of £8,691.

RECOMMENDATION 2: The Committee notes the balance on its Problem Solving Fund of £13,340.

RECOMMENDATION 3: The Committee gives consideration to the recommendations for spend from Keep Britain Tidy and decides whether to allocate its remaining funding of £3,930.83 to one or more of the proposals outlined.

RECOMMENDATION 4: The Committee reviews the proposals made and decides which to fund from the balance of the Transport Plan for Growth Fund (£3,596.93).

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

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

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 2.1 Learning has been taken from this Committee's spend throughout its operation.

3.0 UPDATE ON CURRENT POSITION

3.1 2014/15 Underspends

3.1.1 LGBT Youth Provision and Navajo Merseyside LGBT Charter Mark Status (£2,005)

- 3.1.2 Funding was allocated to this project by Wallasey Constituency Committee (23 October 2014, minute 20 refers) to assist Wirral Council's Wallasey Youth Hub (Wirral Youth Support Service) develop its provision for LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) young people. This included increased marketing, facilitating greater access to the service through the provision of free travel 'saveaway' tickets and work towards Navajo Charter Mark Status.

- 3.1.3 In May 2015 Wallasey Youth Hub was awarded Navajo Charter Mark Status, which is a signifier of good practice, commitment and knowledge of the specific needs, issues and barriers facing LGBT people in Merseyside. There was a set criterion to be met in order to achieve the status. £505 was spent subsidising the cost of travel 'saveaways', which were subsequently distributed at no cost to young people that identified as LGBT who were struggling to access the provision and £40.25 spent on Brook Wirral leaflets.

- 3.1.4 The service is now heavily promoted through word-of-mouth. No further funding is required to support this work.

- 3.1.5 The remaining funding allocated to this project (**£1,460**) is an underspend and is therefore available for the Committee's reallocation.

3.1.6 Inspirational Community Volunteer Intergenerational Project (£5,000)

- 3.1.7 Funding was allocated to this project by Wallasey Constituency Committee (23 October 2014, minute 20 refers) to recruit local community volunteers with passion and expertise to deliver sessions in Wirral Council's Wallasey Youth Hub. This programme of activity was to be managed by the Council's Youth Support Service. A marketing campaign was launched (imagery attached in Appendix 1) with £274 spent on printing posters. There was initial interest in the project and the Youth

Support Service ran an introductory induction event. Unfortunately however due to increasing demands and a move towards greater targeted activity, the Youth Support Service was unable to commit the resources to deliver this project in the longer term.

3.1.8 The remaining funding allocated to this project (**£4,726**) is an underspend and is therefore available for the Committee's reallocation.

3.1.9 Facilitating the provision of diversionary activities for young people (£2,505)

3.1.10 Funding was allocated to this project by Wallasey Constituency Committee (23 October 2014, minute 20 refers) to enable three youth workers from Wirral Council's Youth Support Service to undertake external training to qualify them to drive a minibus, helping to facilitate diversionary activities for young people.

3.1.11 Due to changes in personnel it was not possible to train the individuals originally identified. Efforts were made to seek alternative staff members over a period of time. Following this the role of the service became more targeted and it has been recently concluded that this training is therefore no longer required.

3.1.12 The funding allocated to this project (**£2,505**) is an underspend and is therefore available for the Committee's reallocation.

3.2 **2017/2018**

3.2.1 The Council's budget for 2017-18 (6 March 2017, minute 125 refers) included a one year pause in spending on Constituency Committees (i.e. a pause in respect of £50,000 core budget for each the four Committees), with an expectation that any underspends in Constituency Committee budgets would be used in this financial year. The uncommitted spend available, as outlined in 3.1.5, 3.1.8 and 3.1.12 above is **£8,691**.

3.2.2 **RECOMMENDATION 1: The Committee decides how to allocate its underspends of £8,691.**

3.2.3 The Council's budget also included an amount of £50,000 for allocation through the Constituency Committees to further support community clean ups and related activities (6 March 2017, minute 125 refers). The details of this allocation have yet to be determined.

3.3 Problem Solving Fund

3.3.1 The Problem Solving Fund is set aside for low spend items that will provide a quick response to issues and/or allow a new approach to be tested that may ultimately lead to improvements within the Constituency. The Committee Handbook states that the Chair of Wallasey Constituency Committee is authorised by the Committee to spend from the Problem

Solving Fund in individual amounts of £500 or less (28 September 2016, minute 14 refers); reportable to the next Constituency Committee.

3.3.2 Since the last meeting the following spend has been agreed:

Item	Amount
Installation of safety railings outside the Heart of Egremont, Guildford Street, Egremont, to prevent children exiting the facility directly onto the road. The Heart of Egremont will make an additional £150 contribution towards the cost of this (total cost £650).	£500

3.3.3 **£13,340** remains in the Problem Solving Fund.

3.3.4 **RECOMMENDATION 2: The Committee notes the balance on its Problem Solving Fund of £13,340.**

3.4 Community Clean Ups

3.4.1 Wallasey Constituency Committee was allocated £10,000 for activity that encourages waste prevention, increases recycling and/or encourages behaviour change (Budget Council, 24 February 2015, minute 112 refers).

3.4.2 Further to the meeting of Wallasey Constituency Committee on 6 April 2017 (minute 34 refers) **£3,930.83** remains within this budget.

3.4.3 At the meeting of Wallasey Constituency Committee on 6 April 2017 (minute 34 refers) it was agreed that enquiries would be made by the Constituency Manager with Keep Britain Tidy as to any recommendations they may have around this spend. Appendix 2 sets out a proposal from Keep Britain Tidy for the Committee's consideration. It should be noted that the Wirral Smokefree Strategy (Wirral Residents Live Healthier Lives Pledge, Wirral Plan 2020) seeks to encourage behaviour change towards people quitting smoking and reduce where possible the visibility of smoking, rather than creating designated smoking zones.

3.4.4 **RECOMMENDATION 3: The Committee gives consideration to the recommendations for spend from Keep Britain Tidy and decides whether to allocate its remaining funding of £3,930.83 to one or more of the proposals outlined.**

3.5 Transport Plan for Growth

3.5.1 Cabinet on 18 July 2016 (minute 24 refers) agreed that each Constituency Committee would be allocated £32,500 from the Transport Plan for Growth for local schemes to address the outcome priorities set out in the Plan.

3.5.2 Further to the meeting of Wallasey Constituency Committee on 6 April 2017 (minute 35 refers) **£3,596.93** remains within this Fund.

3.5.3 Appendix 3 sets out proposals for spend which have been identified by elected members and costed. Additional costed proposals are also anticipated to be made during the agenda item by elected members.

3.5.4 **RECOMMENDATION 4: The Committee reviews the proposals made and decides which to fund from the balance of the Transport Plan for Growth Fund (£3,596.93).**

3.6 Christmas Lighting

3.6.1 Wallasey Constituency Committee (28 September 2016, minute 14 refers) allocated £20,000 as a contribution to support festive lighting locally. This was in addition to a remaining balance from 2015/16 (£3,214.35) which had been committed to installing additional electrical sockets on Marine Promenade, New Brighton, and an additional electrical socket in Wallasey Village. The Constituency Manager worked alongside elected members and local groups to facilitate the installation of Christmas lighting and this was fully spent. A key focus with this spend was on extending the infrastructure, namely increasing the number of electrical sockets on lamp columns and increasing the stock of lights, to reduce the financial burden on local groups in future years in terms of fundraising requirements. Appendix 4 sets out the funding spent.

3.6.2 In order to facilitate the provision of rope lighting around lamp columns and fairy lights on trees as in December 2016, the Committee would require circa £12,000-£13,000; this amount would include a small contribution to Moreton Community Lights Association.

4.0 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 A summary of the funding available is outlined below.

Budget to be allocated	
15-16 underspends	£8,691
Community Clean Ups	£3,930.83
Transport Plan for Growth	£3,596.93
Amount available	£16,218.76

Budget committed	
Problem Solving Fund	£13,340

4.2 Regular budget monitoring with the finance department takes place to ensure that the expenditure incurred is accurate and complies with what has been agreed by the Committee.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: ICT, STAFFING AND ASSETS

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

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

7.1 Failure to agree the distribution of funding limits the Committee's ability to effectively tackle its priorities and may result in a loss of funding allocation.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

8.1 Elected members and community representatives have the opportunity to participate in all Constituency Committees and Working Group meetings dealing with budget and spend.

8.2 The neighbourhood working model strengthens the Council's relationship with the voluntary, community and faith sector.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

An impact review relating to neighbourhood working can be found at the link below:

<https://www.wirral.gov.uk/communities-and-neighbourhoods/equality-impact-assessments/equality-impact-assessments-2010-14/chief>

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Marketing - Inspirational Community Volunteer Intergenerational Project

Appendix 2 – Keep Britain Tidy Recommendations

Appendix 3 – Proposals – Transport Plan for Growth

Appendix 4 – Breakdown of Spend on Christmas Lighting

REFERENCE MATERIAL

None.

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Constituency Priorities and Spend	26 June 2014
Wallasey Constituency Committee Working Group – Integrated Transport Block Capital Programme Funding (2014/15)	6 August 2014
Wallasey Constituency Committee Working Group – Integrated Transport Block Capital Programme Funding (2014/15)	26 August 2014
Wallasey Constituency Committee Working Group – Integrated Transport Block Capital Programme Fund	1 October 2014
Budget Council	24 February 2015
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Constituency Budget and Spend	25 June 2015
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Community Clean Ups	25 June 2015
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Constituency Budget and Spend	22 October 2015
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Integrated Transport Block Capital Programme Fund (2015/16)	28 January 2016
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Problem Solving Fund	28 January 2016
Cabinet	18 July 2016
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Constituency Budget and Spend	28 September 2016
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Community Clean Ups Devolved Budget	26 January 2017
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Devolved Budget: Transport Plan for Growth	26 January 2017
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Problem Solving Fund: Update on Spend	26 January 2017
Budget Council	6 March 2017
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Devolved Budget: Community Clean Ups	6 April 2017
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Devolved Budget: Transport Plan for Growth	6 April 2017
Wallasey Constituency Committee – Problem Solving Fund: Update on Spend	6 April 2017