

Agenda Item 7 (vi)

BCR NP GOVERNANCE GROUP - REPORT TO NP - January 2016

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) **The Neighbourhood Partnership is asked to approve the BCR NP Working Group Terms of Reference**, listed as a separate agenda item at this meeting.
- 2) **The Neighbourhood Committee is asked to agree that** it is at the discretion of the NP, when setting the future annual spending limit for a working group, whether any approved but unspent money from the previous financial year is carried over.

Since the last report, the working group met on 27 October and 24 November 2015.

Membership: Martin Fodor (Councillor), Roger Gimson, Alison Bromilow, Eileen Lepine (Chair), Andrew McGrath (officer)

Working Groups Terms of Reference

We drafted, and circulated for comment to WG chairs, a document setting out the Terms of Reference for BCR NP Working Groups, which the NP is now asked to approve. As part of this process, it was agreed with those involved that the Young People's group would be better considered as a subgroup of the Communication and Engagement WG for reporting and budgeting purposes.

Working Group Budgets and Reports

We proposed that the spending attributable to each Working Group should be summarised in the Coordinator's Report to each NP meeting. This will include, for each group, their annual spending limit agreed by the NP, the spending approved so far by the Neighbourhood Committee (NC), and the actual amount spent to date.

We felt clarification was required on the handling of any budget approved by the NC for WG spending, but not spent by the end of the financial year. We recommend that any carry-over of approved but unspent budget it at the discretion of the NP.

We also proposed that each Working Group should, as part of its report to each NP meeting, include a summary of progress on each of the NP Plan items that had been assigned to it. A reporting template has been made available to WG chairs.

NP Budget and CIL money

We noted that some CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) money was allocated to sites that would no longer be in our NP after boundary changes. To make best use of this money, all WG chairs were asked if they could suggest CIL-funded projects. Examples of acceptable uses for CIL money were sought and reviewed by Jim Cliffe (BCC Officer responsible for S.106 and CIL spending), and circulated to WG chairs. Since then, BCC has decided that CIL money will remain with the NP to which it was originally allocated, so the need to spend it is less urgent.

Roger Gimson (pp Eileen Lepine) - 1 January 2016