



AGENDA ITEM NO.6

Greater Bedminster Community Partnership
21st October 2013

Report of: Nick Christo, Area Co-ordinator, Neighbourhoods

Title: Devolved Service Update - Area Coordinator

Contact Telephone Number: 07585 909030

- Recommendations:**
1. To note the contents of the devolved budgets.
 2. To note the update on the NP review
 3. To note the Active Neighbourhood Travel Grant guidance (round 3)
 4. To note the Bristol European Green Capital 2015 opportunity for NPs

The total devolved budget for 2013/2014 for the Greater Bedminster Community Partnership including Section 106 developer contributions is **£661,690.03**. Below is a breakdown and update for each category.

1. Minor Traffic Schemes 2013/2014

Budget: £17,500

Minor Traffic Schemes					
Location	Ward	Details	Budget	Start on Site	Scheme Completed
Partnership Wide		Minor signs & lines	£1,500	N/A	N/A

At the previous GBCP in March, we received a report from the Highways Department asking for a pause in decision making with regards to the Minor Traffic Schemes. This means that the GBCP will have double the budget (£35,000) to prioritise next year and it is anticipated that the process will start in November 2013.

The GBCP instead has asked that the S106 spend is prioritised and delivered throughout 2013 and with the spending priority taking place in Ashton Vale. Agenda item 3 gives more detail on this and also provides details with regards to Carriageway surface dressing and footway schemes.

2. Clean & Green

Budget - £1,500 + £1,011 carry forward

Clean & Green					
Works Requested	Requested By	Ward	Resource Used	Cost	Balance remaining for Ward
Greening up South Bristol Christian Centre	Churchlands Resident Association	Bedminster		£365	£386

Tools, Plants and signs	Patchwork Community Group	Southville	Community Payback	£740	£1,060
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The Area Environment Officer (deborah.white@bristol.gov.uk) will be managing the £1500 'Clean & Green' money which can be used to fund small environmental improvements, delivered by the Clean & Green team or through Community Payback. Additional sums may be available, too.

Requests for using the Clean & Green fund can be made by:

- Any member of the public direct to Deborah White
- Any member of the public contacting the Neighbourhood Development Officer (lorna.heaysman@bristol.gov.uk) or Area Co-ordinator (nick.christo@bristol.gov.uk)
- Local groups contacting local Councillors
- Councillors direct to Deborah
- Through the Neighbourhood Forums

The Area Environment Officer will then meet the Clean & Green team to access the work to ensure it's within the scope of the Clean & Green team and determine how much and how many days the work will take to complete.

The Area Environment Officer will then email the Councillors to get the approval for the work to be carried out and then a date will be arranged with the team for the work to start.

Any work approved will be formally agreed at the following Greater Bedminster Community Partnership meeting through the Area Co-ordinator.

3. Community Chest

Budget - £20,000 + £1,400 carry forward = £21,400

At the last meeting of the GBCP Board in June, £17,167 was approved to benefit 13 community groups. The closing date for applications for the remaining balance of £4,233 will be at the end of October 2013. For an application pack please contact nick.christo@bristol.gov.uk or benbarker@blueyonder.co.uk.

4. Section 106 (S106)

Budget:

- **Parks - £256,187.64**
- **Transport - £295,034.25**

Agenda item 3 details priority spend for S106 schemes in Ashton Vale.

5. Update on the Neighbourhood Partnership Review

Following the completion of the Neighbourhood Partnership Review in April 2013 and the analysis of the review findings which were taken to the June round of Neighbourhood Partnership meetings, the Neighbourhood Partnership team started the practical work of crafting the change proposals for strengthening Neighbourhood Partnerships and enhancing their ability to get things done.

We had originally planned to have some early conversations about this work with representatives of NPs during the summer, but as you will be aware, there is a great deal of work happening within the Council around how we manage the significant budget pressures moving forward and how the Council will work in the future, therefore this work has been delayed.

As it is important that any changes proposed to how the Neighbourhood Partnerships work will fit with the new organisational direction and structure, we have had to suspend our original timetable for completing our work until we know more about what the organisation will look like in the future.

It is our hope that we will be better placed to bring our change proposals to a wider audience in mid to late October.

6. Active Neighbourhood Transport Grant - Round 3

Round opens 1st December 2013

Round closes 28th February 2014

(Please note that all projects must be implemented before April 2015).

We are pleased to offer a third round of grants funded through Bristol's Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) as part of its Active Neighbourhoods Programme.

Grants are available from as little as £500 up to a maximum contribution of £3,000 and funding is limited.

Sustainable travel is important for individuals, communities and the wider environment. On a personal level, it can help us take short journeys on foot or by bike, increasing our activity levels to benefit our health as well as saving us money. For communities it can increase the numbers of people out on the street, making the streets feel safer and encouraging use of local shops and facilities. On a wider level, sustainable travel aims to provide attractive options for young people, commuters and older people alike, as well as improving air and noise quality in our city.

What are the main aims of the grant?

Schemes need to be locally led and support the LSTF objectives by:

- Supporting and strengthening local economies (encouraging people to walk, cycle, or use public transport to travel to neighbourhood shops and services, rather than driving to other locations);
- Increasing physical activity to improve health, through greater use of walking and cycling for local journeys;
- Reducing unnecessary car trips and associated parking/pollution/congestion

Who can apply?

Applications must be submitted by a constituted group, this could be a local resident groups, traders associations, voluntary and community groups, statutory organisations, or Neighbourhood Partnerships.

We are looking for bottom up, community led, projects, whereby project ideas come from local communities. We encourage applications that will address travel related issues within a particular local community, or a local shopping area, or by a particular group of people, with specific needs.

Examples of what could be funded:

Grants awarded in round 1 and 2:

- Lockleaze, Ashley, Easton, Lawrence Hill and St George will benefit from a "Silver Cycling" programme This will help older adults get back on their bikes and rediscover the joys of cycling in a safe and sociable way;
- Greater Bedminster will develop a pocket park and art installation on East Street, to make a popular walking route both direct and pleasant;
- In Totterdown, cycle storage and park benches will be installed part way up the Wells Road, to encourage short journeys to local shops on foot and by bike
- Bristol Bike Project is running a project for young people between 11 and 17 to learn basic and advanced bicycle mechanics. They will apply this learnt knowledge as they restore and rebuild a safe and fully functioning bike for themselves.
- GoodGym Bristol is a new exciting community project whose aim is to use the energy that is normally wasted in gyms to benefit the community as a whole. They organise regular group runs and cycles to community projects during which they stop and help local community organisations.
- Hotwells and Clifton Community Association have renovated the City 'gateway' site of Cumberland Piazza, identifying key cycle routes, constructing information panels, creating webpages to complement each information panel, and put on an event increase the utilisation of existing cycle and pedestrian routes in the area by local people, commuters and visitors.

Two Community Interest Companies have been funded to develop projects to benefit the whole city:

- Roll for the Soul recently opened the Bristol Community Bike Café and Cycle Hub in Quay Street; and
- Playing Out will be able to reach more communities with their after-school street play project.

Other ideas could include:

- Events to encourage people to be more active and use the car less;
- Local groups working together to address particular barriers to active travel issues in their area;

- Grants can support a one-off initiative, or be used as 'seed' money to pilot a longer-term project; and
- Installation of a handrail on a steep hill to aid walking for older people.

These are examples of initiatives that have been previously funded, or could potentially gain future funding. However, be original and creative with your own ideas. Think about the issues in your local area and what is needed to solve them.

Examples of what will not be funded

We will not be funding any infrastructure projects in this round of funding e.g. laying cycle/foot paths, pedestrian crossings, junction alterations, road widening etc. We will however consider applications for safe routes to schools projects.

Extra funding or match-funding

The grant could also be used as a contribution towards more expensive schemes, if additional sources of money are available (for example a devolved neighbourhood transport grant, other national or local grant funding).

Contact us - for support with your application

If you require advice or support with developing your idea, consulting locally or completing the form, please contact our Community Active Travel Officers:

Ben Bowskill - Community Active Travel Officer

Mobile 07768422700 Office 0117 903 6745

Email Ben.bowskill@bristol.gov.uk

Lizzie Thal-Jantzen

Mobile 07768421602 Office 0117 903 6745

Email Lizzie.Thal-jantzen@bristol.gov.uk

If you require any further information about the grants or application process, please contact Janine McCretton on 0117 903 6745, Gill Calloway on 0117 903 6707 email Janine.mccretton@bristol.gov.uk or Gill.calloway@bristol.gov.uk

7. Bristol European Green Capital 2015

Bristol was awarded the title of European Green Capital 2015 in June 2013. Only five other cities have received this prestigious award and Bristol is the first UK city to have held the title.

The award was given to Bristol because of its good track record of environmental improvements and its ambitious plans for more. Overall Bristol residents have the greenest lifestyles of any major UK city:

- More walk and cycle to work improving their health and reducing congestion,
- They produce less waste and recycle more,
- They have the lowest home energy bills,
- They enjoy Bristol's many green spaces, and
- Thousands are taking part in community and green initiatives making the city a better place to live.

Winning this award is an opportunity to improve the quality of life in Bristol and to create local jobs. During 2015 Bristol will hold a series of events and activities to celebrate the award with the planning starting this autumn. Ideas include:

- Holding exciting community events that everyone can take part in;
- Funding local projects that make a difference to the environment such as every primary school child planting a tree
- Hosting high profile international visits promoting Bristol and our businesses to create local jobs.

What we would like from Neighbourhood Partnerships?

We would like Neighbourhood Partnerships to start thinking about how they would like to celebrate the Bristol being the European Green Capital in 2015.

Do you have any events or activities planned that can incorporate a green theme? What projects and initiatives would you like to start in 2015 that can create improvements in the quality of life long after the year ends?

We would like to establish a Neighbourhood Partnership working group to bring together ideas for events and activities to ensure that the 2015 programme serves every community and ask that the partnership nominate one member to take part in this.

If you would like to hear more about the Award and how you can get involved contact Alex Minshull, Sustainable City Manager – alex.minshull@bristol.gov.uk