

Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston Neighbourhood Partnership

26th September 2016

Port Communities Resilience Fund – Update on Delivery Proposals

Introduction

Following the steers given by Cabinet members, Ward Councillors and the NP in June and further work by Economic Development and Neighbourhoods officers, an outline delivery framework for the £1 million Fund has now been finalised and was submitted to the Council's Capital Board on 30th August. This was referred for final approval by the Strategic Director for Place, which is awaited at the time of writing.

Delivery Framework and Programme

- The Delivery Framework is attached at Annex 1 and summarises the broad objectives, thematic priorities and fund allocations, governance arrangements for the overall Fund strategy, and for the consultation and decision-making on commissioned projects and/or grant-making under each of the three main Priorities – Jobs & Enterprise, Thriving High Streets and Social Impact / Community Facilities.
- A draft programme has also been prepared to map out a process for further community and business stakeholder consultation and input to generate ideas and shape the actions and projects under all three Priorities, *and centred on a special community event to be held in ALW ward on Saturday 19th November.*

Key Issues and Opportunities for the NP

- **Community Event / Conference on 19th November**
 - the NP is invited to nominate 1-2 representatives to get involved in the planning group to help design and deliver an effective event.
- **Support Provided by 10% allocation for Fund Management / Administration**
 - as explained at previous meetings, there are finance regulations applicable to local authority use of capital receipts (as has formed the PCRFB) which restrict revenue spend to activities that directly 'bring capital assets into use'.
 - indirect expenses such as training, capacity building, event facilitation and catering are, regrettably, **not** permitted. *These are necessary but will have to be met from other Council or Local Partner revenue budgets.*

- the proposal for use of a maximum 10% capitalised revenue (£100,000) from the Fund is to focus this on providing information and technical advice to local CVS organisations and businesses, which will help them:
 - o understand the commissioning or grant application criteria and prepare eligible and financially viable / sustainable proposals for capital projects and
 - o negotiate and secure capital and revenue funding from other sources to complement PCRF allocations for priorities or projects

as well as providing Fund application administration and monitoring support.

- the £100,000 budget will be *split between a 2 year Fund project manager post BCC and contracting an expert local fund-raising organisation primarily to support selected applicants / projects under the Social Impact priority.*

- **Progress to Lever Additional Funding to Date**

- at the present time there is no specific news on additional external funding to complement the PCRF. However, Bristol City Council and South Gloucestershire Council are both waiting to hear about applications made earlier in the summer for European (ERDF) and Big Lottery / Coastal Communities Fund Round 4 related to the Jobs & Enterprise Priority. *Any outcomes or progress will be updated verbally at the NP meeting.*

- **Overall Timescale for Launch and Delivery of the Fund**

- following the event in November and other meetings / processes to finalise community and business inputs to commissioning briefs and criteria for grant funding, including participatory budgeting, *it is currently expected the Fund will be able to launch and open for applications from March 2017.*

- **Role for NP in the Fund Governance**

- a Strategy Board is to be set up which will oversee the overall operation and performance of the Fund, making linkages across the three Priorities and ensuring the achievement of the strategic aims as set out in the Mayor's remit.
- it is proposed the board will comprise the Council's Service Directors for Economy, Neighbourhoods & Communities, and Employment, Learning & Skills, plus Ward Councillor, NP and Business representatives.
- *the NP is invited to consider if and how it wishes to be represented, in addition to Ward Councillors, on this board.*

Annex 1: PORT COMMUNITIES RESILIENCE FUND - DELIVERY FRAMEWORK (submitted to BCC Capital Board 30/8/16)

Total Fund Value: £1 million **Type:** Capital (from Capital Receipt) **Ownership:** Bristol City Council **Lead:** Place Directorate - Economy Division

Area of Benefit: Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston Ward (designated April 2016) – Avonmouth, Lawrence Weston, Shirehampton and Sea Mills North villages.

Governance: **PCRF Strategy Board** – Service Directors for Economy, N’hoods & Communities, Emp & Skills, Ward Councillor and NP and Business representatives

Key Stakeholders: Avonmouth & Lawrence Weston Neighbourhood Partnership, Ward Councillors, Voluntary and Community Sector Groups, and Community Fora, Local Businesses – in the 4 village centres and Avonmouth Severnside Enterprise Area, Bristol Port Company, Charities and Social Enterprises based or active in the ward.

PRIORITY / ACTIVITY	BUDGET ALLOCATION	SCHEME TYPE	TARGET BENEFICIARIES	GOVERNANCE DECISION MAKER	TECHNICAL ADVICE / SUPPORT
<p>Jobs and Enterprise -two new community employment and enterprise ‘hubs’ to increase people’s life chances</p>	£450,000	BCC commissioned projects with objectives, outcomes and design shaped by cross-BCC services and community inputs	Not for Profit Social Enterprises, or Public Sector, or Public-Private Joint Ventures	BCC Service Director Economy in consultation with Service Director Neighbourhoods and Communities, and Service Director Employment Skills & Learning	BCC Economic Development Employment & Skills Teams and SevernNet Working Project
<p>Social Impact -improving and sharing buildings and facilities of all types for the benefit of the whole community</p>	£315,000	Participatory Budgeting (BCC screens / puts to a community vote) OR Conventional Community Grant Scheme	Community and Voluntary Sector Organisations, or Social Enterprises	ALW Ward Councillors Panel in consultation with the Neighbourhood Partnership	BCC Neighbourhood Partnerships Team and BCC Property Services
<p>Thriving High Streets -improving shop fronts, and the trading, public realm and street environment of local centres</p>	£135,000	BCC commissioned local retail centre streetscape improvements AND/OR Grant Scheme for shop premise improvements with owner match fund	Local Centre traders & small businesses, or Trader Associations. Community and business users of local centres	BCC Economy Service Director in consultation with ALW Ward Councillors and Neighbourhood Partnership	BCC Neighbourhood Partnerships Team and BCC Economic Development – High Streets & Local Centres Team
<p>Fund Management -promotion / administration of the Fund, applications, decision support and monitoring by a dedicated PM function</p>	£100,000	Enabling activities ‘to bring capital assets into use’ as defined by LA Capital Finance & Accounting Regulations	All stakeholders and applicants	Out-sourcing to Local Fund Management specialist (£30-40k) AND establish 2 year fixed term Programme Manager / Support post managed within Economy / ED Service (£60-70k)	BCC Place or Neighbourhoods ABS Team, BCC Legal Services and Corporate Finance
Total	£1,000,000				

