

# North East Locality Committee

5.00pm, Tuesday, 4 September 2018

## Neighbourhood Environment Programme/ Community Grants Fund Update Report 2018/19

Item number	8.7
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	12, 13, 14, 17
Council Commitments	

### Executive Summary

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The remit for Locality Committees as agreed by Council at its meeting on [23 November 2017](#) includes responsibility for the Neighbourhood Environment Programme and Community Grants Fund.

This Report provides details of these funding streams as recommended by the three Neighbourhood Partnerships in the North East Locality.

## Neighbourhood Environment Programme/ Community Grants Fund Update Report 2018/19

### 1. Recommendations

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- 1.1 To agree to allocate the Neighbourhood Environment Programme (NEP) as described in paragraphs 3.1 to 3.20.
- 1.2 To note progress in Craigentiny and Duddingston to involve the community in identifying and supporting proposals for NEP projects and promoting the CGF through its programme of community-led Pop-Up events
- 1.3 To note progress in the two participatory budgeting processes supporting the distribution of Community Grants Funding (CGF): You Decide in Portobello and Craigmillar; £eith Chooses in Leith

### 2. Background

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- 2.1 At the North East Locality Committee Meeting on the [26 April 2018](#), the Committee recognised the key role that the local Neighbourhood Partnerships play in allocating both NEP and CGF Funds. The decision was reached to continue with the current arrangements whereby applications or proposals are considered by the Neighbourhood Partnerships based on the priorities in the Locality Improvement Plan and then reported to the following North East Locality Committee Meeting.
- 2.2 The purpose of this report is to provide the Committee with an update on the NEP and CGF funding streams.

### 3. Main report

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#### **Neighbourhood Environment Programme**

#### **Portobello & Craigmillar**

- 3.1 The current total NEP budget for Portobello and Craigmillar in 2018/19 is £574,202 which includes a carry forward from previous years unallocated funds. This figure includes funds from both Transport £223,591 and Housing £350,611 streams. The breakdown of this budget is shown in Appendix 1.

## **Transport**

- 3.2 The current total NEP Transport budget is £223,591 of which £74,500 has been previously committed to projects. These projects are shown as “in progress” in Appendix 1.
- 3.3 At the Neighbourhood Partnership Environment Forum Meeting on 25 July 2018, the following new project proposals have been recommended for funding:
- 3.3.1 Creation of a new path through the car park at Kings Road;
  - 3.3.2 Extension of the car parking area at the old library at Niddrie Marischal Gardens;
  - 3.3.3 A 50% contribution towards, the upgrade of the play facilities in Figgate Park. This contribution is dependent on the Craigentenny & Duddingston Neighbourhood Partnership agreeing to match fund £25,000; and
  - 3.3.4 These projects are shown as “open” in Appendix 1 and have been recommended by the Neighbourhood Partnership.
- 3.4 The estimated total of the above recommended projects is £80,000. This takes the total value of all projects both committed and recommended to £154,500. The remaining total budget for 2018/19 is £69,091.
- 3.5 The Environment Forum and the Neighbourhood Partnership have agreed to consider further project proposals including place-making enhancements to resurfacing for the bus turning area on Niddrie Mains Road and options to narrow the carriageway on Seaview Terrace and incorporate cycling facilities where possible. It has been agreed that proposals and cost estimates will be presented to a future Environment Forum Meeting.

## **Housing**

- 3.6 The current total NEP Housing budget is £350,611 of which £128,528 has been previously committed to projects. On 16 June 2018 officers arranged a NEP Bus Tour with local residents, elected members and the Neighbourhood Alliance to view potential projects for funding. A list of project proposals are currently being considered for recommendation to the Neighbourhood Partnership by the Housing Area Board and it is intended that the recommended projects will be reported to the next Locality Committee Meeting.

## **Craigentenny and Duddingston**

- 3.7 The current total NEP budget for Craigentenny and Duddingston in 2018/19 is £486,583 which includes a carry forward from previous years unallocated funds. This figure includes funds from both Transport £166,260 and Housing £320,323 streams. The breakdown of this budget is shown in Appendix 2.

## **Transport**

- 3.8 At the Neighbourhood Partnership Meeting on 13 June 2018 it was agreed to allocate £2,000 towards new planting at Piershill Library and £5,000 towards the removal of pedestrian guardrail on Willowbrae Road/Portobello Road, following a safety assessment. These projects will be funded through the NEP Transport funding stream and are shown as “open” in Appendix 2.

## **NEP Transport and Housing**

- 3.9 The Neighbourhood Partnership recognised the need to take a different approach to identifying potential projects for both NEP Transport and Housing funding streams and agreed that a series of pop-up events would be held throughout local communities to involve local residents in the process. The events have been arranged by local community and voluntary sector representatives with support from council officers. Ideas generated from the events will be taken to a Funding Panel consisting of Community Councillors, local tenant’s group and voluntary sector representatives who will discuss and agree the projects to be taken forward.
- 3.10 Three pop-up events have been held to date in different locations across the Neighbourhood Partnership area including the Ripple Project, Lochend Road South and Piershill Square.

## **Leith**

- 3.11 The current total NEP budget for Leith in 2018/19 is £533,039 which includes a carry forward from previous years unallocated funds. This figure includes funds from both Transport £292,929 and Housing £240,110 streams. The breakdown of this budget is shown in Appendix 3.

## **Transport**

- 3.12 The current total NEP Transport budget is £292,929 of which £236,000 has been previously committed to projects. These projects are shown in Appendix 3.
- 3.13 At the Neighbourhood Partnership Meeting on 14 June 2018, it was agreed to revisit a prioritised list of NEP projects produced through a community voting exercise at a previous Meeting. The following new project proposal has been recommended for funding with the remaining unallocated budget of £56,000 for 2018/19:
- 3.13.1 Upgrade the play area at Henderson Street; and
- 3.13.2 It was agreed that Officers would seek external funding opportunities to part fund the Henderson Street project.

## **Housing**

- 3.14 The current total NEP Housing budget is £240,110, of which £26,318 has previously been committed to projects. At the Neighbourhood Partnership Meeting on 14 June 2018 it was agreed that a meeting would be held with Edinburgh Tenants Federation, local residents and Tenants Organisation representatives. This NEP workshop discussion took place on 8 August 2018. The recommendations

from this workshop will be presented to the next meeting of the Leith Neighbourhood Partnership.

## **Community Grants Fund**

### **Portobello and Craigmillar**

- 3.15 The current total Community Grants Fund (CGF) budget is £22,637. At the Neighbourhood Partnership Meeting on the 31 January 2018, arrangements for the fourth You Decide participatory budgeting initiative were discussed. A You Decide Working Group met to plan the detail of the process and agreed:
- 3.15.1 To run a fourth You Decide participatory budgeting process;
  - 3.15.2 To offer two funding levels- up to £500; up to £2,000;
  - 3.15.3 To deliver the process between August and November 2018 with the application process opened in September and voting to take place in local community centres and libraries at the beginning of November; and
  - 3.15.4 To deliver a Meet the Funders Event to support the process, as an opportunity for community groups to discuss their ideas with potential funders and collect a range of information about possible sources of grant aid.

### **Craigentinny and Duddingston**

- 3.16 The current total CGF budget is £25,477. At the Neighbourhood Partnership on 13 June 2018 it was agreed that a different approach would be taken to better involve the community in identifying potential projects for NEP spend, as described in paragraph 3.9. It was recommended that the CGF would also be promoted at the agreed programme of pop-up engagement opportunities in order to encourage wider community and third sector interest in this funding stream. The Funding Panel will consider the applications received.
- 3.17 The Partnership agreed to raise the maximum CGF award from £2,000 to £3,000.

### **Leith**

- 3.18 The current total CGF budget is £44,624. At the Neighbourhood Partnership Meeting on the 14 June 2018, a Report was presented on the Leith Chooses participatory budgeting (PB) process for 2017/18. Funds from the council's CGF and the Scottish Government's Community Choices budget of £118,000 in total were distributed to 32 successful applicants.
- 3.19 It was agreed to distribute the total Community Grants Fund 2018-2019 through a form of PB process and to delegate the delivery and development of the PB process to the Leith Chooses Steering Group of which the membership will be reviewed. The process will be developed in a way which addresses the recognised problem that ethnic minority group applicants have had a negative experience of PB as part of the Leith Chooses process.
- 3.20 The Steering Group will provide progress reports to the Neighbourhood Partnership and Locality Committee.

#### **4. Measures of success**

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- 4.1 It is proposed that these funds will support the delivery of locally identified priorities as set out in the North East LIP. As such, success will be able to be measured through the Performance Framework being developed for the LIP.
- 4.2 A measure of success will also be full expenditure of the available funds.

#### **5. Financial impact**

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- 5.1 The resourcing of the management and distribution of these funds presents a continued significant pressure which is directly linked to which agreed approach is taken to their allocation. Although community and partner involvement alleviates some resource pressures, participatory budgeting processes require a significant level of officer resource and supporting budget resource in order to deliver effectively.

#### **6. Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact**

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- 6.1 The involvement of communities in the decision-making process for these funds has been a significant feature of the activity.

#### **7. Equalities impact**

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- 7.1 Activity supported through these funds contributes to the delivery of the Equality Act 2010 general duties of advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations.

#### **8. Sustainability impact**

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- 8.1 Activity supported through these funds has the potential to impact positively on sustainability.

#### **9. Consultation and engagement**

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- 9.1 The proposed use of these funds to actively promote and develop community engagement activity, participatory budgeting and to deliver against the LIP presents a key opportunity to strengthen local democracy and supporting community development.

#### **10. Background reading/external references**

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10.1

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Executive Director of Place

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**11. Appendices**

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|------------|---|
| Appendix 1 | Budget Break Down - Portobello & Craigmillar  |
| Appendix 2 | Budget Break Down - Craigentiny & Duddingston |
| Appendix 3 | Budget Break Down - Leith                     |

## Portobello & Craigmillar

Appendix 1

### Transport

2018/19 budget	£	50,000
Carry-over	£	173,591
2018/19 total budget	£	223,591
Committed Projects	£	154,500.00
Unallocated Budget	£	69,091.00

Description	Location	Cost estimate	Actual Cost	Status
Electricity supply to Prom Cakestand	Portobello Promenade	£ 6,000.00		In Progress
Upgrade bus turning area	Niddrie Mains Road	£ 25,000.00		In Progress
Zebra crossing between asda/Magdalene	Magdalene Glen	£ 30,000.00		In Progress
Replace barrier under railway bridge	Newcraighall Road	£ 4,000.00		In Progress
Upgrade Street Lighting	Bridge Street car park	£ 9,500.00		In Progress
Create new footway into Hunters Hall park	Niddrie House Gardens			On hold
Create new path through car park	Kings Road	£ 30,000.00		Open
extend parking area	car park at what was library at Niddrie Marischal Gardens	£ 25,000.00		Open
New/Upgrade play park	Niddrie House Square			Funded through other sources
figgate park play area upgrade	figgate park	£ 25,000.00		Open

## Housing

2018/19 budget	£	183,696
Carry-over	£	166,915
2018/19 total budget	£	350,611
Committed Projects	£	128,528
Unallocated Budget	£	222,083

Description	Location	Cost estimate	Actual Cost	Status
Planting	Niddrie Marischal Cres	£11,055		Open
Planting	Portobello Potteries	£14,568		Open
Bin nest	Coillesdene Loan	£7,579		In progress
Replant raised beds and fence wall	Niddrie Mains Road SH	£10,526		Open
Excavate mounds, remove planting, create plateau	Newcraighall Mounds	£84,800		Open

## Craigentiny & Duddingston

Appendix 2

### Transport

2018/19 budget	£	50,000
Carry-over	£	116,260
2018/19 total budget	£	166,260
Committed Projects	£	7,000.00
Unallocated Budget	£	159,260.00

Description	Location	Cost estimate	Actual Cost	Status
Removal of pedestrian guardrail Note – Subject to assessment	Willowbrae Road/Portobello Road	£ 5,000.00		Open
New planting	Piershill Library	£ 2,000.00		Open

### Housing

2018/19 budget	£	191,694
Carry-over	£	128,629
2018/19 total budget	£	320,323
Committed Projects		£53,369
Unallocated Budget	£	266,954.00

Description	Location	Cost estimate	Actual Cost	Status
Landscaping improvements	Restalirig Square	£9,694		Not started
Bollards	Lochend Square	£10,847		In progress
Wall upgrade	Northfield Drive	£42,522		About to start

## Leith

### Transport

2018/19 budget	£	50,000
Carry-over	£	242,929
2018/19 total budget	£	292,929
Committed Projects		£296,916
Unallocated Budget	-£	3,986.82

Description	Location	Cost estimate	Actual Cost	Status
Upgraded Play Park	Leith Links	£200,000	£200,000	In Progress
Resurfacing works in Play area	Dalmeny Street	£10,000	16385.82	Complete
Play Park	Pilrig Park	£35,000		Funded through other sources
upgrade playground	Henderson Street	£60,000		Open
Bridge Environmental Project - Cycle link over bridge	Lindsay Road	£10,000		In Progress
Redbraes park	play equipment	£11,000	£10,530	Complete

## Housing

2018/19 budget	£	132,612
Carry-over	£	107,498
2018/19 total budget	£	240,110
Committed Projects	£	26,318
Unallocated Budget	£	213,792.00

Description	Location	Cost estimate	Actual Cost	Status
Fencing renewal	52 Dalmeny Street	£5,713		In Progress
Fencing renewal	40 Dickson Street	£2,444		In Progress
Community Garden	Persevere/Citadel Court			Funded through other sources
Renewal of slabs / minor landscape works	12-20 Tolbooth Wynd	£18,161		In Progress