



Area East- Area Chapter 20/21 Update and Finance Report (Executive Decision)

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Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members with an overview of this year's delivery of the Area Chapter and finance budgets for Area East

Public Interest

2. The priorities for Area East have been used to influence the development of the Council Plan for 2019/20. Some priorities identified clearly have an area focus and are better placed in an Area Chapter. The Area Chapter presents key projects and areas of work planned for the coming year by teams from across the whole organisation.
3. This report provides members with an update on the 20/21 Chapter.

Recommendations

4. That members:
 - note and comment on the report
 - Endorse allocation of spend on the following projects:
 - a. £2,000 from the Area Discretionary/Project revenue budget to support the development of a food and drink directory
5. Area Chapters focus on the priorities of the Area Committee. These priorities were identified by Members and SSDC Area + teams through member workshops, other service plans and data led information. The 2020/2021 Chapter forms part of the Council Plan.
6. Area + teams consist of officers across the council who are best placed to provide the resources necessary (people and financial) in order to delivery each priority set out in the chapter. Each action or project identified in the plan is allocated a lead officer who collaborates with other officers across the council and/or the local community to deliver the project. The overall approach to delivery is based on the



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principle that we will enable others to deliver where we can, partner where it makes sense and only deliver if absolutely necessary.

Budget Information

7. Area East has the following funding for allocation (not including carry forwards as these will already have been previously allocated to projects)

	Budget
20/21 Community Grant revenue budget – Yearly starting allocation for applications within the Community Grant programme	£10,200
20/21 Discretionary & Project revenue budget – Yearly starting allocation for local support / community start up projects and chapter projects	£21,290
Capital Programme – rolling programme for allocation within the Community Grant programme or other agreed capital project funding	£80,817
Reserves – Unallocated balance (Please see table below of current allocation)	£3,460

Current allocation of Reserves

	Original allocation	Balance remaining
Community Planning - Project Spend (Approved April 05)	£50,000	£15,930
Derelict Sites Castle Cary (Approved June 05)	£4,000	£4,000
Rural Business Units (Approved Nov 05)	£25,000	£5,800
Retail Support Initiative (Approved May 09)	£10,000	£10,000
Wincanton Retail Support Initiative (Approved July 14)	£10,000	£10,000
Total balance of allocation		£45,730

Delivery of the Area Chapter

8. Members will appreciate this first quarter has been overtaken by the recent pandemic and the requirement for SSDC to quickly respond to critical areas of need. Some staff were diverted to help other services within the Council, this along with an enforced lockdown, the slow re-opening of services and trades has meant



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that some project work will have been possibly delayed or the original project changed.

- Appendix A** sets out this year's progress and overview of the area Chapter focus priorities for 20/21. You will note that clear outcomes, milestones, key activities and resources have been added to the delivery plan to enable recording and monitoring of projects.

Funding Requests

- Project Lead Officers are requesting the following Area resources to help assist delivery of elements or completion of projects in this year's chapter:

Chapter priority	Project	Funding	Suggested budget
Continue to support key businesses including work with the Chamber of Commerce and other partners	Develop a Food and Drink Directory. Please see Appendix B	£2,000	Discretionary / Project budget

Community Grant Awards

Project	Budget	Awarded
Bayford Kitchen Improvements	Revenue	£620
Bayford Defibrillator	Revenue	£1,000
Drinking Water for Gainsborough play area	Revenue	£684

- There are currently another 2 applications waiting for more information or to be assessed, plus provisional allocation for Local Information Centres in Wincanton, Castle Cary and Bruton leaving a current revenue balance of £4,396 if all approved.

Financial Implications

- A balance of £19,290 will remain in the discretionary/project budget if £2,000 is endorsed for the Food and Drink directory.

Corporate Priority Implications

- The priorities have been developed taking into account the SSDC Corporate plan and Area Chapter priorities.



Carbon Emissions and Climate Change Implications

14. This is considered on an individual project and programme basis as appropriate. The overall priority is to seek to create more balanced communities where people can live, work and get access to the services and facilities they need on a daily basis. Area working (Area+) helps to improve access to facilities, activities and services, reducing the need to travel.
15. All Community Grants applications are now assessed and scored against the environmental impact of projects.

Equality and Diversity Implications

16. This is considered on an individual project and programme basis as appropriate. All Area Plans will have an Equality Impact Assessment.