

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC REPORT

Report to:	Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership
Report of:	CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF PLACE AND LEADER
Date of Decision:	April 11 2017
SUBJECT:	LOCAL INNOVATION FUND – Ward Innovation Proposals
Key Decision: No	Relevant Forward Plan Ref: N/A
If not in the Forward Plan: (please "X" box)	Chief Executive approved <input type="checkbox"/> O&S Chairman approved <input type="checkbox"/>
Relevant Cabinet Member(s) or Relevant District Committee Chair:	ALL ALL
Relevant O&S Chairman:	Cllr Aikhlaq, Chair of Corporate Resources and Governance O&S Committee
Wards affected:	ALL

1. Purpose of report:
1.1 To present the submitted Ward Local Innovation Fund Proposal(s) for approval
1.2 To update Committee of the financial position on LIF at month 12 (end of March) 2016/17

2. Decisions recommended:
That the Cabinet Committee Local Leadership:
2.1 Approve the following Ward Proposals
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hall Green Ward – Stronger Together £35K • Hall Green Ward- Re-imagining Hall Green Parade £13K • Harborne Ward – Creative Harborne £9,975 • Oscott Ward – Sustaining Oscott Libraries £48K
2.2 Note the financial position on LIF as at the end of Month 12 (end of March) 2016/17

Lead Contact Officer(s):	Karen Cheney Head of Service – Neighbourhood Development and Support Unit Neighbourhood and Communities Division Place Directorate Karen.Cheney@birmingham.gov.uk Tel 0121 675 8519
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3. Consultation

3.1 Internal

Senior Officers in the Place Directorate, Legal Services and Finance have been involved in the preparation of this report.

3.2 External

As part of the LIF Process Ward Members will hold local ward meetings, to engage with key local community stakeholders and residents in order to discuss and agree priorities that fit the LIF criteria and then develop the ward proposals presented to Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership

4. Compliance Issues:

4.1 Are the recommended decisions consistent with the Council's policies, plans and strategies?

The recommendations are fully consistent with the Council's policies.

The Business Plan and Budget adopted by Full Council in March 2016 committed the Council to "to develop a new approach to devolution within the city, with a focus on empowering people and giving them influence over local services".

4.2 Financial implications

4.2.1

The Business Plan and Budget 2016+ that was agreed on 1 March 2016 approved an annual budget of £2M from 2016/17 to fund the Local Innovation Fund. It has subsequently been proposed and agreed that the £2m is spread over 2016/17 and 2017/18 and will cease thereafter.

4.2.2. The Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership at the inaugural meeting in September 2016 approved the process for LIF and that each Ward would have £48K per annum and subsequently £48K over the two financial years 16/17 and 17/18

4.2.3 To date 11 finalised Ward Proposals have been submitted for Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership approval. In addition there are a further 19 pipeline proposals

4.2.4 At the end of Month 12 2016/17 (March), expenditure has been incurred against the LIF budget for Ward Proposals totalling- **£124K** .However all of the COGAs and grants for previously approved Ward Proposals have been processed by the Neighbourhood Development and Support Team but as yet are not showing on the ledger. Up to date **£176,234** has been allocated from the overall Ward LIF allocation of £1.92M. The full underspend on LIF will be carried forward into 2017/18.

4.3 Legal Implications

Section 151 of the 1972 Local Government Act requires the Strategic Director of Finance and Legal (as the responsible officer) to ensure proper administration of the City Council's financial affairs. Budgetary control, which includes the regular monitoring of and reporting on budgets, is an essential requirement placed on directorates and members of Corporate Management Team by the City Council in discharging the statutory responsibility. This report meets the City Council's requirements on budgetary control for the specified area of the City Council's Directorate activities.

4.4 Public Sector Equality Duty

There are no additional specific Equality Duty or Equality Analysis issues beyond any already assessed and detailed in the budget setting process and monitoring issues that have arisen in the year to date. Any specific assessments will be made by the Directorates in the management of their services.

5. Relevant background/chronology of key events:

- 5.1 The Business Plan and Budget 2016+ that was agreed on 1 March 2016 approved an annual budget of £2M from 2016/17 to fund the Local Innovation Fund. It has subsequently been proposed that the £2m is spread over 2016/17 and 2017/18 and will cease thereafter.
- 5.2 On 20th September 2016, Cabinet Committee Local Leadership, received and approved the report entitled "Establishment of the Local Innovation Fund" which set out the criteria and governance arrangements for L.I.F. an overall budget of £2m.
- 5.3 The Neighbourhood Development and Support Unit within Place Directorate develop, support and administer the L.I.F. implementation and process, for which a contribution of £0.080m was approved at Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership in September 2016.
- 5.4 The budget of £1.92m is to finance ward local innovative initiatives. The Unit will support all Wards across the city at their stakeholder meetings discussing priorities for spend and developing ward proposals The Unit have developed a series of supporting information for all Councillors and Wards including a regular update on "Investing in Neighbourhoods Funding Opportunities 6" (March 2017), and a Sample Example of a Ward Proposal (distributed at the Cabinet Committee- Local Leadership in December 2016 and to all Councillors across the City.)
- 5.5 Ward Proposals for innovation are being developed across the City at ward meetings with a wide range community stakeholders. Proposals meeting LIF criteria and demonstrating local dialogue and decision making as well as supported and signed off by Ward Members will be submitted to Cabinet Committee -Local Leadership for approval. The Proposals submitted for this meeting on 11/4/17 are for Hall Green, Harborne and Oscott wards.
- 5.6 Cabinet Committee Local Leadership will receive regular financial monitoring reports once spend has started. The first grants for previously approved Ward proposals are being completed .and a current spend of **£124K** is now showing against the LIF Wards' budget allocation.

6. Evaluation of alternative option(s):
6.1 During the year the financial position on the Local Innovation Fund will continue to be closely monitored.
7. Reasons for Decision(s):
7.1 To action the spend of Ward LIF proposals as part of a clear strategic approach to investing at neighbourhood level, to assist in the development of strong and sustainable social capital and to act as a catalyst to encourage and stimulate local innovative asset based approaches
7.2 The Report also informs Cabinet Committee Local Leadership of the L.I.F. financial monitoring position at the end of March 2017.

Signatures	<u>Date</u>
John Clancy Council Leader
Jacqui Kennedy Strategic Director - Place

List of Background Documents used to compile this Report:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report to Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership on 20 September 2016 – “Establishment of the Local Innovation Fund” <p>(All background documents and discussion papers are readily available on request)</p> <p>Appendices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendices 1 -2– Hall Green Ward Proposals Appendix 3 – Harborne Ward Proposal Appendix 4 – Oscott Ward Proposal

Report Version	2	Dated	3/4/17
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