Update on Local Innovation Fund

Introduction

- As of 28/6/17 there are 63 Ward LIF Proposals that the NDSU are currently aware of.
- 43 Proposals have gone through the full LIF process ie. ward engagement, prioritisation and development phase, signed off by ward councillors and put forward to Cabinet Committee- Local Leadership
- 11 Proposals have already been approved since the introduction of LIF in September 2016, the first one being Tyburn Ward Proposal in December 2016
- 32 Ward Proposals are being put forward today for approval.

Reflections over last 9 months – General Trends and Good Practice

- Generally LIF seems to have given a focus to the new style ward meetings and acted as a catalyst for meaningful community engagement between Members in their Local Leadership role and local residents and community groups on ward priorities and "doing things differently in neighbourhoods to make better places to live"
- Ward Proposals have been developed across the full spectrum of City Core priorities- Children, Jobs and Skills, Housing and Health alongside the specific overarching LIF neighbourhood priorities around active citizenship and communities stepping up, independence, new approaches to investment, cleaner streets and improving local centres.
- Ward Proposals have ranged from the very small allocation of resource £2.5K to the more transformative full amount of £48K such as the Tyburn, Oscott, S.Yardley and Bartley Green Wards
- The Proposal Form asks for information on **People Power and Volunteering.** From the proposals currently put forward to Cabinet Committee – Local Leadership it is showing that there are 100s of local active citizens giving 1000s of volunteer hours within their neighbourhood with an in kind cash value of over £174,000. This shows the high social value to the City of active citizenship and volunteering that can be tapped into but also that needs to supported and strengthened.
- The development of Community **Hubs and Networks** is emerging as a strong theme – demonstrating the importance of "anchors" in neighbourhoods and

communication links and networks between local groups, helping to strengthen neighbourhoods. Good practice examples include:- Edgbaston Ward –Stronger Together, Sutton Vesey –Community Hub, South Yardley-Hobmoor C.C; Harborne – Royalty Development, Springfield – Healthy Village, Northfield – Prices Square Development, Bartley Green – Community Hub

- Bottom up "grassroots" communities stepping up to develop and **coproduce delivery of public services and/or assets** – complementing and adding value to top down BCC services such as information and advice, library services, street cleaning and jobs and skills support. Good practice examples include:- Tyburn –Outreach and Engagement, Shard End – Community Caretaking and Community Buddying,Oscott – Sustaining Oscott Library, Selly Oak – links with SENSE and library service, Soho – Environmental,

- **Neighbourhoods supporting each other/ upskilling and strengthening** local infrastructure to make more sustainable. Good practice examples include:- Bournville – Community Matters; Lozells and East Handsworth – Grow Together, Edgbaston – Edging Forward Together, Kingstanding – Raising Achievement, Erdington – A Green Town Centre, Sutton Vesey – Community Engagement and Planning

- The putting forward of **Joint Ward Proposals and Multi – Ward Proposals** – enabling cross ward working and greater value for money and outcomes. Good practice examples include Billesley and Brandwood – Skills for Work and Northfield District.

- Being **innovative and new approaches to investment**. LIF has given the opportunity to experiment and try new things in neighbourhoods. Good practice examples include Tyburn – Outreach and Engagement, Kingstanding – Kingstanding Food Community,

- **Intervention and Prevention** – by investing at an earlier stage at a bottom up neighbourhood level will save costs when issues become acute ie in health terms. Good practice examples include:- Kingstanding – Health and Wellbeing Coordinators, Springfield – Healthy Village

Follow up

- External Evaluation on LIF process and proposals will be commissioned for the Autumn – focus on learning and what has worked well/ not so well

- All proposals will have an internal evaluation via NDSU

- Workshop on Good Practice?

(Karen Cheney 26-6-17)