

CLEANER, SAFER, GREENER – SOUTH WHITEHAVEN NEIGHBOURHOOD MANAGEMENT BOARD

EXECUTIVE MEMBER: Cllr Ms E Woodburn

LEAD OFFICER: Keith Parker

REPORT AUTHOR: Joanne Walker

Summary: This report seeks Executive approval to extend the reporting arrangements for the Cleaner Safer Greener projects to include the South Whitehaven Neighbourhood Management Board.

Recommendation: That:

1. The South Whitehaven Neighbourhood Management Board are added to the reporting arrangements for the Cleaner Safer Greener (CSG) projects.
2. Progress with the projects and likely year end position is noted

Impact on Delivering Corporate Plan:

The CSG projects will impact directly on the delivery of the corporate plan and particularly deliver improvement in a number of the Council's Best Value Performance Indicators relating to recycling, street cleaning and waste management.

Impact on other statutory objectives (e.g. crime & disorder, LA21)

Cleaner Safer Greener activity will have a direct impact on addressing crime and specific environment issues such as fly tipping, dog fouling and the clean up of estates within the South Whitehaven areas.

Financial and human resource implications:

The Council has been awarded a total of £2.1 million over the a 2 year period, of which £970,000 is in the 2006/7 financial year. The funding has no direct impact on the Council's financial resources, and the associated project officers post is fully funded through the CSG allocation.

Project & Risk Management:

The project officer is undertaking routine performance and financial monitoring activities relating to the "Cleaner Safer Greener" funded packages. The progress is monitored on a monthly basis. At the time of writing it is anticipated the CSG projects may be in a position to bring forward expenditure from 2007/08 if this is desirable.

Key Decision Status

- Financial:

- Ward:

None

Other Ward Implications: None

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Members will recall earlier this year (21 February) approval was given to 17 individual projects as part of a bid package to Government Office North West (GONW) and County Council for Cleaner Safer Greener funding. The funding was made available to authorities with Super Output Areas in the most 3% deprived areas nationally, in our case South Whitehaven. The CSG projects have been allocated £2.1 million for use within 06/07 and 07/08 financial years, of which £970,000 is in the first year. Administrative arrangements are such that ultimately Cumbria County Council is the accountable body who passport the funding to this Council on a monthly basis from Government Office.
- 1.2 As a condition of funding reports are made to CCC, the Local Strategic Partnership, and informally to the main Portfolio Holder. These reports outline the current state of play in respect of each individual project and projections to the year end.
- 1.3 At last months Executive the Governance arrangements for the South Whitehaven Neighbourhood Management Board (SWNMB) were agreed. Given that there is a strong link between the CSG projects and the work of the board it would now be appropriate to agree to formalise reporting to the SWNMB in addition to the other agencies. Whilst the board would have no direct control over how the CSG funding is allocated it is felt local information sharing will benefit the Board and the broader community, potentially saving duplication of effort.
- 1.4 For information a copy of the latest monitoring report has been deposited in the Members Room. It should be noted that expenditure to date is below the original forecasts. This differential is largely due to the delay gaining approval of the overall funding package against the initial project profile. Officers are however confident that the schemes £970,000 year 1 allocation will be fully expended by 31 March 07. Indeed it may be possible to bring forward CSG projects in order to maximise spend from the Neighbourhood Renewal Funding. This option will be addressed with GONW in the new year if practical.

2. CONCLUSION

- 2.1 In accordance with paragraph 1.3 above Executive is asked to approve the performance reporting of the CSG projects to the South Whitehaven Neighbourhood Management Board and to note the position in paragraph 1.4 in relation to the potential to bring forward expenditure in order to maximise spending from the Neighbourhood Renewal Funding pot.

List of Appendices: None

List of Background Documents: CSG Monitoring Report (in the Members Room) and CSG Project File

List of Consultees: Cllr Allan Holiday, Corporate Team