

Sheffield First Partnership

Area Based Grant

What is this?

The report is about the approach to be taken for the Area Based Grant, including Working Neighbourhoods Fund. It relates to most elements of the City strategy and contains broad proposals for spending in 08-09 that will sustain and enhance activity.

What is the Partnership Board being asked to do?

The Board is being asked to endorse the proposed approach and agree a way forward

1. Background and Purpose

Sheffield City Council has been notified of the amounts of area-based grant that will be paid during the next three financial years. It has been customary for proposals for spending some of these grants to be shared with the Local Strategic Partnership, either Sheffield First Partnership Board or delivery partnerships.

2. Introduction

Area Based Grant (ABG) is a corporate grant, paid to the City Council in addition to the Revenue Support Grant. Area Based Grant consists of a myriad of grants which central government has used to augment the funding of local government and has usually been for specific activity and has been monitored and managed separately. From 2008/9 these grants are to be pooled. The list in appendix 1 shows the three year allocations. Given the late announcement of the ABG, the approach taken has been to allow ABG to continue to fund existing services in Year 1 – the only significant new grant is Working Neighbourhoods Fund (see 5). Further flexibility will be possible in years 2 and 3 as part of the overall approach to the Local Area Agreement. There will have to be a careful process of reviewing existing and new priorities.

3. Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF)

For the past seven years, Sheffield was in receipt of NRF, which was used for a wide variety of activities, city-wide and local, that supported the local neighbourhood renewal strategy's aim of creating successful neighbourhoods. 2007-08 was the last year of NRF.

4. Sheffield's approach to Successful Neighbourhoods

Sheffield's strategy is based on a holistic approach to people and places.

For the past few years, attention has been paid to:

- Physical Renewal (Decent Homes programme and Housing Market Renewal)
- Improvements to the local environment (Parks and Streetscene)
- Infrastructure (Area Panels, community fora, partnerships, and specific organisations)
- 'People' issues (health, young people and community safety)
- Access to employment
- Monitoring progress and developing policy approaches

5. Working Neighbourhoods Fund (WNF)

WNF is intended to encourage Local Authorities to work with their communities 'to place employment at the heart of neighbourhood renewal'. It is designed to tackle those pockets of concentrated worklessness in the most disadvantaged communities.

There is a policy expectation that Sheffield will target:

- Incapacity Benefit claimants and lone parents
- Workless households
- BME communities where the employment gap is significant
- Child poverty
- Those of working age with low skills levels.

These groups are identified for targeted activity within the city's Employment Plan, its related delivery model and the work that has been undertaken in partnership with the city's anchor community regeneration agencies. Sheffield is also in receipt of Local Enterprise Growth Initiative and European funding amounting to some £10m p.a.

Sheffield's allocation of WNF is very welcome. As part of the ABG, the Council is able to use it flexibly to respond to local needs, and to augment the funding already set against the delivery of the Employment Plan. Because of all the other funding for tackling the same issues, there is a compelling argument for using WNF to tackle a wider range of issues such as those set out in section 4.

6. 2008-09 Proposal

Sheffield City Council is suggesting that 2008-09 is seen as a year in which to sustain and enhance the elements set out at 3, previously funded through NRF. This would mean continuing to fund existing activity, enhancing the focus on worklessness and employment, and developing exciting new activity for children and young people.

The details are set out below:

Enhancing local employment and enterprise (on top of LEGI etc)	£2m
Sustaining key services currently funded by NRF (with a strengthened emphasis on promoting a working neighbourhood) and city partnership infrastructure	
City-wide spend	£2.4m
Area infrastructure	£1.2m
Area Panel Delegated budgets	£2.2m
Additional investment in positive activities for young people approx	£1.5m
Balance for City Council and Sheffield First Partnership detailed decision. First priority to go on delivery of the positive activities initiative. Any funds not able to be applied to this in year to go on further activity to promote local employment, improve the environment and tackle social exclusion	£2m
Total	£11.3m

7. Further work

Each of the elements will be subject to more detailed work and this could be presented to a working group of the Board during the course of the first six months of the 08-09 year. This would include more detailed breakdowns of costings, as well as proposals for the process for considering different activities for future years.

8. Recommendations

The Boards is asked to:

- a. endorse the broad approach of 'sustaining and enhancing' activity.
- b. nominate a small group from across the family of partnerships to oversee the next stages

REVENUE BUDGET 2008/09 - GRANTS TO BE DELIVERED VIA ABG

	<u>Settlement</u> <u>2008/09</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>Settlement</u> <u>2009/10</u> <u>£'000</u>	<u>Settlement</u> <u>2010/11</u> <u>£'000</u>
<u>Grants to be delivered via Area Based Grant</u>			
<u>Children & Young People</u>			
14-19 Flexible Funding Pot	134	133	132
Carers - CYPD	514	548	582
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	932	979	1,023
Children's Social Care Workforce	183	182	181
Childrens Fund	1,627	1,627	1,627
Choice Advisors	53	53	53
Connexions	4,802	4,955	4,957
Education Health partnerships	112	112	112
Extended Rights to Free Transport	36	83	129
Extended Schools Start Up Costs	829	1,511	621
Positive Activities for Young People	1,561	1,561	1,917
Secondary national Strategy - Behaviour and Attendance	126	126	126
Secondary National Strategy - Central Co-ordination	266	262	263
Primary national Strategy - Central Co-ordination	329	328	328
School Development Grant (Local Authority Element)	2,615	2,615	2,615
School Improvement Partners	181	181	181
School Intervention Grant	123	123	123
School Travel Advisors	72	72	72
Sustainable Travel General Duty	35	35	35
Teenage Pregnancy	344	344	344
Youth Taskforce	250	250	250
Child Death Review Processes	72	74	77
	<u>15,196</u>	<u>16,154</u>	<u>15,748</u>

ITEM 6

2008.05 ANNEX A

<u>Neighbourhoods & Community Care</u>			
Adult Social Care Workforce (formerly HRDS and NTS)	1,562	1,601	1,641
Care matters White Paper	354	485	558
Carers - Community Care	2,055	2,191	2,326
Crime Reduction, Drugs Strategy and Anti Social Behaviour			
Mental Capacity Act and Independent Mental Capacity Advocate Service	282	355	340
Mental Health	1,662	1,745	1,829
Preserved Rights	2,425	2,324	2,229
Respect	413	258	0
Stronger Safer Communities Fund	545	545	545
Supporting People Administration	273	252	216
Working Neighbourhoods Fund	11,260	13,283	13,769
Supporting People		25,227	25,227
Learning & Disability Development	521	520	519
	21,352	48,786	49,199
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	Corporate		
Cohesion	26	49	75
Local Enterprise Growth Initiative	5,057	4,916	4,917
Local Involvement Networks	263	263	262
	5,346	5,228	5,254
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	Grand Total	41,894	70,168
		70,168	70,201
Supporting People	25,227		