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Iain Phillips Chief Executive

9th January 2007

Dear Councillor,

I hereby give you Notice that a Meeting of the **COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC CENTRE, CROOK** on **WEDNESDAY, 17th JANUARY 2007** at **6.00 P.M.**

AGENDA

	Page No.
1. Apologies for absence.	
2. To consider the Minutes of the last Meeting of the Committee held on 8 th November 2007 as a true record.	Copies previously circulated
3. To consider the purchase of Street Cleansing Vehicles.	1 – 2
4. To consider the acceptance of grant aid support from the Department of Health.	3 – 5
5. To consider the inclusion of proposed expenditure plans within the Community Services Capital Programme for 2006/2007.	6 – 9
6. To consider such other items of business which, by reason of special circumstances so specified, the Chair of the meeting is of the opinion should be considered as a matter of urgency.	

Yours faithfully

Chief Executive

Members of this Committee: Councillors Dobinson, Ferguson, Gale, Grogan, Harrison, Hayton, Mrs Jones*, Kay, Kingston, Murphy*, Nevins, Perkins, Mrs. Pinkney, J. Shuttleworth, Stonehouse, Strongman and Zair.

*ex-officio, non-voting capacity.

Chair: Councillor Kingston

Deputy Chair: Councillor Nevins

TO: All other Members of the Council for information
Management Team

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

17TH JANUARY 2007

Report of the Strategic Director for the Community
PURCHASE OF STREET CLEANSING/WASHING VEHICLES

purpose of the report

1. To seek the Committee's agreement to the purchase of two additional street cleansing/washing vehicles, with a view to improving the standard of cleanliness of streets within Wear Valley.

background

2. The Council has received capital funding of £80,000 from Neighbourhood Renewal, Neighbourhood Element and Liveability for the purchase of street cleansing/washing equipment. Officers have seen various vehicles demonstrated and checked on the mechanical reliability of these vehicles, which can be prone to breakdown. Experience has shown that the preferred company of choice is Hako, because of their proven track record of reliability and the versatility of their vehicle, being capable of both sweeping and washing.

proposal

3. Quotations have been sought from three companies for the supply of two Hako Citymaster 1200 street sweepers with street washer attachment.

The prices quoted are as follows:

£80,000 – Hako Machines Ltd.
£89,500 – Admec Municipal Services Ltd.
£92,768 – Alpha Plus (Scotland) Ltd.

It is therefore proposed to accept the lowest quotation of £80,000 from Hako Machines Ltd.

financial implications

4. Funding provided will cover the capital purchase cost of the two vehicles. Revenue funding will be required for repair, service and maintenance of the two vehicles from the 2007/08 budget. A revenue bid has therefore been made for £20,000 for repair, maintenance, fuel and oils for these vehicles in 2007/08.

legal implications

- 5. There are no legal implications.

human resource implications

- 6. The two vehicles will be operated by staff currently employed within the street cleansing service.

it implications

- 7. There are no IT implications.

crime and disorder implications

- 8. These vehicles will improve the environment of the District and will remove deposits on the pavement resulting from anti social behaviour.

timescale

- 9. Delivery of vehicles is expected six to eight weeks from receipt of order.

conclusion

- 10. These vehicles will improve the standard of cleanliness of streets within the District and make significant contribution to improving the Council's performance against the Best Value Indicator.

RECOMMENDED that the Committee agrees to the purchase of two Hako City Master 1200 Street Sweepers with street washer attachment from Hako Machines Ltd.

Officer responsible for the report
Michael Laing
Strategic Director for the Community
Ext. 281

Author of the report
Dave Richardson, FCIWM
Acting Head of Service Contracts
Community Department

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

17TH JANUARY 2007

Report of the Strategic Director for the Community
COMMUNITIES FOR HEALTH

purpose of the report

1. To seek Member approval to formally accept the offer from the Department of Health of £100,000 grant aid to support Wear Valley District Council and its partners in meeting the needs of the local community in improving health and reducing health inequalities in the area.

background

2. The Communities for Health programme was launched in 2005 and followed the publication of the Choosing Health White Paper. Originally operating on a pilot basis it is now being rolled out to all of the health inequalities Spearhead areas of which the Wear Valley District forms a part. It recognises the role that councils are playing in co-delivering shared priorities on health improvement and the work that is being undertaken through Local Area Agreements.
3. The funding is non-recurrent because the purpose is to help develop capacity with the local health partnership and in particular to strengthen the role that community groups and the voluntary sector can make in working towards changing behaviours that have an adverse impact on health. The strategic aims of Communities for Health are to:
 - Engage communities in their own health and develop their capacity to support individual behavioural change for healthier lifestyles;
 - Build/develop existing partnerships between organisations and communities; and
 - Develop innovative practices for community based health improvement.
4. Communities for Health will reflect recent policy developments within public sector policy and practice such as Local Area Agreements; the White Paper Our Health, Our Care, Our Say (DoH 2006) and the Strong and Prosperous Communities Local Government White Paper.
5. We anticipate that the programme will focus on the key local issues of tackling health inequalities, and improving health through education and physical activity.

6. Whilst none of this will require a fundamental change within the work that the department currently carries out, it will mark a new way of engaging local communities in initiatives to improve their health and moves away from one-off short term projects.

proposal

7. To accept the Department of Health offer of £100,000 to build upon the existing work around health improvement by engaging with community groups and the voluntary sector.

financial implications

8. There are no financial implications.

legal implications

9. There are no legal implications to this report.

human resource implications

10. The project will be managed using the existing staffing resources within the department and partner agencies.

it implications

11. There are no IT implications to this report.

equalities and diversity implications

12. Equality and diversity issues will be positively addressed by the nature of this project which actively encourages engagement with local communities to address their needs.

crime and disorder implications

13. There are no implications to this report.

conclusion

14. Becoming a part of the Communities for Health programme will:
 - Help to build capacity within local communities to work towards improving health and reducing health inequalities within the Wear Valley District;
 - Engage more closely with local communities to reflect local needs;
 - Link directly to the work being undertaken on health through Local Area Agreements;
 - Reflect recent public sector policy and practice regarding health improvement;
 - Align with Wear Valley District Council Corporate Objectives and The Council/Community Plan regarding health.

- RECOMMENDED**
- 1 The offer from the Department of Health for £100,000 grant aid to improve health and reduce health inequalities be accepted.
 - 2 Officers are duly authorised to work in partnership with the Primary Care Trust and voluntary sector to deliver the Communities for Health programme.

Officer responsible for the report
Michael Laing
Strategic Director for the Community
Ext 281

Author of the report
Jill Cooper
Community Fitness Manager
Ext 455



WEAR
VALLEY
DISTRICT COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE

17 JANUARY 2007

Report of the Strategic Director for Resource Management **CAPITAL PROGRAMME ADDITIONS**

purpose of report

1. To seek Member agreement to include proposed expenditure plans within the Community Services capital programme for 2006/07.

background

2. As part of the planning process, the Council has received a number of Section 106 payments which may be used for various purposes (e.g. revenue/capital, site specific/non-site specific etc). A number of schemes have been identified to make use of these sums held and they are presented below.

- (i) **Tow Law.** At present the Council holds £57,000 in Section 106 monies for Tow Law.

A project has been developed to provide a multi surface play area within Tow Law. The estimated cost of this is up to £75,000. A grant is available from Home Housing to pay approximately 30% of this cost provided that the Council can confirm that the remaining funding is in place for the scheme. It is therefore proposed to use the Section 106 monies held to fund the cost of this multi surface play area up to a maximum of £57,000. Should the cost of the scheme be less than this, any remainder will be used for maintenance.

In addition to the above it is proposed that the Council provide £15,000 from mainstream capital resources to install gym equipment into Tow Law. Ownership of the equipment would be given to the Town Council.

- (ii) **West Auckland.** At present the Council holds £91,000 in Section 106 monies for St Helens.

A small project has been developed to provide picnic tables and seats at Middlewood Green which will be project managed by Groundwork Trust. The estimated cost of this is between £6,000 - £7,000. It is proposed to retain 20% of the Section 106 monies for future maintenance.

- (iii) **Crook.** At present the Council holds £334,000 in Section 106 monies.

A project has been developed for a play area and football pitch at Thistleflat. The estimated cost is £104,500. The site will be run by the Authority and will cost approximately £1,000 p.a. to maintain. The supplier of the equipment has offered to provide the initial five years maintenance free. Once this period expires, it is proposed to set aside a further sum of money equivalent to 20 years maintenance funded from Section 106. Planning issues have been examined and there are no issues to prevent the scheme from progressing.

- (iv) Members will be aware that the Council has a policy to limit the number of play areas to 26. For the above scheme to proceed it would be necessary to remove an existing play area. The play area at Glenholme Leisure Centre is currently not significantly used and it is proposed to remove it from use and replace it with the above enhanced play area at Thistleflat. A petition has been received signed by 97 persons supporting the new play area at Thistleflat Road to replace the one situated at Glenholme.

The estimated cost of removing this play area is between £2,000 and £3,000.

The cost of maintaining the Glenholme play area will be used to contribute towards the cost of maintaining the play area at Thistleflat.

legal implications

3. The proposed expenditure falls within the definition contained within the relevant Section 106 agreements as follows:
- (i) Tow Law – Section 106 monies are held in respect of a contribution to the cost of resurfacing an all weather pitch and the enhancement/maintenance of existing children's play space and sport and recreation facilities in Tow Law.
 - (ii) West Auckland – Section 106 monies are held in respect of maintenance of open space, off site sport and recreation and offsite play equipment.
 - (iii) Crook – Section 106 monies are held in respect of the provision of off site open space, play space and recreation and future maintenance and offsite sport and recreation provision and children's play equipment.

financial implications

4. These are set out in the report. The capital cost of the proposals can be met from Section 106 receipts with the exception of the gym equipment at Tow Law which will be added to the Community Services capital programme for 2006/07 and the ongoing maintenance of the schemes can also be met from Section 106 monies.

human resource implications

5. The human resource implications relate to the internal capacity to deliver these schemes. They will be added to Community Services capital programme and managed by staff as appropriate.

crime and disorder implications

6. Play areas can be subject to vandalism and this will be monitored through health and safety/maintenance inspection regimes.

equality and diversity implications

7. There are no equality and diversity implications arising from this report.

conclusions

8. The use of Section 106 monies represents an opportunity to improve service delivery without acting as a significant drain on the Council's revenue or capital resources. There is a need, however, to add any proposals to the Council's capital programme.

- RECOMMENDED**
1. A maximum of £57,000 be spent on resurfacing the multi surface play area at Tow Law and this scheme to be included within the 2006/07 Community Services capital programme. This to be funded from Section 106 monies held for Tow Law.
 2. Any residual Section 106 monies held for Tow Law be used for maintenance of the multi surface play area.
 3. A sum of £15,000 be included within the 2006/07 Community Services capital programme to fund the provision of gym equipment into Tow Law and the ownership of the equipment to be given over to Tow Law Town Council.
 4. Groundwork Trust be commissioned to provide picnic tables and seats at Middlewood Green at an estimated cost of between £6,000 - £7,000. This expenditure to be funded from Section 106 monies held for West Auckland and this scheme to be added to the 2006/07 Community Services capital programme.
 5. 20% of Section 106 monies held for West Auckland be set aside to fund ongoing maintenance of the proposed scheme.
 6. A sum of £104,500 be included in the 2006/07 Community Services capital programme for the provision of a new play area and football pitch at Thistleflat, Crook. This to be funded from Section 106 monies held for Crook.

7. A sum not exceeding £20,000 be set aside to provide for maintenance for 20 years for the proposed scheme at Thistleflat. This to be funded from Section 106 monies held for Crook.
8. The play area outside Glenholme Leisure Centre to be removed and the cost of this (estimated between £2,000 - £3,000) to be funded from Section 106 monies held for Crook and added to the 2006/07 Community Services capital programme.

Officer responsible for the report

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