

Neighbourhood Enhancement Programme

Summary of Key Operating Principles

Overview

The Programme will be operated on a Ward basis with activity focused on addressing long standing local aspirations linked to clear community engagement with constituents. Local elected members will have a key role in developing and progressing schemes within their localities in order to respond to issues of public concern.

As a result it is envisaged that works under this Programme will in turn link to the quality of life survey and improved customer satisfaction feedback.

Funding under the Programme will be allocated for a range of project activities to enhance the physical fabric of localities. The funding allocations identified for each Ward reflect the population within the different Wards across the Borough. The allocations are outlined as follows;

Ward Based Allocations

Ward	Allocation (£)
Bishop Middleham & Cornforth	£35,000
Broom	£40,000
Byerley	£35,000
Chilton	£45,000
Ferryhill	£40,000
Fishburn and Old Trimdon	£45,000
Greenfield Middridge	£45,000
Low Spennymoor and Tudhoe Grange	£45,000
Middlestone	£45,000
Neville and Simpasture	£40,000
New Trimdon and Trimdon Grange	£20,000
Sedgefield	£40,000
Shafto St Marys	£45,000
Spennymoor	£45,000
Sunnydale	£35,000
Thickley	£35,000
Tudhoe	£35,000
West	£45,000
Woodham	£45,000
TOTAL	£760,000

Key Principles

- The Fund will support **capital expenditure only**. **No revenue or salary costs** can be supported under this programme.
- Projects must be a **minimum value of £10,000** to meet the definition of capital spend. However, smaller project proposals can be put forward as

part of an overall larger package of improvements within a locality area that will in total exceed £10,000.

- Projects should **link to the Council's overall Corporate Aims** e.g. – promoting safer neighbourhoods
- Clear **community engagement and consultation** needs to be demonstrated to ensure that the project is addressing local concerns.
- **All project costs must include associated technical and design fees**

Desirable Criteria

- **Collaboration within and across Wards should be demonstrated** to maximise the overall impact of the Programme, and ensure that sufficient capacity exists to deliver the ambitions of Members across the Borough.
- Projects should **aim to address derelict, redundant, ineffectively and or underused land** where appropriate.
- Land Ownership – Projects need to ensure that **consent has been granted from the landowner** for any proposal. It is not envisaged that additional land will be purchased through this Programme.
- **Projects should not increase the revenue implications on the Council.** Where possible projects should aim to resolve an ongoing revenue / maintenance issue by making appropriate improvements.
- Although there is no requirement to do so, **'match funding' can be added into the Programme where appropriate** to maximise the overall value of the Projects and demonstrate enhanced value for money.
- Funding from the Programme can also **be used as 'match funding' towards more expensive capital projects** if additional finance has already been secured from other sources such as the lottery funding etc.

Next Steps

- A **short Application Form** will be developed to enable Members to outline their respective schemes.
- The **Capital Programme Team within the Strategy & Regeneration Division will** support the development of the project proposal and **appraise projects against the above criteria.**
- **Implementation of the project proposals will be done through internal support** from the Council's Technical Services Division.
- A **Members Workshop will be held** over coming weeks to discuss the key principles and to go through the Application Form and process.