Community Board Funding

Community Boards are a new way of bringing the council, groups, organisations and local people together to look at local issues and find ways of improving them together.

The 16 new Community Boards in Buckinghamshire are supported with a collective budget of £3.9 million to help Buckinghamshire Council work in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders to find solutions. There are three Funds available to Community Boards:

- 1. Community Area Priorities Fund
- 2. Health & Wellbeing Fund
- 3. Local Infrastructure Fund

Community Board Members meet around 5 times a year to consider funding applications for each of the funding streams. Applications will be considered separately in relation to each funding stream, owing to the differences in criteria & rules.

Community Board Coordinators will support the boards, administering the funding streams in their area, and should be the first point of contact for organisations wishing to apply for funds. They work closely with the Community Board Chairmen to implement the vision of the board and address the priorities, so it is important that projects are discussed with them before completing applications to ensure that they are eligible and that there are sufficient funds available. For further information regarding funding applications to the Beaconsfield & Chepping Wye Community Board, please contact Andy Chapman at localities@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

Applications for funding can be made at any time throughout the year and decisions will be taken at the following community board meeting.

In year one (2020/21) community boards will need to allocate their budgets by 31st March 2021. Allocated funds can be reserved into the following financial year to enable projects to be completed.

Once this budget has been fully allocated for the financial year the funding streams will close. If the budget has been fully allocated it may be possible to re-submit an application in the following financial year.

Coordinators will work with external organisations to help identify potential match funding from different sources to maximise impact. This includes considering pan-community board projects that may be supported by neighbouring board areas where appropriate.

Community Area Priorities Fund

(The level of funding each board receives is based on the population of the area)

The Community Area Priorities Fund will support local projects that will help improve outcomes for residents and that address the area priorities determined by each community board, as well as support the delivery of Buckinghamshire Council's Corporate Plan. Each Community Board can allocate a maximum of 50% of its Community Area Priorities Fund towards transport / highways projects.

Health & Wellbeing Fund

(The level of funding each board receives is based on the levels of deprivation in the area)

The Health & Wellbeing Fund will support local projects that improve the health & wellbeing of residents. Applicants must specify how their project will support the health & wellbeing of residents in the respective area in relation to at least one of the stated objectives (see funding criteria).

Local Infrastructure Fund

(The level of funding each board receives is based on proposed new houses in the area)

The Local Infrastructure fund will support community infrastructure needs. It can be used to support the upgrading of existing and/or new physical and/or social infrastructure. The funding source is from central government's New Homes Bonus Scheme. Applications would be expected to demonstrate the impact of growth on the relevant area and show the need or community desire for the proposed investment.

The funding allocated to the Beaconsfield & Chepping Wye Community Board for 2020/21 is as below:

Community A Priorities Fund	Area	Health & Wellbeing Fund	Infrastructure Fund	Total
£100,956		£24,216	£77,999	£203,171

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, a proportion of the Health & Wellbeing Fund was reassigned to the Councillor Crisis Fund in order to support groups and organisations taking

urgent action to support the community. On the launching of the Health & Wellbeing Fund, applications for funding to support Covid-19 projects will be made to the Community Board and any unspent monies in the Crisis Fund will return to the Health & Wellbeing Fund budget for 2020/21.

Further information, including the criteria and the full terms and conditions for applications to the three funding streams, can be found here.

The Community Board Coordinator will provide updates on the allocation of funding at each meeting.