



South Cumberland Community Panel

Investing in our Neighbourhoods

Meeting Date – 13 March 2024

Lead Officer – Paul Musgrave

1.0 Purpose / Summary

- 1.1 The report sets out the current position of the Neighbourhood Investment Fund allocation to this Community Panel as agreed by the Cumberland Council Executive. Where they have been received, this report presents investment applications for consideration and approval from the budget allocation.
- 1.2 This report also presents the draft Neighbourhood Investment Plan for consideration and progress against it will be reported to future meetings through this report.
- 1.3 The work of the Community Panel contributes to the achievement of the Council Plan 2023 - 2027 vision:
 - Cumberland Council takes a fresh approach to the delivery of inclusive services that are shaped by our residents and communities.
 - By enabling positive outcomes for health and wellbeing, prosperity and the environment we will fulfil the potential of our people and our area.
- 1.4 The Council Plan aims to improve the health and wellbeing of our residents through the following priorities:
 - Addressing inequalities
 - Local economies that work for local people
 - Environmental resilience and the climate emergency
 - Delivering excellent public services
- 1.5 This Community Panel has developed its own local priorities which were shared and discussed with our local communities and agreed formally by this Community Panel.

- 1.6 They have been used by the Community Panel to inform the development of the draft Neighbourhood Investment Plan and in assessing investment applications.
- Improving Health and Wellbeing
 - Accessibility and connectivity
 - Supporting children, families and young people
 - Improving the local living environment

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members note the contents of the report.
- 2.2 Members to consider and discuss the agreed priorities to better understand where the focus needs to be going forward.
- 2.3 Members agree the Neighbourhood Investment Plan (NIP), as presented up to 31 March 2025
- 2.4 Members agree to review the NIP at each Community Panel meeting.
- 2.5 Members are asked to agree the officer recommended amount of £2,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Gosforth Parish Council towards Stage 2 Detailed Design phase for improvements to Gosforth Public Hall.
- 2.6 Members are asked to agree the officer recommended amount of £589 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Friends of Egremont Castle towards a community event in Egremont Castle.
- 2.7 Members are asked to agree the officer recommended amount of £8,800 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Shackles Off Youth Project towards a pilot NEET prevention programme.
- 2.8 Members are asked to agree the officer recommended amount of £5,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Millom Network Centre towards upgrading the kitchen facilities.
- 2.9 Members are asked to agree the officer recommended amount of £6,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Millom Town Council towards installing solar lighting in Millom Park.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 The Neighbourhood Investment Fund (NIF) budget allocation to this Community Panel is £64,523 **appendix 1** sets out the current position of this fund.
- 3.2 This allocation is intended to enable the Community Panel to plan activity in their communities through investment.
- 3.3 It was recommended and agreed by the Cumberland Council Executive in the report 'Devolution of Community Funds to Community Panels' presented 30 May 2023;

That all the Community Panels have the delegated authority to approve grant applications funded from a new 'Neighbourhood Investment Fund'.

It is proposed the NIF be managed by the Senior Manager, Community Services in conjunction with the Assistant Director, Communities and Localities.

Initially it is proposed that all grant (investment) applications go to each panel for agreement regardless of value. This will be reviewed within the first 12 months.

3.4 Now that the Community Panel has formally agreed it's priorities, the Members will assess applications against the locally agreed priorities which are:

- Improving health and wellbeing
- Accessibility and connectivity
- Supporting children, families and young people
- Improving the local living environment

3.5 In addition to the priorities, there are a number of criteria and rules that must be adhered to as this relates to public funds at **appendix 2**. There may be occasion where applications are received that do not fit with the local priorities or meet the funding criteria. In these cases, the applications will not be presented to the Community Panel. However, the Council works with other partners and will often be able to advise on other funding streams or will support a group so that they can meet the funding criteria.

3.6 Potential applicants are always advised to speak with the relevant Community Development Officer (CDO) prior to submitting an application. The CDO can offer advice and for this panel area, the CDO is Liz Nichol email liz.nichol@cumberland.gov.uk.

4.0 Investment Applications

4.1 Gosforth Parish Council Public Hall have applied for £10,800 against a total project cost of £72,450.

This is towards enabling Stage 2 Detailed Design phase for improvements to Gosforth Public Hall.

Members are asked to agree an amount of £2,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Gosforth Parish Council Public Hall

This meets the following Panel Priorities:

- Accessibility and connectivity
- Supporting children, families and young people

4.2 Friends of Egremont Castle have applied for £1,942 against a total project cost of £2,427.

This is towards holding a historic community event in Egremont Castle.

Members are asked to agree an amount of £589 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Friends of Egremont Castle.

This meets the following Panel Priorities:

- Improving Health and Wellbeing
- Supporting children, families and young people

- 4.3 Shackles Off have applied for an amount of £8,800 against a total project cost of £8,800.

This is to introduce a pilot NEET prevention programme to support young people in South Cumberland area.

Members are asked to agree an amount of £8,800 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Shackles Off Youth Project.

This meets the following Panel Priorities:

- Improving Health and Wellbeing
- Supporting children, families and young people

- 4.4 Millom Network Centre have applied for an amount of £6,000 against a total project cost of £10,651.

This is towards upgrading the kitchen facilities.

Members are asked to agree an amount of £5,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Millom Network Centre.

This meets the following Panel Priorities:

- Improving Health and Wellbeing
- Supporting children, families and young people

- 4.5 Millom Town Council have applied for an amount of £12,229 against a total project cost of £12,229.

This is towards installing solar lighting in Millom Park.

Members are asked to agree an amount of £6,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Millom Town Council.

This meets the following Panel Priorities:

- Accessibility and connectivity
- Supporting children, families and young people
- Improving the local living environment

- 4.6 Appended to this report are the details of investment applications, for approval by South Cumberland Community Panel at **appendices 3-7**.

Investments to note (approved outside Community Panel)

- 4.7 CCGA 1993-24 Orgill primary school for £992 towards road safety equipment

Neighbourhood Investment Plan

- 4.8 The draft Neighbourhood Investment Plan for this Panel is attached at **appendix 8**. This first version sets out the framework around Community Panels and the Community Network together with the agreed priorities. This will ensure there are very clear links between what has been identified as priority areas; where the Community Panel invest and what they invest in.
- 4.9 The priorities have been developed over the past 6 months and there have been a number of engagement sessions to complement a survey about whether these felt right for this panel area. The Council will continue to speak with communities about these priorities in order to refine them and identify relevant activity in addition funding.
- 4.10 The Neighbourhood Investment Plan, as presented identifies some activity already and although Members are being asked to agree this as the final version, it will remain a live, working document to reflect ongoing conversations with the communities and other stakeholders.

Easter Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF)

- 4.11 The Easter HAF programme, organised by Cumberland Council in collaboration with local partners and community organisations, provides children who are in receipt of benefits related Free School Meals with the opportunity to join fun holiday activities for free and receive a nutritious meal each day.
- 4.12 The HAF activities available during the school Easter holidays will be delivered by ten providers in the South Cumberland area from Frizington to Millom

Provider	Ward	Ages	Total Days of Activities	Allocation £
Body Smart Sports	Cleator Moor	5-16	4	£2,903
Cumbria Heavy Horses	Millom Without	5-16	4	£4,156.07
Egremont Youth Partnership	Egremont	5-16	4	£3,145.28
Frizington Nursery	Frizington	5-8	9	£2,958.30
GLL Cleator Moor	Cleator Moor	5-10	4	£1,920
Howgill Family Centre	Cleator Moor	5-11	4	£3,000
Kepplewray Centre	Millom Without	8-16	4	£2,690
Millom Recreation Centre	Millom	5-12	4	£3,600
Shackles Off Youth	Millom	8-16	4	£3,031.31
Shackles Off Youth	Gosforth & Seascale	8-16	2	£2,146
Total investment				£29,549.96

4.13 Investment awards made by Active Cumbria:

Organisation	Project / Activity	£
Reconditioning Fund		
Caring About You CIC, Copeland	Yoga4Health - a 10 week pilot course will be run in Cleator Moor starting March 4 th	£3,371.00
The Hiking Household	The Hiking Household have produced 6 maps (one for each former locality) throughout Cumbria for us. (Total project investment £3,565) Maps are aimed at older adults, showing a trail and highlighting where the benches are with a different activity (exercise, mindfulness suggestion at each point). The map is in Cleator Moor and we are holding a launch walk event on March 21 st in collaboration with the wellbeing service	£595.00
Opening School Facilities		
West Lakes Academy	Climbing wall leader training for staff. Climbing equipment for students to use for an after school climbing club	£8,000.00 (Year 2)

- 4.14 **Millom School Mountain Bike Club** – £6,120 was awarded by the Active Travel to school team, at Active Cumbria to purchase 12 bikes. The aim of the project was to develop an interest and enthusiasm for mountain biking amongst students and to support the development of a local club, which will benefit both the students themselves and the wider community.

5.0 Options

Alternative Options Considered

- 5.1 There was an option not to put forward the applications for investment but they meet the criteria in place.
- 5.2 Members may review and evaluate the recommendations. Members may choose to approve, vary, defer or reject the recommendations.

Risks

- 5.3 The risk associated with this report is that allocations proposed do not meet the criteria for investments. This is mitigated through officer experience, processes in place and awarding investments in a public forum.

Consultation

- 5.4 There has been no consultation associated with this report.

Legal Comment

5.5 No legal issues arise directly from the report. Any legal issues arising from the delivery of specific projects will be dealt with as they arise.

Finance Comment

5.6 The Neighbourhood Investment Fund is part of Communities and Localities within the Public Health and Communities Directorate.

5.7 The Neighbourhood Investment Fund budget for 2023/24 is £0.542m which is allocated to fund the 8 Community Panels to the values outlined on the Executive Report dated 30th May 2023.

5.8 The 2023/24 budget allocation to the South Cumberland Community Panel is £64,523.

5.9 Approval is sought to agree a proposed funding allocation of £22,389.

5.10 It is recommended that the funding allocation is approved as it is within the confines of the available remaining 2023/24 budget as shown in the table below:

South Cumberland Community Panel		
2023/24 Budget Allocation		£64,523
Minus Approved Investments:	CCGA 1901-23	-£620
	CCGA 1980-23	-1,300
	CCGA 1981-23	-1,089
	CCGA 1982-23	-12,500
	CCGA 1993-24	-992
Minus proposed Investments:	CCGA 1978-23	-2,000
	CCGA 2018-24	-589
	CCGA 2003-24	-8,800
	CCGA 2019-24	-5,000
	CCGA 2046-24	-6,000
Balance of budget remaining:		£25,633

S Morris 21/02/2024

Contact Officer:

CDO: Liz Nichol, Community Development Officer

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Neighbourhood Investment Fund Current Position.

Appendix 2 Community Panel Investment Criteria

Appendix 3 Gosforth Parish Council Public Hall

Appendix 4 Friends of Egremont Castle

Appendix 5 Shackles Off Youth Project

Appendix 6 Millom Network Centre

Appendix 7 Millom Town Council

Appendix 8 South Cumberland Neighbourhood Investment Plan Draft

