



Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel

Investing in our Neighbourhoods

Meeting Date – 14th 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. They have been used by the Community Panel to inform the development of the draft Neighbourhood Investment Plan and in assessing investment applications.

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 agree that that an amount of £12,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Proud and Diverse Cumbria towards furniture, kitchen equipment and an art project for their new hub in Whitehaven.
- 2.6 Members agree that an amount of £6,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Whitehaven Community Trust towards the delivery of a new pilot support project to help young people when they move on from the hostels and secure their own accommodation.
- 2.7 Members agree that an amount of £8,810 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Time To Change West Cumbria towards delivering a new crisis support project, developed in partnership with Citizens Advice Copeland and Together We.
- 2.8 Members agree that an amount of £6,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Whitehaven Harbour Youth Project towards a new floor covering for the main areas of the building.
- 2.9 Members agree that an amount of £8,410 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to St Bees Village Hall towards the costs of renovations and repairs of the community building.
- 2.10 Members agree that an amount of £3,200 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Whitehaven Cricket Club towards purchasing a range of equipment which will allow them to purchase equipment to deliver inclusive activity sessions.
- 2.11 Members agree that an amount of £3,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Whitehaven Boxing Club towards purchasing a new boxing competition ring.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 The Neighbourhood Investment Fund (NIF) budget allocation to this Community Panel is £70,486. **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 its priorities, the Members will assess applications against the locally agreed priorities which are:

- A local environment where individuals, households and communities can live well and thrive.
- Better health and wellbeing for all
- Addressing inequalities through improved access to services and opportunities
- A local economy that is thriving and benefits everyone

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 Tamsin Beattie (Tamsin.Beattie@cumberland.gov.uk).

4.0 Investment Applications

4.1 Appended to this report are the details of investment applications, for approval by Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel. **See Appendices 3 to 9**

Appendix 3: CGA/ 2023-24 Proud and Diverse Cumbria

Appendix 4: CGA/ 2024-24 Whitehaven Community Trust

Appendix 5: CGA/ 2025-24 Time to Change West Cumbria

Appendix 6: CGA/ 2028-24 Whitehaven Harbour Youth Project

Appendix 7: CGA/ 2030-24 St Bees Village Hall

Appendix 8: CGA/ 2031-24 Whitehaven Cricket Club

Appendix 9: CGA/ 2032-24 Whitehaven Boxing Club

4.2 Members agree that that an amount of £12,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Proud and Diverse Cumbria towards furniture, kitchen equipment and an art project for their new hub in Whitehaven. The total cost for the project is £100,000 and the group are applying to the Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel for £12,000.

This project meets the following priorities: -

- Better Health and Wellbeing for all.
- Addressing inequalities through improved access to services and opportunities.

4.3 Members agree that an amount of £6,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Whitehaven Community Trust towards the delivery of a new pilot support project to help young people when they move on from the hostels and secure their own accommodation. The total cost for the project is £6,000 and the organisation are applying to the Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel for the full amount.

This project meets the following priorities: -

- Better Health and Wellbeing for all.
- Addressing inequalities through improved access to services and opportunities.

4.4 Members agree that an amount of £8,810 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Time To Change West Cumbria towards delivering a new crisis support project, developed in partnership with Citizens Advice Copeland and Together We. The total cost for the project is £64,502 and the organisation are applying to the Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel for £8,810.

This project meets the following priorities: -

- Better Health and Wellbeing for all.
- Addressing inequalities through improved access to services and opportunities.

4.5 Members agree that an amount of £6,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Whitehaven Harbour Youth Project towards a new floor covering for the main areas of the building. The total cost for the project is £6,537.25 and the organisation are applying to the Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel for £6,000.

This project meets the following priorities: -

- Better Health and Wellbeing for all.

4.6 Members agree that an amount of £8,410 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to St Bees Village Hall towards the costs of renovations and repairs of the community building. The total cost for the project is £9,180 and the organisation are applying to the Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel for the full amount.

This project meets the following priorities: -

- Better Health and Wellbeing for all.
- Addressing inequalities through improved access to services and opportunities.

4.7 Members agree that an amount of £3,200 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Whitehaven Cricket Club towards purchasing a range of equipment which will allow them to purchase equipment to deliver inclusive activity sessions. The total cost for the project is £3,200 and the organisation are applying to the Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel for the full amount.

This project meets the following priorities: -

- Better Health and Wellbeing for all.
- Addressing inequalities through improved access to services and opportunities.

4.8 Members agree that an amount of £3,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Whitehaven Boxing Club towards purchasing a new boxing competition ring. The total cost for the project is £5,000 and the organisation are applying to the Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel for £3,000.

This project meets the following priorities: -

- Better Health and Wellbeing for all.

Neighbourhood Investment Plan

The draft Neighbourhood Investment Plan for this Panel is attached at **Appendix 10**. 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.

Holiday Activity Fund (HAF) Easter

The following community organisations will be offering Easter HAF sessions in the Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel area.

Provider	Ages	Total Days of Activities	Allocation
Football Fun Factory, Red Lonning	5-12	4	£5,400.00
GLL Whitehaven Leisure Centre	5-10	2	£960.00
South Whitehaven Youth Partnership – Mirehouse	5-16	4	£2,396.00
South Whitehaven Youth Partnership – St Peters	5-16	4	£2,396.00
The Solway Hall/Rosehill Youth Theatre (Inclusive Provision)	5-16	4	£4,763.00
Total Allocation in Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel Area			£15,915.00

Investment Awards made by Active Cumbria in the Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel area:

4.11 The following organisations have been awarded funding by Active Cumbria:

Organisation	Project / Activity	£
Reconditioning Fund		
Castles and Coasts Housing Association	Funding to train 3 housing management workers to deliver armchair exercise classes as well as 3 activity kits that customers could use at their own leisure within the communal areas	£1,685.00
R and R Day Services	Funding will be used to trial employing an extra member of staff to provide smaller group activities and exercises to enable more personalised care to improve mobility, balance and cognitive exercises	£1,872.00
Opening School Facilities		
Mayfield School	Funding provided to purchase 12 specialist bikes, storage facilities and the running of bike sessions	£33,412.00 (Year 1) £13,794.00 (Year 2)
St Benedict's Catholic High School	Funding provided to allow 6 projects based around football, orienteering, basketball, cricket, gymnastics and athletics to take place outside of the school day	£17,665.69 (Year 1) £10,019.00 (Year 2)
Whitehaven Academy	Funding for projects for after school clubs. Activities include fell running, orienteering, basketball, futsal, netball, cricket, dodgeball, trampolining, roller skating and yoga. Includes coaching leadership skills and first aid courses for pupils development	£17,728.83 (Year 1) £4,075.00 (Year 2)
Sport England Together Fund (finished Sept 2023)		
Bee Unique	Funding to create 4 football teams (U8, U12, U16 and adults) based at Mayfield School	£3,978.00
Marchon Badminton Club	New badminton coaching sessions, 2 hours a week for 10 weeks	£1,660.00

Groundwork	Health and wellbeing programme, including martial arts and fitness sessions for people seeking asylum in Whitehaven	£6,800.00
Dance ranch	To set up a new line dancing session to span across the generations, looking to increase participation through local school engagement and taster sessions	£780.00

Place Partnership Work

4.12 Sport England are extending their Place Partnership work and investing £190m across 80-100 places across the Country. Three localities in Cumbria have been selected as identified as part of this work.

The Places – Mirehouse, Kells & Woodhouse



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.

Risks

5.2 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

5.3 There has been no consultation associated with this report.

Legal Comment

5.4 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

Whitehaven & Coastal Community Panel		
2023/24 Budget Allocation		£70,486.00
Minus Approved Investments:	CGA 1924-23	-2,500.00
	CGA 1925-23	-7,280.00
	CGA 1941-23	-6,485.25
	CGA 1932-23	-1,800.00
	CGA 1936-23	-5,000.00
Minus proposed Investments:	CCGA 2023-24	-12,000.00
	CCGA 2024-24	-6,000.00
	CCGA 2025-24	-8,810.00
	CCGA 2030-24	-8,410.00
	CCGA 2028-24	-6,000.00
	CCGA 2031-24	-3,200.00
	CCGA 2032-24	-3,000.00
Balance of budget remaining:		£0.75

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Neighbourhood Investment Fund Summary

Appendix 2: Investment Criteria

Appendix 3: Proud and Diverse Cumbria

Appendix 4: Whitehaven Community Trust

Appendix 5: Time To Change West Cumbria

Appendix 6: Whitehaven Harbour Youth Project

Appendix 7: St Bees Village Hall

Appendix 8: Whitehaven Cricket Club

Appendix 9: Whitehaven Boxing Club

Appendix 10: Whitehaven and Coastal Neighbourhood Investment Plan Draft

Contact Officer:

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