



Border, Fellside and North Carlisle Community Panel Investing in our Neighbourhoods

Meeting Date – 27 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 that an amount of £2,000 is allocated from the local member for Belah's allocation to Carlisle Matters towards summer splash activities in Belah for children and young people.
- 2.4 Members agree that an amount of £4,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Brampton Allotments & Smallholdings Associations Ltd towards purchasing the land where the allotments are situated. This amount includes £2,000 from the BFNC allocation and a £2,000 contribution from the local member for Brampton's allocation.
- 2.5 Members agree that an amount of £2,000 is allocated from the local member for Houghton & Irthington to Stanwix Rural Parish Council towards replacement noticeboards.
- 2.6 Members agree that an amount of £4,000 is allocated from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Brampton & Beyond Community Trust towards the re-launch of the Brampton Youth Project. This amount includes £823 from the BFNC allocation, a £1,594 contribution from the local member for Brampton's allocation and a £1,583 contribution from the local member for Houghton & Irthington's allocation.
- 2.7 Members agree the Neighbourhood Investment Plan (NIP), as presented up to 31 March 2025
- 2.8 Members agree to review the NIP at each Community Panel meeting.

3.0 Background

- 3.1 The Neighbourhood Investment Fund (NIF) budget allocation to this Community Panel is £47,172. **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:
- Community facilities and support
 - Highways
 - Environment
- 3.5 In addition to the priorities, there are a number of criteria / rules that must be adhered to as this relates to public funds (see **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 Helen Esslemont (Helen.Esslemont@cumberland.gov.uk).

4.0 Investment Applications

- 4.1 Appended to this report are the details of investment applications, for approval by Border, Fellside and North Carlisle Community Panel. **See Appendices 3-6.**

Carlisle Matters Appendix 3 – CCGA/2016-24

- 4.2 Carlisle Matters are applying for investment towards their Summer Splash programme, a school summer holiday activity programme for children and young people. This funding would be used in the Belah area.
- 4.3 The Community Centre in the area will have the opportunity to advertise and promote their own activities. The event will also provide a platform for community consultation, benefiting many residents and organisations as possible. Carlisle Matters will link up with Family Action and other local groups to get local ownership and better attendance.
- 4.4 Belah has no summer provision or HAF programme, therefore, by funding Summer Splash in this area it could help kick start more activities for children and young people.
- 4.5 The total cost of the project is £9,039 and Carlisle Matters are applying to the BFNC Community Panel for £2,000.

This investment meets the panel priority:

- Community facilities and support

Brampton Allotments & Smallholdings Appendix 4 – CCGA/2021-24

- 4.6 Brampton Allotments and Smallholdings are applying for investment towards the purchase of a small field and orchard where the allotments are situated.
- 4.7 There are 40 allotment plots on a small parcel of land rented to individuals for the purpose of growing food crops and include a 100 year old orchard, one of four and the only remaining one, planted experimentally in different parts of Cumbria.

4.8 This funding would allow the local community to secure the site for the future and will be run by a co-operative of allotment holders who have the support of the National Allotment Association.

4.9 The total cost of the project is £11,500 and Brampton Allotments and Smallholdings are applying to the BFNC Community Panel for £4,000

This investment meets the panel priority:

- Community facilities and support
- Environment

Stanwix Rural Parish Council Appendix 5 - CCGA/2057-24

4.10 Stanwix Rural Parish Council are applying for investment towards replacement noticeboards. The noticeboards are over 20 years old and getting increasingly expensive to maintain and access. The Parish Council would like to begin a rolling programme of replacing their timber noticeboards with ones which are sustainable and made from recycled plastic.

4.11 Noticeboards are accessible for all, and this one-off investment will ensure that residents have access to information about local events and activities as well as council and parish news.

4.12 The total cost of the project is £2,460 and Stanwix Rural Parish Council are applying to BFNC Community Panel for £2,000.

This investment meets the panel priority:

- Community facilities and support

Brampton & Beyond Community Trust Appendix 6 - CCGA/2058-24

4.13 Brampton and Beyond Community Trust are applying for investment to help create a dedicated youth space, pivotal to the re-launch of the Brampton Youth Project. The space will offer a safe and welcoming setting for diverse programmes and encourage positive relationships and community engagement among the young people of Brampton and surrounding area.

4.14 Funding will be used to prepare and equip this space with the necessary resources for a wide range of activities.

4.15 This investment will directly benefit the young people aged 11-18 in Brampton and the surrounding areas.

4.16 The total cost of the project is £36,916 and Brampton and Beyond Community Trust are applying to BFNC Community Panel for £4,000.

This investment meets the panel priority:

- Community facilities and support

Investments to note that have already been approved:

4.17 £610 was awarded from the local member for Wetheral's allocation to St Cuthbert Without Parish Council towards purchasing a bench for their new play area.

- 4.18 £500 was awarded from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Meals on Wheels Cumbria towards setting up an emergency response hardship fund.
- 4.19 £500 was awarded from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to The Laurie Brewis Trust (Better Together) towards activities for vulnerable adults.
- 4.20 £1,000 was awarded to Carlisle Mencap towards a 12 month pilot project to support people with learning difficulties. This amount includes a £500 contribution from the local member for Belah's allocation and a £500 contribution from the local member for Stanwix Urban's allocation.
- 4.21 £1,208 was awarded from the local member for Brampton's allocation to Nether Denton Parish Council towards repairs to the outside area of Low Row village hall.
- 4.22 £1,000 was awarded from the Neighbourhood Investment Fund to Downagate Community Centre towards improvements to the acoustics in their hall. This amount includes a £185 contribution from the local member for Corby & Hayton's allocation.
- 4.23 £240 was awarded from the local member for Longtown's allocation to Rockcliffe Short Mat Bowling Club towards new equipment.
- 4.24 £250 was awarded from the local member for Houghton & Irthington's allocation to Border Rambler CIC towards updating their ticket machine.

Neighbourhood Investment Plan

- 4.25 The draft Neighbourhood Investment Plan for this Panel area is attached at **Appendix 7**. 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.
- 4.26 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.
- 4.27 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.

Active Cumbria

- 4.28 Investment awards made by Active Cumbria in 2023/2024 in this panel area are shown below.

Organisation	Project / Activity	£
Opening School Facilities		
Bewcastle School	Investment to make the swimming pool more sustainable in the longer term	15,026
Travel Actively Fund		
Age UK	Carlisle area wide wheeled mobility rollator loan scheme	38,577

Easter Holiday Activity Fund (HAF)

- 4.29 The 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.
- 4.30 The following community organisations will be offering Easter HAF sessions in the Border, Fellside and North Carlisle Community Panel area.

Provider	Ward	Ages	Total Days of Activities	Allocation £
Carlisle Mencap (SEND Provision)	Kingstown	8-18	4	1,917
Independent Adventures	Brampton	9-14	4	2,624
Oak Tree Animal Trust	Wetheral	5-10	1	450
Stone Eden Nursery School	Scotby area	5-11	4	1,215

5.0 Options

Alternative Options Considered

- 5.1 There was an option not to put forward 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

- 5.5 The Neighbourhood Investment Fund is part of Communities and Localities within the Public Health and Communities Directorate.
- 5.6 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.
- 5.7 The 2023/24 budget allocation to the Border, Fellside and North Carlisle Community Panel is £47,172.
- 5.8 Approval is sought to agree a proposed funding allocation of £12,000.
- 5.9 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:

Border, Fellside & North Carlisle Community Panel - NIV000003		TOTAL	HOUGHTON							
			BFNC	BELAH	BRAMPTON	CORBY & HAYTON	IRTHINGTON	LONGTOWN	STANWIX	WETHERAL
2023/24 Budget Allocation:		£47,172.00	£12,172.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00
Minus Approved Investments:	2nd Longtown Guides	-500.00							-500	
	Arthuret Church Council	-500.00							-500	
	The Hartley Trust	-860.00								-860
	Friends of Rickerby Park	-600.00								-600
	Reiver Art & Craft	-500.00							-500	
	Cunwhinton Village Hall	-400.00								-400
	Carlisle Society for the blind	-198.00			-198					
	Hayton Parish Council	-913.00				-913				
	CCGA-1970-23	-6,600.00	-4600						-2000	
	CCGA-1945-23	-2,000.00		-1000						-1000
	CCGA-1972-23	-1,487.00				-1487				
	CCGA-1885-23	-1,500.00	-1500							
	CCGA-1891-23	-300.00	-300							
	CCGA-1957-23	-1,134.00	-1134							
	CCGA-1963-23	-835.00				-835				
	CCGA-1968-23	-1,080.00				-1080				
	CCGA-1973-23	-500.00				-500				
	CCGA-1977-23	-330.00					-330			
	CCGA-1967-23	-700.00						-700		
	CCGA-1964-23	-630.00								-630
	CCGA-1958-23	-1,000.00								-1000
	CCGA-1961-23	-1,500.00								-1500
	CCGA-1904-23	-500.00							-500	
Minus proposed Investments:	CCGA-2016-24	-2,000.00		-2000						
	CCGA-2021-24	-4,000.00	-2000		-2000					
	CCGA-2057-24	-2,000.00			-2000		-2000			
	CCGA-2058-24	-4,000.00	-823		-1594		-1583			
	St Cuthbert	-610.00								-610
	Meals of Wheels	-500.00	-500							
	Laurie Brewis Trust	-500.00	-500							
	Carlisle Mencap	-1,000.00		-500						-500
	Nether Denton PC	-1,208.00			-1208					
	Downgate Community Centre	-1,000.00	-815			-185				
	Rockliffe Bowling Club	-240.00						-240		
	Border Rambler CIC	-250.00					-250			
5.10	Balance of budget remaining:	£5,297.00	£0.00	£1,500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£837.00	£60.00	£2,900.00	£0.00

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Impact Assessments

- 5.11 An assessment has not been completed.

Contact Officer:

CDO: Helen Esslemont, Community Development Officer

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Neighbourhood Investment Fund Summary

Appendix 2 – Investment Application Criteria

Appendix 3 – CCGA/2016-24 Carlisle Matters

Appendix 4 – CCGA/2021-24 Brampton Allotments & Smallholding Assoc Ltd

Appendix 5 – CCGA/2057-24 Stanwix Rural Parish Council

Appendix 6 – CCGA/2058-24 Brampton & Beyond Community Trust

Appendix 7 – Neighbourhood Investment Plan