



Workington Together Community Panel

Investing in our Neighbourhoods

Meeting Date – 12 September 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 Workington Together Community Panel Neighbourhood Investment Plan for information, discussion and to report progress against it.
- 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 Neighbourhood Investment Plan and in assessing investment applications.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members note the contents of the report.
- 2.2 Members to review the Neighbourhood Investment Plan including discussion about the priorities. **Appendix 1.**
- 2.3 Members note investment (CCGA/1902-23) to Workington Community Boxing Academy of £1,750 has been returned.
- 2.4 Members to agree an investment (CCGA/200-24) to Together We Can CIC of £8,000 to enable them to continue the Together We Carry service by contributing to staffing costs for the next six months.
- 2.5 Members to agree an investment (CCGA/2144-24) to Autism Support Allerdale and Copeland of £6,000 towards the cost of installing a sensory room.
- 2.6 Members agree an investment (CCGA/20xx-24 to Citizens Advice Allerdale of £16,118 to recruit 2 Business Admin apprentices.
- 2.7 Members to agree an award of £2,250 from the UKSPF to Age UK to deliver against the E35 Intervention.
- 2.8 Members to agree an award of £5,000 from the UKSPF to Cancer Research to deliver against the E35 Intervention.
- 2.9 Members to agree an award of £5,556 from the UKSPF to Citizens Advice to deliver against the E35 Intervention.
- 2.10 Members to agree an award of £16,496 from the UKSPF to Train with ESOL to deliver against the E35 Intervention
- 2.11 Members to agree an award of £1,250 from the UKSPF to CVS to deliver against the E35 Intervention.
- 2.12 Members to agree an award of £4,995 from the UKSPF to Cumbria Youth Alliance to deliver against the E35 Intervention.
- 2.13 Members to agree an award of £3,938 from the UKSPF to Groundwork NE and Cumbria to deliver against the E35 Intervention
- 2.14 Members to agree an award of £6,000 from the UKSPF to Lakeland Wellbeing to deliver against the E35 Intervention.
- 2.15 Members to agree an award of £4,745 from the UKSPF to NADT to deliver against the E35 Intervention.
- 2.16 Members to agree an award of £1,500 from the UKSPF to Rosehill Youth Theatre to deliver against the E35 Intervention.
- 2.17 Members to agree an award of £7,000 from the UKSPF to Steps to Success to deliver against the E35 Intervention.
- 2.18 Members to agree an award of £2,200 from the UKSPF to Together We to deliver against the E35 Intervention.
- 2.19 Members to agree an award of £196 from the UKSPF to Triple A to deliver against the E35 Intervention.

3.0 Background

3.1 The Neighbourhood Investment Fund (NIF) budget allocation to this Community Panel is £78,619 as agreed at Full Council on 30 April 2024.

3.2 The total amount available to this Panel for the financial year 2024/25 is £78,619.

3.3 This allocation is intended to enable the Community Panel to plan activity in their communities through investment that will assist in the achievement of its priorities.

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

- Empowering our Children and Young People
- Supporting Communities to Help Themselves
- Reducing Food Poverty

3.5 In addition to the priorities, there are a number of criteria that must be adhered to as this relates to public funds. These are set out on the application form. 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 In addition, this Community Panel has considered other criteria that they wish to implement and these are:

- Investments up to £1,500 can be agreed outside the meeting in consultation with the Chair, local Member and Senior Manager – Community Services.

3.7 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 Carole Tubman who can be contacted by email (Carole.Tubman@cumberland.gov.uk).

3.8 In addition to the funding described above, the Executive discussed the allocation of the United Kingdom Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) at its meeting on 23 April 2024.

3.9 The Portfolio Holder moved that the Priority Intervention E35 (Enrichment & volunteering activities) indicative budget / grant allocations be amended to read:

£387,520 – allocated to consider targeted approach with public health partners delegated to Community Panels. The Leader seconded the recommendation and the amendment.

3.10 In direct response to this, work has been undertaken to encourage partners to apply who have a track record of delivering projects that are consistent with what this intervention is seeking to achieve. Care has been taken to ensure that areas right across Cumberland can benefit from this funding.

- 3.11 The timeframes for spending this money are tight with all projects funded needing to be completed by 31 January 2025 and full reporting on outcomes by 28 February 2025.
- 3.12 All applications that benefit this community panel area will be presented to the Community Panel for agreement and in this report, they are set out in Section 4 at paragraphs 4.4 to 4.78.
- 3.13 The December meeting of this Community Panel will be too late to fund the majority of projects so any further applications benefiting this Community Panel area will be presented to a Special Meeting if required. Any delays to agreeing applications may mean that projects are no longer viable within the time frames.

4.0 Investment Applications

- 4.1 Applications in sections 4.4 to 4.28 are made to the Neighbourhood Investment Fund.
- 4.2 Applications in sections 4.29 to 4.78 are made to the Shared Prosperity Fund delegated to Community Panels.
- 4.3 Investment (CCGA/1902-23) to Workington Community Boxing Academy of £1,750 awarded by the Workington Together Community panel in December 2023 has been returned. The Boxing Academy closed due to the head coach sustaining an injury. The returned funds increases the neighbourhood investment fund available to the panel for 2024/25 to £80,369

APPLICATIONS TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD INVESTMENT FUND.

Together We Can CIC – CCGA/2126-24

- 4.4 Together We Can are applying for £12,426 against total project costs of £22,098 towards the Together We Carry project.
- 4.5 Together We have previously received £5,000 of funding from Cumberland council in 2023 towards 'Cost of Living' funding, which was directly distributed to their service users.
- 4.6 Together We CIC are a not-for-profit organisation that offers many services across Cumbria, to help people to learn skills to better manage their physical and mental wellbeing. They have 4 services that connect to provide care for people of all ages.
- 4.7 Together We Carry' has been running for the past two years, it has been providing both one-to-one link working and peer groups with professional support. The one-to-one offer supports new mothers and families who are experiencing mental health difficulties and distress, to link with local services to support social connection and improved mental wellbeing. Additionally, the project has co-created peer and professional groups throughout North Cumbria with the intention of increasing provisions to post-natal mental health services and support. The project has been very successful, however there is currently no funding available to continue the project and the Community Investment funding is required to help 'bridge the gap', so the service is not lost while longer term funding can be secured.
- 4.8 Project expenditure for the 6-month project includes only staffing costs.
- 4.9 The organisation has also applied for 100% of the project delivery costs from three other community panels which are Patteril, Carlisle West, and Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panels. The amount requested has been split by the number of users per service delivery location.

- 4.10 The Officer recommendation is £8,000 to cover salaries for the next six months on the condition the funding must be ring fenced to support residents in the Workington Together Community Panel area. When looking at the postcode data provided for the last 12 months the service although based in Workington is used by families across the former Allerdale area.
- 4.11 This application meets the following panel priority:
- Supporting communities to help themselves.

Autism Support Allerdale and Copeland – CCGA/2107-24 £6,000

- 4.12 Autism Support Allerdale and Copeland are applying for £6,000 against total project costs of £35,136.
- 4.13 Autism Support Allerdale and Copeland have not previously received any funding from Cumberland Council.
- 4.14 Autism Support Allerdale and Copeland are a volunteer led registered charity which supports families and individuals on all aspects of Autism and additional disabilities, this includes applying for benefits and Educational Health Care Plans. They also run several clubs and are an AQA Centre supporting children who are home educated. In the past year they supported over 500 families. They recently relocated to new premises in Workington town centre which will enable them to increase their offer.
- 4.15 The organisation are currently raising funds to have a sensory room installed in their new premises as there is no other provision specifically for children and adults with a disability in the Workington area.
- 4.16 The sensory room will be an asset to families and members of the community and provide a safe place where families won't be judged by any challenging behaviour that Autism brings. They also plan to reach out to the older community for them to enjoy the sensory space.
- 4.17 The organisation hope the sensory room will also help them become sustainable as they plan for it to be hireable.
- 4.18 The total quote from Rompa (Sensory Specialists) for the sensory room is £35,136 equipment and installation.
- 4.19 They are applying for £6,000 towards the project and plan to raise addition funds through other funders. They have already been awarded £3,000 from Westfield Housing Association for the project.
- 4.20 The officer recommendation is £6,000, the officer will continue to work with the organisation and identify other funders.
- 4.21 The application meets the following priorities:
- Empowering our children and young people
 - Supporting communities to help themselves.

Citizens Advice Allerdale – CCGA/2145-24 £16,118

- 4.22 Citizens Advice Allerdale are applying for £16,118 against total project costs of £19,968.
- 4.23 In addition to the Service Level Agreement Citizens Advice Allerdale has with Cumberland Council they have also received the following funds for measures including e vouchers to help residents with the cost of living crisis:

- CGA/1558-23 £4,500 E-vouchers
 - CGA/1855-23 £3,000 E-vouchers
 - CGA/11862-23 £12,500 – Cost of Living Support Grants
 - CGA/1914-23 £5,000 E-vouchers
- 4.24 Citizens Advice Allerdale are a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee. They provide free, confidential, and independent advice throughout the Workington Together panel area and have an office located in Workington. Their service aims are to deliver the advice people need for the problems they face and improve the policies and practices that affect people's lives. They value diversity, champion equality, challenge discrimination and harassment. Main enquiries relate to debt, welfare benefits and housing however they advise on many other issues including consumer, employment, relationship and immigration. In addition, they actively tackle fuel poverty through providing information and energy efficiency advice at group sessions and 1:1 support.
- 4.25 The investment funding will be used to recruit two business administration apprentices living in the Workington Together Community panel area. The funding will cover the direct costs of the of the apprentices' wages. The apprentices will work towards completing their NVQ level 2 in Business Administration as well as being trained to provide support by answering the phones, entering clients on to Casebook to assist with the delivery of advice services to Workington Together panel area residents.
- 4.26 The cost per apprentice is £9,984 x 2 £19,968 less funds already received from the Hatfield Trust of £3,850 gives a total project cost of £16,118.
- 4.27 The officer recommendation is £16,118. Education, training and employment opportunities is a focus area identified in the Workington Together Neighbourhood Investment Plan.
- 4.28 This project supports the following panel priority:
- Empowering our children and young people.

APPLICATIONS TO THE UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF)

All applications presented are compliant with the intervention E35 as described in the guidance. E35 is to be used to fund activities such as enrichment and volunteering to improve opportunities and promote wellbeing.

Age UK

- 4.29 Age UK are applying for £18,000 in total and are requesting £2,250 from this Community Panel. Given full coverage of Cumberland with this application, applications to the same value will also be presented to the other seven Community Panels.
- 4.30 Although this project is scalable, greater benefits will be achieved through the full scale delivery of the project.
- 4.31 Age UK will recruit people over the age of 50 who are out of work for a variety of reasons to be age friendly ambassadors. Those targeted, who are out of work, are likely to be so due to ill health and this project will support them with varying skills to get back into employment, but will also address social isolation, increase their resilience and have a positive impact on their mental health.
- 4.32 They are looking to achieve a minimum of forty volunteering rolls across Cumberland.

4.33 The officer recommendation is £2,250 from this Community Panel.

Cancer Research Workington

4.34 Cancer Research are applying for £5,000 in total from this Community Panel to provide supported volunteering opportunities that meets the needs of participants.

4.35 Cancer Research will offer a variety options to include warehousing, retail, customer service and will work with health partners and safer families to identify participants.

4.36 The officer recommendation is £5,000 from this Community Panel.

Citizens Advice (Carlisle and Eden, Allerdale and Copeland)

4.37 Citizens Advice are applying for £50,000 in total as a joint application and the project will be delivered together to reduce administration and training costs and to provide resilience across the project. They are requesting £5,556 from this Community Panel. Given full coverage of Cumberland with this application, applications will also be presented to the other seven Community Panels.

4.38 Although this project is scalable, greater benefits will be achieved through the full scale delivery of the project.

4.39 Citizens Advice will utilise the funding to secure additional training supervisor hours to support a new cohort of volunteers. They will target potential volunteers who may not have worked for many years, have given up work due to illness or have long term health conditions. They will offer a wider range of volunteering opportunities including reception duties and administration tasks, service promotion, research and campaigns to develop into the more traditional information and advice rolls.

4.40 The officer recommendation is £5,556 from this Community Panel.

Train with ESOL

4.41 The Community Rail team are applying for £20,620 in total and are requesting £16,496 from this Community Panel to deliver the Train with ESOL project. An application will also be presented to the Lakes to Sea Community Panel.

4.42 Although this project is scalable, greater benefits will be achieved through the full scale delivery of the project.

4.43 The Community Rail Team will enhance the councils ESOL programme by enabling free train travel so they can participate in new life skills and opportunities which include education, training, employment, health and social wellbeing. The project will remove barriers to train travel, educate about rail safety and inspire travel confidence to help empower people to gain their independence.

4.44 The officer recommendation is £16,496 from this Community Panel.

Cumbria CVS

4.45 Cumbria CVS are applying for £10,000 in total and are requesting £1,250 from this Community Panel. Applications of the same value will also be presented to the other seven Community Panels.

4.46 This is towards a project valued at £20,000 and funding of £10,000 has already been achieved. Although this project is scalable, greater benefits will be achieved through the full scale delivery of the project.

- 4.47 Cumbria CVS will develop and provide a package of support to those participants not currently in the labour market across Cumberland. This will include workshops, support and social action days in a bid to improve individuals confidence and social skills and reduce social isolation.
- 4.48 The officer recommendation is £1,250 from this Community Panel.

Cumbria Youth Alliance

- 4.49 Cumbria Youth Alliance are applying for £39,950 in total and are requesting £4,995 from this Community Panel. Applications of the same value will also be presented to the other seven Community Panels.
- 4.50 Cumbria Youth Alliance will reengage up to 30 young people in work focused activities, confidence building sessions, education and training. These will equip young people with the skills, resources and support needed for the transition into employment or further education.
- 4.51 The officer recommendation is £4,995 from this Community Panel.

Groundwork NE and Cumbria

- 4.52 Groundwork NE and Cumbria are applying for £9,845 in total and are requesting £3,938 from this Community Panel. Applications will also be presented to Lakes to Sea and Workington Together.
- 4.53 This is towards a project valued at £19,845 and funding of £10,000 has already been achieved. Although this project is scalable, greater benefits will be achieved through the full scale delivery of the project.
- 4.54 Groundwork will encourage residents to connect with nature, learn new skills, volunteer and enhance their health and wellbeing through a number of activities at their Green Community Hub in Workington. Activities include gardening, wellbeing, nature themed arts etc.
- 4.55 The officer recommendation is £3,938 from this Community Panel.

Lakeland Wellbeing

- 4.56 Lakeland Wellbeing are applying for £12,000 in total and are requesting £6,000 from this Community Panel. An application will also be presented to the Whitehaven and Coastal Community Panel.
- 4.57 Lakeland Wellbeing will empower women to successfully return to employment through empowerment and building self-confidence. They will focus on the barriers faced by women to include caring responsibilities and health issues. Participants will be encouraged to consider self-employment and will be equipped with strategies to improve resilience.
- 4.58 The officer recommendation is £6,000 from this Community Panel.

NADT Pitstop Project

- 4.59 NADT are applying for £37,960 in total for this project and £4,745 from this Community Panel. Given full coverage of Cumberland with this application, applications to the same value will also be presented to the other seven Community Panels.

- 4.60 Although this project is scalable, greater benefits will be achieved through the full scale delivery of the project.
- 4.61 NADT will deliver a previously piloted Pitstop programme which is designed for young people aged up to 25 who experience personal, emotional, social or educational barriers. The scheme runs from Cumbria's first large scale studio based film production company in Carlisle but is available to young people across Cumberland to help overcome transport as a barrier.
- 4.62 The officer recommendation is £4,745 from this Community Panel.

Rosehill Youth Theatre and the Solway Hall

- 4.63 Rosehill Youth Theatre are applying for £9,000 in total and are requesting £1,500 from this Community Panel. Applications will also be presented to Whitehaven and Coastal and South Cumberland Community Panels.
- 4.64 This is towards a project valued at £19,440 and funding of £10,000 has already been achieved. Although this project is scalable, greater benefits will be achieved through the full scale delivery of the project.
- 4.65 Rosehill Youth Theatre will recruit an additional 7 volunteers who are neurodiverse with a view to participants moving into further education, employment or volunteering opportunities.
- 4.66 The officer recommendation is £1,500 from this Community Panel.

Steps to Success

- 4.67 The Council's People Management Steps to Success Team are applying for £23,000 in total and are requesting £7,000 from this Community Panel. Applications will also be presented to Border, Fellside and North Carlisle, Carlisle West and Patteril Community Panels
- 4.68 Although this project is scalable, greater benefits will be achieved through the full scale delivery of the project.
- 4.69 The Pathways to Potential Project Team will implement a volunteering and work experience programme within Cumberland Council to encourage people to apply to work for the Council across a variety of roles and to do this by engaging, inspiring and motivating those in long-term unemployment.
- 4.70 The officer recommendation is £7,000 from this Community Panel.

Together We

- 4.71 Together We are applying for £3,286 in total and are requesting £2,200 from this Community Panel. Applications will also be presented to South Cumberland and Whitehaven and Coastal.
- 4.72 This is towards a project valued at £19,786 and funding of £16,500 has already been achieved. Although this project is scalable, greater benefits will be achieved through the full scale delivery of the project.
- 4.73 Together We will employ a support worker to support specific groups of adults to engage on wellbeing activities and volunteering opportunities to help overcome barriers to gain employment. They will support 10 adults for up to 24 sessions each.

4.74 The officer recommendation is £2,200 from this Community Panel.

Triple A Project (All About Autism)

4.75 Triple A are applying for £1,569 in total and are requesting £196 from this Community Panel. Applications of the same value will also be presented to the other seven Community Panels.

4.76 This is towards a project valued at £11,420 and funding of £9,851 has already been achieved. Although this project is scalable, greater benefits will be achieved through the full scale delivery of the project.

4.77 Triple A will provide accessible, expert advice and support to people with autism to find volunteer and employment opportunities. The funding will be used to pay for specialist mentors who will support individuals.

4.78 The officer recommendation is £196 from this Community Panel.

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.

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 2024/25 is £0.727m which is allocated to fund the 8 Community Panels.
- 5.8 The 2024/25 budget allocation to the Workington Together Community Panel is £78,619.
- 5.9 Approval is sought to agree a proposed funding allocation of £30,118 which is in addition to £10,012 already agreed.
- 5.10 It is recommended that the funding allocation is approved as it is within the confines of the available remaining 2024/25 budget as shown in the table below:

Workington Together Community Panel	NIV000006	
2024/25 Budget Allocation		£78,619.00
Minus Approved Investments:	CCGA 2094-24	-£1,500.00
	CCGA 2096-24	-£713.00
	CCGA 2110-24	-£1,299.00
	CCGA 2107-24	-6,500.00
Minus proposed Investments:	CCGA 2126-24	-8,000.00
	CCGA 2107-24	-6,000.00
	CCGA 2145-24	-16,118.00
Balance of budget remaining:		£38,489.00
Returned Funding:	CCGA 1902-23	1,750.00
Revised balance remaining:		£40,239.00

S Morris 02/09/2024

Impact Assessments

- 5.11 An assessment has not been completed.

Contact Officer:

CDO: Carole Tubman, Community Development Officer

Appendices: Appendix 1 – Neighbourhood Investment Plan