



WARDS AFFECTED

**Braunstone Park, Rowley Fields, Western Park, Westcotes
Aylestone, Eyres Monsell, Freeman
Humberstone, Hamilton, Thurcourt
Spinney Hills, Stoneygate**

FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS: Cabinet

15 May 2006

Area Committees – Proposals for Expenditure

Report of the Corporate Director of Resources

1. Purpose of Report

To seek Cabinet endorsement of spending proposals by Area Committees and to respond to a recommendation of the Aylestone, Eyres Monsell and Freeman Area Committee regarding reallocation of funds.

2. Report

As part of the 2005/06 approved revenue budget, Council agreed that £250,000 be allocated for use by Area Committees. At its meeting on 26 September 2005, Cabinet agreed that each of the Area Committees would be allocated £25,000 that financial year, with an agreed set of criteria and rules to achieve the release of these funds. At the Budget Meeting on 22 February 2006, Council agreed a further and similar provision for 2007/08.

To comply with current Finance Procedure Rules, Cabinet also agreed that any proposals for expenditure from these budgets be reported to Cabinet for approval, thereby enabling them to consider and determine any proposals which are contrary to existing strategic policy provision.

A further set of proposals from each of the Area Committees currently in being are set out at Appendix A.

In addition, as detailed in Appendix B, the Aylestone, Eyres Monsell and Freeman Area Committee, at their meeting on 11 April 2006, resolved to recommend to Cabinet that the budgets for the Area Committees which have yet to be set up in the city be allocated to and split between the current up and running Area Committees.

When considering the original basis of allocation, Cabinet recognised that Area Committees would be implemented on a phased basis and agreed, subject to the necessary provisions being met within Finance Procedure Rules, that the unspent

allocations (both for established Area Committees and those yet to become operational) would be carried forward to the 2006/07 financial year. Such carry forward provision will be considered by Cabinet as part of the 2005/06 Revenue Outturn Report. With regard to the Area Committee proposal for the reallocation of unspent funds to the already established Area Committees, Cabinet will be aware that the establishment of the first Area Committees was based on Member interest in those areas, rather than a set of objective criteria. The channelling of currently un-utilised funds to those first Area Committees would not, therefore, be in accordance with objective criteria and, therefore, potentially unlawful. Cabinet is, therefore, recommended to inform the Area Committee accordingly.

3. Recommendations

Cabinet is recommended to endorse the items of expenditure put forward by the Area Committees, as detailed at Appendix A to the report.

4. Financial Implications

The expenditure proposals are within the budget available and are in accordance with the principles agreed by Cabinet at its meeting on 26 September 2005. Members should note that the budget is allocated to the Area Committee and the more detailed allocation to Ward level referred to on Appendix A is a working arrangement agreed by the Committee itself.

A proposal to create an earmarked reserve for the purpose of carrying forward any unspent grant allocations to the Area Committees will be considered by Cabinet as part of the 2005/06 Revenue Outturn report at its meeting on 26 June 2006. The subsequent use of this earmarked reserve must be in accordance with the express purpose for which it is created which must, of course, be lawful.

(Andy Morley)

5. Legal Implications

The legal implications are covered in the report. (Peter Nicholls)

6. Other Implications

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/NO	Paragraph Within Supporting information	References
Equal Opportunities	No		
Policy	No	Within the agreed criteria	
Sustainable and Environmental	No		
Crime and Disorder	No		
Human Rights Act	No		
Elderly/People on Low Income	No		

7. Background Papers – Local Government Act 1972

Minutes of Spinney Hills and Stoneygate Area Committee on 20 March 2006.
Minutes of Braunstone Park & Rowley Fields, Western Park and Westcotes Area Committee on 23 March 2006.
Minutes of Humberstone, Hamilton and Thurncourt Area Committee on 10 April 2006.
Minutes of Aylestone, Eyres Monsell and Freeman Area Committee on 11 April 2006.

8. Consultations

None.

9. Report Author

Charles Poole
Service Director (Democratic Services)
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DECISION STATUS

Key Decision	No
Reason	N/A
Appeared in Forward Plan	No
Executive or Council Decision	Executive (Cabinet)

AREA COMMITTEE FUNDING PROPOSALS FOR DETERMINATION
BY CABINET – 15 MAY 2006

Area Committee	Proposal(s)	Costs £	Notes
Aylestone, Eyres Monsell and Freeman	Saffron Community Enterprises Sports sessions for young people – Southfields Drive	2000	To be funded equally from Freeman and Eyres Monsell Wards sports budget allocation within overall Area Committee sports budget.
Aylestone, Eyres Monsell and Freeman	Fete on Aylestone Hall Gardens (Second Sunday in August)	700	To be funded from Aylestone Ward allocation within overall Area Committee budget.
Ayles, Eyres Monsell and Freeman	Eyres Monsell Summer Fete	1000	To be funded from the Eyres Monsell Ward allocation within the overall Area Committee budget.
Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields, Western Park and Westcotes	Braunstone Motor Project Buzz Bus		
Braunstone Park and Rowley Fields, Western Park and Westcotes	Braunstone Adventure Playground – Installation of sensor light	400	
Humberstone, Hamilton and Thurncourt	Netherhall Neighbourhood Centre – Senior Citizens Coach Trip to Torquay (10/4/06)	200	Confirmation of urgent action taken by Service Director in consultation with Members of Area Committee.
Humberstone, Hamilton and Thurncourt	Funding of attendance by three local youths selected for England Team at International Baton Twirling Championship, Rome, July/August 2006	450	

Aylestone, Eyres Monsell and Freeman Area Committee

RECORD OF MEETING

Held on Tuesday, 11 April 2006 at St. Hugh's Church, Sturdee Road, Eyres Monsell, Leicester

Present

Councillor Mark Farmer (Chair)

Councillor Barbara Chambers, Aylestone;
Councillor Dale Keeling, Freeman;
Councillor Nigel Porter, Aylestone;

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98. Declaration of interests

Councillor Mrs Chambers declared that she sat on the Council's Development Control Committee and therefore would not take part in the discussions on the Saffron Lane Sports Stadium because this item would be brought before the Committee for decision and she had to remain impartial.

113. Any other urgent business

The Chair announced that he wished to make a recommendation to Cabinet that the money which would have been given to the other Area Committee budgets which have yet to be set up in the City, should be allocated to and split between the current up and running Area Committees. This was agreed.

RESOLVED:

that the budgets for the Area Committees which have yet to be set up in the city be allocated to and split between the current up and running Area Committees.