

Name of meeting: Cabinet
Date: 16 October 2018
Title of report: Community Plus Investment Scheme: Individuals and Community organisations (Do Something Now)

Purpose of report:

This report seeks Cabinet approval for the proposed scheme – **Do Something Now** - which will invest in community activities delivered by individuals and community organisations.

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Yes. The investment scheme amounts to more than £250k and covers all wards of the district
Key Decision - Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (key decisions and private reports?)	N/a
The Decision - Is it eligible for call in by Scrutiny?	Yes
Date signed off by Strategic Director and name	Richard Parry - 8.10.2018
Is it also signed off by the Service Director - Finance?	Eamonn Croston - 8.10.2018
Is it also signed off by the Service Director - Legal Governance and Commissioning?	Julie Muscroft - 8.10.2018
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Cathy Scott - Adults and Independence Cllr Viv Kendrick - Children (Cllr Musarrat Khan - Health and Social Care)

Electoral wards affected: All
Ward councillors consulted: Not applicable to this decision
Public or private: Public

1. Summary

An investment scheme, which will fund community based activities has been developed by Community Plus. "Do Something Now" which will enable individuals and community-based third sector organisations to deliver projects and interventions that improve health and well-being, increase individual and community capacity, and prevent, reduce or delay the need for statutory social care intervention in people's lives.

2. Information required to take a decision

2.1 The Council holds funds of up to £500,000 to support grassroots activities in communities that improve the health and wellbeing of people, build their capacity and resilience so that they are able to do more for themselves in communities, rather than look to statutory services for support which are designed for those needing complex and crisis intervention.

“Do Something Now” has been developed to allow individuals and community organisations to receive investment, to deliver projects and interventions that support people to thrive and cope with life challenges, through community based activities. This is intended to impact on the numbers of people becoming dependent on more costly social care services.

- 2.2 The scheme will have a small investment strand (up to £200 for individuals, and up to £5, 000 for constituted community groups) and a larger investment strand (of up to £50, 000). The Community Plus service will work with individuals and organisations who have a proposal to deliver a project to develop ideas, make links with partners who can assist them, and build their capacity.

Decision making on applications to the scheme will include elected members, as well as local key partners. A panel will be set up to agree funding. Disputes or appeals will be resolved by a panel of 2 relevant service directors. Successful projects will have a strong focus on outcomes for people, and this will improve understanding of how interventions outside of the statutory sector can provide benefit to health and wellbeing.

The scheme is designed to cover the programme of work up to £500,000 maximum in any given year in any one year. It is acknowledged that the funding will always adhere to the level of budget available and no more.

- 2.3 The scheme will be promoted by the Community Plus service to third sector organisations that are contributing to the Council’s Early Intervention and Prevention outcomes, proactively encouraging them to develop ideas and apply for funds.

Appendix 1 to this report includes information on the scheme; its scope, and outline of the application process, and expected outcomes.

3. Implications for the Council

3.1 Early Intervention and Prevention (EIP)

The scheme will play a significant role in assisting the EIP agenda, by helping grow the capacity and reach of community activities, connecting people at the local level to encourage people to be more active and better involved in their local area, improving their wellbeing and health. Community Plus is working with a cross section of community based groups who contribute to the wellbeing of citizens across the district. Successful projects will assist with reducing pressure on statutory services, preventing or delaying people needing statutory social care interventions.

Activities such as drop-in groups, self-help support groups, activities that get people mobilised and connected with each other in their local area will help prevent loneliness and isolation, keeping people well and independent for longer.

3.2 Economic Resilience (ER)

The scheme will help support third sector, community based organisations, and contribute to the local economy, strengthening the sector through investment and developing enterprise. Increased involvement in community life will assist people with levels of confidence, which for some will lead to increased employability as they seek to enhance their skills once they gain confidence, deal with life challenges and feel better about their opportunities.

3.3 Improving Outcomes for Children

The scheme will be open to projects that benefit people throughout the whole life course, but it is anticipated that a significant proportion of projects and interventions that receive investment will benefit children and young people, including those with disabilities, as well as supporting family and community life.

3.4 Reducing demand of services

By growing the range of community activities that support people facing challenges in their lives, the scheme will help reduce, prevent and delay the need for statutory services. Self-help and community based solutions will be more accessible for people to access.

3.5 Legal/Financial or Human Resources

The scheme will support the work of the Council's Community Plus service, by investing resources into community activity that will benefit people the service is working with. There will be more opportunities for people can take part in, which improve their well-being. This will help reduce pressure on statutory services offered by the council and its partners, as people can be introduced to community provision that meets their needs and allows the council and partners to focus resources on more complex needs. Corporate Finance have been consulted through the scheme development and we have ensured that all financial regulations have been adhered to.

4. Consultees and their opinions

The Council's Third Sector Support Team (Communities Service) have given a positive response to the proposal, and commented that it complements their work to develop a new relationship between the council and third sector, by exploring new ways of co-producing projects and interventions, and will help provide extra capacity for existing groups, whilst also developing new community initiatives. A new approach is being developed by the Third Sector Team to explore how relationships can be improved with voluntary and community groups in relation to partnership working and funding. The scheme fits within the proposed way forward of this approach, of co-producing ideas, balancing the level of administration with ensuring financial regulations are met, and providing payment in advance for small community organisations

whose cashflow often does not allow for retrospective payment to be a viable option.

A working group made up of partners from internal corporate services (commissioning, finance, policy) and those working with third sector organisations, has helped shape the proposed scheme, and given positive feedback during engagement. Other partners such as Volunteering Kirklees and Third Sector Leaders have also given positive feedback on the scheme.

5. Next steps

If approved, the “Do Something Now” scheme will be launched by Community Plus, who already have a good picture of the emerging needs in communities, and good links with council services and organisations who work with people at a local level. Where Community Plus understands there are gaps in community activity, we will work with all partners to develop new and creative ideas to meet these needs.

6. Officer recommendations and reasons

That Cabinet approves the proposed investment scheme described above and in appendix 1 for delivery.

That cabinet delegates authority to agree

- The funding panel
- Changes to criteria for funding projects

To the strategic Director for adults or children’s social care in consultation with appropriate portfolio holders.

7. Cabinet portfolio holder’s recommendations

That Cabinet support the officer recommendations.

8. Contact officer

Andrew Dolman, Early Intervention and Prevention Partnership Manager
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9. Background Papers and History of Decisions

Appendix 1 is a background paper detailing the scheme, its scope, aims and processes in further detail

10. Service Director responsible

Sue Richards, Service Director Community Plus and Integration
sue.richards@kirklees.gov.uk 01484 221000

APPENDIX 1

Do Something Now – Community Plus investment scheme

Overview

Kirklees Council, in conjunction with partners and communities, is looking to redefine and rebalance the way the 'state' and 'citizens' relate to each other in the district, devolving more rights and responsibilities to citizens and communities, while ensuring we stay focused on early intervention and prevention to tackle societal problems and reduce inequalities, and dependence on social care services.

The Council is seeking to bring together a more co-operative and collaborative approach in the way priorities are identified, resources allocated and services provided. We want this approach to be 'place-based', to ensure we are truly meeting the needs of localities in the district using all our insight and intelligence.

The Council holds funds to support Early Intervention and Prevention (EIP) activities delivered by grassroots community initiatives which also contribute to achieving Kirklees outcomes, Community Strategy and impacting on the budget by reducing costly social care interventions

Investment will be accessible to those who are working to improve outcomes for individuals and communities by building individual and local capacity and resilience. Resources are not unlimited and so it is important that they are used to support community initiatives in a way that allows them to be self-sufficient in the long term. In order to achieve this we will take an asset based approach to help individuals and community initiatives to ask themselves the following questions before applying for funding:

1. Do we really need it? If so...
2. Do we have it locally (in money)? If not...
3. Can we take the non-fiscal resources we do have and barter or trade or propose a match for it? If not...
4. Who can we ask for funding without losing our local focus?

Proposals to be funded should help to achieve those Kirklees outcomes which support the EIP aims of prevent, reduce, delay dependence on social care. High level examples of these outcomes are listed below and a more detailed list is provided at Appendix A:

- Connecting people
- People doing more for themselves
- Growing community capacity (volunteering, cooperation between groups)
- Developing new skills and knowledge which may lead to further training/education opportunities
- Helping to reduce social isolation and loneliness
- Increased self-confidence and self-esteem

How the scheme will work

	Small investment	Large investment
How long	Funding for 1 year	Funding for 1 year (with option to fund for a second year)
Who	Individuals Small informal groups Small and medium sized constituted groups	Constituted non-profit making groups
Grant values	Up to £200 for individuals Up to £1,000 for informal groups Up to £5,000 for constituted groups	£5,000 to £50,000 per annum
What's it for	A small investment to do something differently to address key EIP or Kirklees outcomes and priorities. Projects should improve or benefit individuals or the local community.	A larger investment to support an existing project that supports key EIP or Kirklees outcomes and priorities to develop the reach, coverage and sustainability of the project
How is it run	<p>Decisions on funding award to individuals to be made by a Do Something Now funding group made up of EIP Partnership Managers, Community Coordination Managers, LA Finance representatives alongside representatives from local community organisations. Local Ward councillors will be consulted on those proposals which are likely to be funded to gain the benefit of their local knowledge and ensure that proposals do not conflict with other initiatives being undertaken in the area.</p> <p>Basic viability check by LA to ensure proposals meet terms and applications provide information required, in relation to size of project.</p> <p>Projects must show how they will make a difference to the community. Evaluation and feedback will be based on proposals submitted by applicant and the asset based approach along with any specified conditions of grant which will be proportionate to the funding. For</p>	<p>Develop proposals through co-production with Community Plus staff. Decisions on funding award to be made by a Do Something Now funding group (a sub group of Community Plus Collaborative Board) including Head of Integrated Local Partnerships, Service Director Community Plus and Integration and LA Finance representatives along with external partners. Local Ward councillors will be consulted on those proposals which are likely to be funded to gain the benefit of their local knowledge and ensure that proposals do not conflict with other initiatives being undertaken in the area.</p> <p>Basic viability check by LA to check financial viability of organisation and ensure proposals meet terms and applications provide information required.</p> <p>Projects must show how they will deliver change within their community and build capacity and improve joined up working between groups. Annual formal</p>

	<p>grants up to £1,000 storyboards, photographs and receipts will constitute adequate evidence of outcomes and spend. For grants over £1,000 C+ staff will work with groups to develop their evaluation to involve those who have benefitted and ensure that adequate evidence of spend is provided.</p> <p>Ad-hoc applications on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>Grant payment in full in advance.</p>	<p>evaluation with feedback at 6 monthly intervals for full term of grant; based on proposals submitted by applicant and asset based approach along with specified conditions of grant.</p> <p>Ongoing dialogue between investment sub-group and 3rd sector orgs will ensure that monitoring, evaluation and routes for further investment (including option for 2nd year resource) is established.</p> <p>Grant payment in 2 instalments per year of funding (unless there is compelling evidence that a single up-front payment is needed): first at start of project; second mid-way based on learning and adaptability being demonstrated.</p>
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Bids will need to provide the following information:

- Tell us who you are (basic factual information)
 - Name and contact details
 - What does your group do?
 - Does your group have a constitution and relevant policies and insurances (and provide copies thereof)

- Tell us how the idea or project addresses community or individual issues, this might include;
 - what the project/work being delivered is aiming to do and how it achieves desired outcomes
 - how and why you came up with this idea
 - How the project is innovative (if it is) or different from other similar projects in the borough
 - Who benefits – specific information on the people/communities/places that the project will target
 - What strengths and assets exist in the community that you can draw upon
 - How project addresses a need or gap, what the challenges being faced are

- How much funding is being requested and the total cost of the project. Details of which elements of the project the funding will be used for.
- When you will deliver the project
- How the group will work with other organisations, partners and service providers.

- How the success of the project and learning from it will be evaluated and how you will use this to take things forward.
- Whether there is any non-financial support the Council could offer to help with the project.

Eligibility criteria

In order to receive funding the following criteria must be met:

- Only costs directly associated with delivering project
- Only one funding award per organisation per year
- Be a not for profit organisation or community group based in Kirklees or a resident of Kirklees
- Have a bank account. For individuals or smaller groups that don't have bank account, a constituted organisation can hold fund on their behalf. C+ will help to connect recipients with an organisation that can hold and administer funds on their behalf where they do not have these connections already.
- Be able to demonstrate the organisation has management controls in place; has accounts, a functioning management committee, appropriate constitution and policies and provide copies of such (Groups only)
- Provide evidence of how money has been used (through receipts, accounts and conversations with EIP Managers (to ensure due diligence appropriate to the level of funding) with final sign off by Head of Integrated Local Partnerships and Service Director Community Plus and Integration. Community Plus Business Support Manager will process sign off and pass to Senior Financial Officer for assurance processes to be administered)
- Provide benefit only for residents of Kirklees
- Agreement to engage in ongoing collaboration and dialogue to help to achieve outcomes for individuals and communities
- Sign an agreement with the Council to undertake that the funding will only be used for the purposes set out in the bid, that any unspent funding will be returned to the Council and that they understand that any misspent or unsubstantiated spend may be clawed back

The funding cannot be used for:

- Activities that are already being funded by the Council unless bid improves sustainability or outcomes
- Maintaining an existing service/project without offering improvements or enhancements (developed from learning from experience of previous delivery of the project)
- Replicating existing services provided by others
- Loan/interest repayments/shoring up deficits
- Capital costs relating to ongoing maintenance or refurbishment works
- Gambling
- the promotion of religious or political activities (faith based organisations can apply for funding as long as it is used to support projects for the common good)

Do Something Now - Community Plus investment scheme Kirklees EIP Outcomes and examples of projects that address them

Best Start

Children have the best start in life.

What we're aiming to achieve:

Confident children ready to do well at school and in life.

Better outcomes for vulnerable children.

Child focused activities which support families.

As many children as possible staying with their families.

Projects that might fall under this heading:

- Supporting children to get a good start with reading and other skills which help to improve school readiness and narrow the gap for vulnerable groups
- Providing holiday, evening or weekend activity sessions for children and young people
- Addressing holiday hunger
- Children playing an active role in community life
- Providing opportunities that help to improve the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people and their families

Well

People in Kirklees are as well as possible for as long as possible

What we're aiming to achieve:

People have access to opportunities to improve their health and wellbeing.

A joined up health and care system in Kirklees.

Support, help and advice for people in the communities where they live.

Protection of the public's health through education, support and interventions.

Projects that might fall under this heading:

- Helping people to be healthy and physically active, by working with individuals to help themselves and make the changes that matter to them
- Empowering people to manage common long term conditions
- Supporting and developing physical activity programmes that target specific groups who might struggle to engage with mainstream physical activity provision
- Helping people to develop positive relationships with their family, friends and communities
- Helping people with low level mental health conditions to manage their condition successfully and prevent/reduce crisis situations
- Projects that help people to feel a sense of belonging to their neighbourhood and have pride in place

Independent

People in Kirklees live independently, have control over their lives and reduce dependence on statutory social care.

What we're aiming to achieve:

Joined up and personalised support which enables independence, draws on support from their communities and prevents or delays inappropriate admission to hospital or long term care.

People can successfully manage the changes in their lives.

People live within a supportive community.

Projects that might fall under this heading:

- Helping ensure that people have access to the advice, support and information they need to make informed choices by improving their personal networks and support systems
- Enabling people to take control of their own lives and take positive action to make long term improvements
- Innovative use of technology and equipment to enable people to live as independently as possible
- Helping build personal resilience in vulnerable individuals who may otherwise be admitted to hospital or need care

Aspire and Achieve

People in Kirklees have aspiration to achieve their ambitions through education, training, employment and lifelong learning

What we're aiming to achieve:

Confident individuals who are able to improve their lives through training and employment.

A highly skilled population able to secure good jobs now and in the future.

Resilient individuals who are able to deal with complex life situations and maintain stability and effective relationships.

Projects that might fall under this heading:

- Helping to develop skills and confidence in individuals to improve their prospects for employment
- Providing personal resilience training with a focus on gaining employment
- Raising ambition and expectation for those with low aspirations at any point during life course
- Helping to build community capacity and increasing the opportunities for volunteering