

LEADER OF THE COUNCIL	DATE 13 May 2024
TITLE Ward Budget – Litter Picking in East Greenwich Ward (EGW-009)	WARD (S) East Greenwich
CHIEF OFFICER Director of Communities, Environment & Central	CABINET MEMBER Leader of the Council
DECISION CLASSIFICATION Non-key decision Subject to call-in Non-exempt report Non-exempt Appendix	IS THE FINAL DECISION ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THIS REPORT TO BE MADE AT THIS MEETING? Yes

1. **Decision required**

This report makes the following recommendations to the decision-maker:

- 1.1 The Leader of the Council is requested to agree the allocation of a one-off payment of £126.12 to the Council’s Street Services Team to buy equipment for community litter-picking sessions.

The proposal has been submitted by Councillor Pat Greenwell, Councillor Rowshan Hannan and Councillor Maisie Richards Cottell.

Signed.....
Councillor Anthony Okereke, Leader of the Council

2. **Links to Our Greenwich missions**

- 2.1 This report relates to the Council’s agreed missions as follows:

- Neighbourhoods are vibrant, safe and attractive with community services that meet the needs of local residents
- Town centres, high streets and shopping parades are vibrant, prosperous, well-maintained places that meet the needs of local people

2.2 The Ward Budget scheme was launched to enhance the role of Councillors in their communities and engage with organisations in their area to develop projects and schemes for the benefit of their constituents. This specific project aims to promote projects that enable communities to take a more active role in delivering a cleaner and safer environment.

3. **Purpose of Report and Executive Summary**

3.1 Under the Scheme of Delegation and arrangements agreed by Cabinet on 20th July 2022, it falls to the Leader of the Council to agree projects submitted by ward councillors in line with the Ward Budget Scheme.

3.2 In accordance with the Scheme agreed by Cabinet, Ward Budget funding should support initiatives that:

- promote and improve community well-being
- provide additional funding where community groups are already making efforts to raise funds to support the initiative/project
- enhance the Council's community leadership role, promote civic pride and contribute towards the delivery of the Council's Corporate Plan
- have consensus among Councillors from each Ward or between multiple Wards
- deliver clear demonstrable benefit to local residents within the Royal Borough of Greenwich, which are developed in response to local priorities and/or to meet a need identified from within the Ward(s)

This proposal reflects points 1, 3, 4 and 5 as listed above.

3.3 The proposal has been put forward has been put forward jointly by all Councillors from East Greenwich ward to be funded from the Ward Budget Scheme.

3.4 East Greenwich ward councillors are seeking £126.12 of ward funding to buy 12 litter pickers from Street Services to distribute to residents, as needed during litter picking sessions in East Greenwich ward. The litter picking sessions will start on 4th May and will take place on the first Saturday of the month.

4. **Introduction and Background**

4.1 On 20 July 2022, Cabinet agreed to allocate £570,000 of one-off resources to fund a Ward Budget Scheme across the Borough for the duration of the

current administration. This included an allocation of £30,000 to each of the nine wards represented by three Councillors and £20,000 to each of the fourteen wards represented by two Councillors, with £20,000 set aside to support its administration. On 5 March 2024, Cabinet agreed to cut the funding for the Ward Budget Scheme by 45% for the remainder of the current administration. This would now reduce the amounts allocated per ward to £11,000 (two-Member wards) or £16,500 (three-Member wards), a figure that ensures that no ward will have spent more than their reduced budget

- 4.2 Proposals for expenditure will be developed and put forward by the ward councillors and recommendations for projects will go to the Leader of the Council for approval.
- 4.3 In accordance with the scheme agreed by Cabinet, this proposal is put forward for consideration following receipt of the completed application form from the relevant ward councillors. This form is appended and contains the information required by the scheme.
- 4.4 In accordance with the Scheme agreed by Cabinet, this proposal is put forward following consideration of the Principles and Guidance of the Scheme, including use of land, planning or other consents and the requirements that there are no on-going revenue costs to the Council.

5. **Available Options**

- 5.1 To agree the proposal put forward by East Greenwich Ward Councillors as outlined in section 1.1.
- 5.2 Not to agree the proposal put forward by East Greenwich Ward Councillors as outlined in section 1.1.

6. **Preferred Option**

- 6.1 To agree the proposal put forward by East Greenwich Ward Councillors as outlined in section 1.1.

7. **Reasons for Recommendations**

- 7.1 The funding in this application is compliant with the eligibility criteria for expenditure as agreed by Cabinet and set out in section 3.2 of this report.

7.2 The proposal seeks to achieve these objectives by supporting projects which encourage more people to be involved in the environmental aspects of their community such as community clean ups or recycling initiatives. The project has been put forward jointly by Ward Councillors, who have identified the scheme as meeting needs within the local community.

8. Consultation Results

8.1 As elected representatives, Councillors are responsible for determining which schemes they wish to fund in line with local communities’ needs.

9. Cross-Cutting Issues and Implications

Issue	Implications	Sign-off
<p>Legal including Human Rights Act</p>	<p>The Leader of the Council is requested to agree the allocation of a one-off payment of £126.12 to the Council’s</p> <p>Street Services Team to buy equipment for community litter-picking sessions. Section 1 Localism Act 2011 gives the Council a general power of competence which can be exercised anywhere and, in any way, provided that any action is in accordance with any restrictions applying to existing powers that are overlapped by the general power.</p> <p>The proposal included in this report are in line with the key principles and criteria as agreed by the Cabinet.</p> <p>Under Part 3 of the Councils Constitution, Responsibility for Functions the Chief Officer has delegated authority to make a one-off grant up to £10,000. In this case Cabinet has agreed in setting up the Ward Budget Scheme that the Leader should be the decision maker. The Leader may</p>	<p><i>Mohammed Patel, Contracts and Procurement Lawyer</i></p> <p><i>07/05/2024</i></p>

	<p>make the decision required as Part 3 which also provides that all functions (which are not the responsibility of Full Council or of committees appointed by full Council) are executive functions and are the responsibility of the Leader of the Council.</p>	
<p>Finance and other resources</p>	<p>The Director of Finance confirms that to date for the East Greenwich Ward, £7,354.12 has been committed from the Ward Budget Scheme, including this proposal and that there are sufficient funds for this application.</p>	<p>Joanne Stark, Head of Accountancy and Business Change; 01/05/2024</p>
<p>Equalities</p>	<p>The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no apparent equality impact on end users.</p> <p>The Ward Budget scheme is intended to provide a mechanism by which Councillors can respond more directly to the locally identified needs and priorities of the communities which they represent.</p> <p>It is anticipated that this project will have a positive impact in the community and contribute to the Council's Equality and Equity Charter and the Council's Equality Objectives 2020-2024 by promoting cohesion in local communities.</p>	<p>Sarah Murphy Information and Corporate Support Manager, 30/04/2024</p>
<p>Climate change</p>	<p>This report does not affect the Greenwich Carbon Neutral Plan agreed by Cabinet on 18 November 2020.</p>	<p>Sarah Murphy Information and Corporate Support Manager, 30/04/2024</p>

11. **Report Appendices**

11.1 The following documents are to be published with and form part of the report:

- *Appendix A: Ward Budget Application*

12. **Background Papers**

Cabinet – 20 July 2022 – Ward Budget Scheme

Reporting Author: Sarah Murphy, Information & Corporate Support Manager

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APPLICATION FORM

PROJECT DETAILS	
Title of Proposal	Litter Picking in East Greenwich Ward
Ward(s)	East Greenwich
Proposed by <i>(List all councillors who are proposing)</i>	Cllr. Rowshan Hannan, Cllr. Maisie Richards Cottell Cllr. Majid Rahman
Details of group(s) who would receive funding	East Greenwich residents (the funding will be paid to the Council's Street Services Team to purchase the equipment)
Date of Submission	29 April 2024
Please outline how you would use ward budget funding	We would like to buy 12 litter pickers and offer these to residents that need them when joining our monthly litter picking sessions in the ward. Street Services have confirmed that they can provide litter pickers for £10.51 each but we would need to pay for them. We would therefore like to use the ward budget to cover this cost.
Please tell us when the project/activity will start and finish?	The litter picking sessions will start on 4 th May, and will take place on the first Saturday of the month.
Please outline who will benefit from the project/activity and the intended benefits and	Every month we will select a street that we have received a lot of casework on for littering. We'll advertise on social media that we'll be litter picking there and invite residents to join us. We'll also contact residents that live on the street and ensure they are keen for us to litter pick there on the selected month.

outcomes of the initiative?			
<i>Please include information on the groups/communities that will benefit and the outcomes that will be delivered through the grant.</i>			
Permissions and Consents	Please indicate below any permissions, consents or licenses that are required to progress this application and whether these have been granted (this includes relevant Council Departments)		
	Type of Permission Required	From Where	Date Agreed
	N/A		

Declarations of Interest	
If any of the Members putting forward this application have connections/relationships with the organisation(s) receiving funding (e.g. member of the management committee, governor) please indicate below.	
Councillor's name	N/A
Organisation	
Connection/ relationship	

Councillor's name	N/A
Organisation	
Connection/ relationship	

Councillor's name	N/A
Organisation	
Connection/ relationship	

PROJECT COSTS

How much do you need from the Ward Budget?	£126.12							
Funding Streams - Have you applied for, or received, funding for this project from elsewhere? <i>(organisations and amounts)</i>	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If yes please give details:							
Please confirm there are no ongoing revenue costs to the Council by ticking the box	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>							
Please provide a breakdown of all the actual costs of the project	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 60%;">ITEM</th> <th style="width: 40%;">COST</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Litter picker x 12</td> <td>10.51 each</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="padding-top: 10px;">TOTAL: £126.12</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		ITEM	COST	Litter picker x 12	10.51 each	TOTAL: £126.12	
ITEM	COST							
Litter picker x 12	10.51 each							
TOTAL: £126.12								

Health and Safety Implications
Please indicate below if there are any health and safety issues that need to be considered as part of the proposal and whether these have been acted upon.
N/A

Safeguarding Implications
Where the activities fall within the definition of regulated activity relating to young people and/or vulnerable adults, please confirm that you have valid enhanced disclosure checks in place
N/A